



Hurstmere School

Recruitment Pack Assistant Principal / Head of Science



Welcome to THAT

Thank you for your interest in joining The Howard Academy Trust. We are a family of 9 academies—4 primary, 4 secondary, and 1 alternative provision—working across Medway, Kent, and Bexley. As a Trust, we are committed to delivering the highest standards of education for all children and young people, regardless of their background.

Our vision, *"Working together to create a community of successful learners"* underpins everything we do. We firmly believe that every child deserves access to at least a good education, and we are proud that every academy within our Trust has maintained or improved its Ofsted rating. Notably, Temple Mill Primary School and Waterfront UTC made the remarkable journey from Special Measures to Good at their first inspection since joining us—a testament to the dedication and expertise of our staff.



At The Howard Academy Trust, we recognise that our people are central to our success. We are committed to supporting and developing our staff so that they, in turn, can provide an outstanding education for our students. Each of our academies serves its own unique community, and our role as a Trust is to provide the support, guidance, and collaboration needed to drive continuous improvement.

We are always looking for talented and passionate individuals to join our team. If you share our belief in the power of education and want to be part of an organisation that truly makes a difference, we would love to hear from you.



Kyle Taylor
Interim Chief Executive
The Howard Academy Trust



THAT Benefits

The Howard Academy Trust is very pleased to offer our staff a vast range of benefits, both professional and personal, as we believe that our excellent teaching and support staff should be supported at work and rewarded for the great work they do.



Platinum
Workplace
Wellbeing Award



benenden
health
Subsidised Private
Healthcare



Free flu jabs
every autumn



Employee Assistance
Programme with
Free Counselling



Mental Health
First Aiders
in all schools



Early finish for
teaching staff on
Fridays for CPD/PPA



Multiple routes
into teaching



Opportunities for
collaborative CPD



Trust-wide training
and networking
events



Career Progression
and upskilling
opportunities



Bespoke in-house
Into Leadership
Courses



LGPS/TPS Pension
Scheme & Generous
Contributions



Competitive salary
with annual pay
progression



Early salary
withdrawal with
Access EarlyPay



Minimum 25 days
annual leave for
full time staff,
plus bank holidays



Discounted hire of
school facilities



Cycle to work
scheme



Free car parking
at each Trust site



EV Charging across
sites



On site catering
with a full
lunch menu



Discounted gym
membership



A diverse and
inclusive workplace



Staff referral
scheme



Flexibility
for life events



Annual
Trust Awards

We are happy to talk about flexible working.



Our Family of Schools



The Howard School
1,500 Pupils on Roll
Located in Rainham, Kent



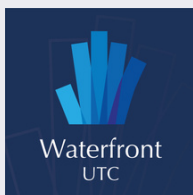
Temple Mill Primary School
240 Pupils on Roll
Located in Strood, Kent



Deanwood Primary School
230 Pupils on Roll
Located in Rainham, Kent



Thames View Primary School
450 Pupils on Roll
Located in Rainham, Kent



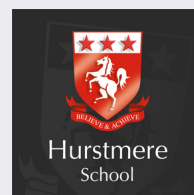
Waterfront UTC
370 Pupils on Roll Rated
Located in Gillingham, Kent



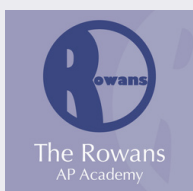
Miers Court Primary School
410 Pupils on Roll
Located in Rainham, Kent



The Abbey School
1,100 Pupils on Roll
Located in Faversham, Kent



Hurstmere School
960 Pupils on Roll
Located in Sidcup, London



The Rowans AP Academy
93 Pupils on Roll
Located in Chatham, Kent

Welcome to Hurstmere School



A very warm welcome to Hurstmere School and thank you for your interest in our school. This is a very exciting time to be joining our Hurstmere community, having recently received the best GCSE results in the school's history. Hurstmere School is a popular, non-selective secondary academy for boys aged 11-16, with a strong sense of community and determination to succeed in all we do.

Our vision is for our students to **'Believe and Achieve'**; to be the best that they can be. By promoting high aspiration and fostering a confident self-belief that with hard work and determination, there are no boundaries to what they can achieve.

During their time with us, students develop the character traits and values of our RTRAILS - Respect, Teamwork, Resilience, Ambition, Integrity, Leadership and Self-belief. Hurstmere offers a supportive and inclusive environment that celebrates and welcomes diversity. We expect everyone in our community to have the highest expectations of themselves and of each other. We offer all students, regardless of their starting point, the very best chance of academic success by delivering a curriculum which gives our students the foundations to fulfil their ambitions.

Mrs Bennett, Principal

Why choose Hurstmere School?

- Students are encouraged to fulfil their ambitions outside of the curriculum, including Sports Leadership, DofE, the Bexley School Games programme, and access to a bespoke TV studio and recording studio.
- Our pastoral team place value on personal wellbeing and development, looking after the whole student.

About our Science Department

- Dynamic, engaging environment fostering critical thinking and experimentation.
- Well-equipped labs and resources supporting innovative teaching.
- Collaborative culture with a focus on professional development and growth.



NOR

966



Age Range

11-16



PP

16.4%



FSM

15.3%



SEN

22.5%



EAL

8.9%

Job Description

Post:	Assistant Principal / Head of Science
Location:	Hurstmere School
Function/Department:	SLT / Science Department
Contract Type:	Full time
Remuneration :	Outer London STPC L11-19 + golden hello
Responsible to:	Principal

Core Purpose and Scope

The holder of this post is expected to carry out the professional duties of an Assistant Principal / Head of Science as described below, as circumstances may require and in accordance with the Trust's policies under the direction of the Senior Leadership Team. The post-holder is required to fully support the vision, ethos and policies of the Trust.

THAT Vision & Values

- As a Trust, our Vision and Values are achieved through:
- Excellent teaching and learning that promotes inclusivity.
- Regular opportunities for collaborative CPD to ensure best practice across academies.
- A proactive network for joint working across academies, for staff at various career stages.
- The highest standards of behaviour and conduct achieved through clear expectations and positive relationships.
- The unique character of each academy is valued and contributes to the THAT whole Trust ethos.
- Shared whole trust values of dignity, respect and ambition.
- High aspirations for all involved with the Trust.
- Each academy is a hub for its local community and families.
- Facing outwards and working in collaboration with other organisations and stakeholders.
- A centralised team that allows academies leaders to focus on their core purpose of education.

Values and Behaviour

Teaching and Support Staff play a vital role in making the education of their students their first concern and are accountable for achieving the highest possible standards in work and conduct. All members of staff must act with honesty and integrity; have strong knowledge within their field, keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date and are self-critical; forge positive professional relationships; and work with parents in the best interests of the students in the school.

Personal and Professional Conduct

The post holder should always conduct themselves professionally, treating students and staff with mutual respect, regardless of personal beliefs, in accordance with Trust ethos, policies and practices.

Purpose of the Job: The purpose of this role is to deliver high-quality teaching in English that motivates, challenges, and supports all students to achieve their full potential. The post holder will foster a love of language and literature, develop students' reading, writing, and communication skills, and contribute to a positive and engaging learning environment.

Key Responsibilities:

- Making a distinctive contribution to raising standards across the school.
- Supporting and helping colleagues to improve effectiveness.
- Setting clear and challenging targets that build on prior attainment for each pupil.
- Establishing clear targets for achievement and evaluate progress through the use of appropriate assessments and records and regular termly analysis of this data.
- Ensuring that every child has the opportunity to reach their potential and meet their highest expectations.
- Setting, tracking, evaluating and reporting on progress towards individual pupil targets.
- Devising and implementing targeted interventions that enable students to reach and exceed their targets.
- Acting as a role model for staff for high quality teaching and learning.
- Using own class and practice as an example of outstanding teaching and learning.
- Ensuring continuity and progression by supporting colleagues in choosing the appropriate sequence of teaching and teaching methods and setting clear learning objectives through an agreed scheme of work.
- Developing plans that identify clear targets, times-scales and success criteria for its development and/or maintenance.
- Create a stimulating learning environment for teaching and learning.
- Promoting team commitment with colleagues through collaborative planning.
- Enabling all teachers to achieve expertise in planning for and teaching through example, support and by leading or providing high quality professional development opportunities.
- Taking responsibility for drafting appraisal objectives and ensuring agreed evidence is available for review against agreed criteria.
- Securing and maintaining good working relationships with colleagues.
- Contributing to the corporate life of the school through effective participation in meetings and management systems necessary to coordinate the management of the school.
- Collecting, analysing and reporting on pupils' views of their subject area.

Performance Expectations:

- Works in partnership work with other colleagues, within schools and from partners.
- To be the form tutor of an assigned form and to carry out the related duties in accordance with the general job description of form tutor.
- To contribute to the regular review and formulation of all departmental policies and documentation.
- Actively seeks ways to engage with partners to bring in practice and learning that will enhance the effectiveness of the team.
- Acts as a source of advice in ways to make the very best use of support in school to develop and improve practice.
- Works effectively with parents.
- Supports others in working effectively with families.

Additional duties:

- All staff, with the support of the Academy's designated DSL, have a responsibility for providing and safeguarding the welfare of the students and young people
- To be familiar with and support any health and safety procedures and ensure all duties and responsibilities are discharged in accordance with the Academy's health and safety at work policy

This job description does not form part of the Contract of Employment and is not necessarily a comprehensive description of the duties required but outlines the main responsibilities of the post. It will be reviewed regularly and may be subject to modification or amendment at any time after consultation with the holder of the post. The duties may be varied to meet the changing demands of the Academy at the reasonable discretion of the line manager. An Enhanced DBS check will be required for this post. The job description is current at the date shown, but, in consultation with you, may be changed by the Principal to reflect or anticipate changes in the job commensurate with the grade and job title. The successful candidate must have a commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Person Specification

Please refer to these requirements when completing the application. The Person Specification is related to the requirements of the post as determined by the Job Description.

Essential	Desirable
Education and Qualifications	
• Educated to Degree level or equivalent • Teaching qualifications	• Further degrees • Evidence of ongoing Professional Development • First Aid qualification
Experience	
• Outstanding teaching experience • Experience of implementing strategies to raise student attainment with evidence of success • Experience with behaviour management and effective procedures for promoting positive behaviour • Experience of promoting effective communications within their own team, as well as with others	• Experience of working within the academy or education sector
Knowledge and Understanding	
• High degree of accuracy • Effective use of data to analyse performance and manage interventions where needed • Outstanding teaching experience • Experience of implementing strategies to raise student attainment with evidence of success • A track record of success in student behaviour management • Experience of promoting highly effective communications within and between teams and other stakeholders in the community	• Knowledge of child protection and safeguarding policies • Sound understanding of equal opportunity issues within the workplace and the importance of culture and ethos, and how these impacts on morale, high expectation, and high standards
Characteristics and Competencies	
• Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal • Ability to develop good relationships with colleagues, students and parents • A solution focused mind set and a determined 'no-excuses' approach	

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to keep up to date on relevant policies and procedures in line with your duties• Ability to be flexible and well organised to manage the workload• Effective use of data to analyse performance and manage interventions to measure the impact this can have on achievement and attainment• Good understanding of effective procedures for managing and promoting positive behaviour among pupils• Equal opportunity issues within the workplace and the importance of culture and ethos and how this impacts on morale, high expectation and high standards• Sound understanding of equality of opportunity issues and how they can be effectively addressed in schools• Clear understanding of the role of parents and the community in school improvement and how this can be practiced and developed | |
|--|--|

