

Curriculum Leader for Mathematics


Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham





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Welcome from The Executive Headteacher

Thank you for your interest in becoming Curriculum Leader for Mathematics at Queen Elizabeth High School. QEHS is situated in the thriving market town of Hexham, in a beautiful part of Northumberland, a short drive from Newcastle. It is partnered with Hexham Middle School within Hadrian Learning Trust.

This is an exciting time to be joining our school, as we move into a period that will see the creation of a high quality new build.

QEHS is a very successful 13-18, mixed comprehensive high school with a proud history dating back to Elizabethan times. Our ethos is drawn directly from the original charter granted in 1599 to the people of Hexham on account of their “outstanding eagerness to promote good learning”. We believe that the highest academic standards for everyone should go hand in hand with education in its broadest sense, knowing that the arts, sport and other opportunities help shape us as individuals and as citizens of the wider world.

There is much that is already good in our school: confident, well-behaved learners, dedicated, loyal staff, supportive parents and skilled Trustees. Your mission, should you apply for the Mathematics post and be successful, is to help make us even better.

Graeme Atkins, Executive Headteacher

The School

We have a total of 1300 students at QEHS aged 13-18, including nearly 400 in the sixth form. The school enjoys an excellent reputation locally and beyond.

Academic performance

Historically, achievement at QE has been very strong. Whole school (and maths) Progress 8 scores over the last three or four years have been very positive and attainment has also been well above the national figures. The three most recent Ofsted inspections (2012, 2015 and 2019) have graded the school as consistently 'good'; the reports go further to highlight outstanding strengths in each area / criteria. You would be joining a successful department but QE is not a school to rest on its laurels and the curriculum leader would share the same vision for continuous reflection and improvement.

Curriculum

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum to all of our students at each Key Stage. The expertise of our teachers and size of our sixth form enables us to run courses that many schools cannot.

We place great emphasis on ensuring that students receive comprehensive advice and guidance to enable them to make decisions that best suit their abilities, needs and ambitions. As well extensive one-to-one advice and guidance on options and careers, activities and initiatives include various careers talks, a careers and employment day supported by a number of local and regional employers, Next Steps and Opportunity Ready conferences, attendance at skills events and jobs fairs, visits to universities, colleges and employers, involvement with the Raising Aspirations Partnership, and attendance at the UCAS convention and Oxbridge conference.



Educating the whole person

Previous Ofsted reports have recognised our success in producing well-rounded young people, partly as a consequence of very strong extra-curricular and provision. Students participate in a wide range of competitive sporting events including in football, rugby, cricket, netball and hockey, with successes last year including: winners of the Northumberland Under 19s league and county netball tournament (and third in the regional competition), Under 15 girls' indoor county cricket champions, winners of the Year 9 and 10 inter-schools rugby tournament and winners of the Tyneside senior schools' football cup. The school's rowing club continues to have considerable success at various events throughout the rowing season. The school also had a number of individual successes at the Tynedale and County athletics events.

In music, there are a whole host of opportunities for students to participate, including boys' choir, girls' choir, orchestra, folk group, rock band, wind band, jazz band, Northumbrian pipes and Brazilian drumming, with each ensemble featuring at various events throughout the year. Brazilian dance, Youth Dance Tynedale and Youth Theatre provide opportunities for students in the other performing arts.

Catchment and student numbers

Our students come from the market town of Hexham, as well as the surrounding rural area. Although this is a relatively affluent area with a high percentage of adults educated to degree level, there are also pockets of deprivation and rural poverty.

Approximately 30% travel from outside the catchment area and this means that we have to work hard in the classroom as our first and most important intervention.

The Role

Salary: **MPR/UPR + TLR1b**

For an exceptional candidate we will consider paying an additional recruitment/retention allowance

Starting date: **September 2020**

As Curriculum Leader for Mathematics, you would be responsible for a significant leadership brief in the school and would be regarded as one of the key lynchpins behind the school's ongoing academic success.

The successful candidate will have high expectations of students and staff, a proven track record of outstanding teaching leading to excellent outcomes, and a belief that our young people can achieve at a high standard regardless of starting points. You will be a maths specialist who is passionate about teaching maths and is able to bring out the best in others.

If the above applies to you and you are a hard-working, conscientious, creative individual with a track record of success, we want to hear from you.

If you wish to have a confidential discussion about the role, or would like to arrange to visit the school, please do not hesitate to contact **Rachael Stokes on 01434 610362 or rstokes@gehs.net**.

We are an equal opportunities employer and are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. An enhanced DBS check will be required for this post.

How to Apply

Closing date: **1.00 p.m. on Monday 2 March 2020**

Interview date: **Friday 6 March 2020**

Please note dates are indicative and may be subject to change.

To apply, please send a completed application form and accompanying covering letter to:

Email: rstokes@gehs.net

Or

Post: Rachael Stokes, HR Administration, c/o Hadrian Learning Trust, Queen Elizabeth High School, Whetstone Bridge Road, Hexham, NE46 3JB.

Your application will be acknowledged within 24 hours of receipt.

To support your application you should write a statement of not more than three sides of A4 (font size 12), within which you should ensure you address the experience, professional knowledge and skills/ attributes as outlined in the person specification.

Please provide names, addresses and contact details of two referees, one of whom should be your current or most recent employer. Please indicate clearly if you do not wish any referee to be approached without your permission.

We expect to take up references for candidates who have been shortlisted.

For an informal discussion about this role (in confidence) or to arrange a visit to the schools, please call James Andriot, Head of School, on 01434 610362.

JOB DESCRIPTION: CURRICULUM LEADER - MATHEMATICS

Responsible to: Member of the Senior Leadership Team

Responsibilities

To carry out the responsibilities of a subject teacher with regard to the teaching, impact on progress and outcomes for your own students, whole school responsibilities and health and safety/safeguarding. In addition, the following responsibilities apply to a Curriculum Leader

1. Impact on educational progress beyond own students.

- Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge all students in the department
- Meet departmental achievement targets and monitor progress against these targets
- Monitor the quality of planning, teaching, marking and assessment;
- Monitor standards of behaviour and ensure school behaviour policies are followed;
- Establish and lead evaluation strategies and contribute to school and department self-evaluation;
- Plan and implement strategies for improvement.

2. Lead, develop and enhance professional practice.

- Lead the department towards consistently “Outstanding” judgments for Quality of Teaching, Progress in Lessons and Progress over Time
- Maintain and develop expertise and share this with others;
- Act as a role model of good classroom practice and model effective strategies;
- Ensure that all staff are aware of the inclusion needs of all students and groups and make provision for this in planning;
- Identify and promote effective and innovative teaching strategies;
- Plan and implement strategies for development/improvement;
- Participate in the recruitment and appointment of staff;
- Deploy staff effectively;
- Lead the induction of new staff;
- Ensure that student teachers are supported effectively;
- Act as Appraiser for identified teachers.

3. Lead and manage curriculum development in a department

- Identify improvement issues;
- Plan and implement strategies for improvement;
- Co-ordinate CPD needs and activities;
- Evaluate the impact of improvement activities;
- Build effective liaison with feeder middle schools;
- Build effective links with other partners and the local community;
- report to the Head of School /senior staff team on student performance, department planning and evaluation.

This generic job description will be accompanied by an annual, negotiated plan indicating the priorities and outcomes sought and based on the annual development planning process.

PERSON SPECIFICATION: CURRICULUM LEADER (MATHS)

| | Essential | Desirable |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Qualifications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree DfE recognised teaching qualification such as a PGCE or equivalent. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant post-graduate study |
| Experience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful track record of raising achievement and achieving outstanding outcomes for your own students Recent and relevant experience of teaching at secondary level up to the age of 18 Recent experience of working in a good or outstanding school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful track record of raising achievement across a department and beyond your own classes |
| Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to inspire, motivate and challenge students Ability to plan meticulously and think strategically Ability to lead, inspire, motivate and challenge staff and set very high expectations for yourself, those you lead and the organisation Ability to work as part of a high performing team Ability to communicate effectively with students, parents and colleagues showing warmth, empathy, respect for others and professionalism at all times Ability to have difficult conversations with students and parents, and achieve the desired solution/outcome Ability to work with students of all abilities to raise achievement | |
| Personal Attributes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes to the wider life of the school An able, dynamic & outstanding teacher who is willing to lead as well as contribute positively and imaginatively to this outstanding team. We are looking for someone with resilience and determination and the capacity to develop very quickly into a consistently outstanding middle leader. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates the drive and ambition for further career progression |

This post is available to all applicants who meet the criteria. Specific details concerning the post will be discussed with all shortlisted candidates.