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##### **Job Description**

# Head of School: Supported Learning

Job Title: Head of School: Supported Learning

###### Grade: Academic Pay Scale pt. 41 - 45

# Reporting to: Assistant Principal – Supported and Targeted Learning

Base: Hayes (Barra Hall Campus) / Uxbridge

## Background

The School of Supported Learning is based at both Uxbridge, with some provision being delivered at Barra Hall Campus in the Hayes area. The post-holder may be required to visit Hayes as and when required.

Barra Hall in Hayes, is our new SEND centre which is scheduled to open Spring 2026. This welcoming new campus will provide a high-quality inclusive learning environment for over 60 SEND students, and improve outcomes for students with special educational needs, including those with severe learning needs (SLD).

Barra Hall will have modern, and accessible facilities available across two floors and will include:

* on site therapies
* medical services
* multi-disciplinary teams, such as Speech and Language therapy and Physiotherapy.

The classrooms will feature the latest technologies, and we will also be providing a sensory room, a calm cave, as well as comprehensive care facilities for our students. There will also be an external play area with a carefully curated sensory garden.

# Purpose of the Job

The main purpose of the job is to improve teaching, learning and assessment in order to maximise student recruitment, retention, achievement and progression in Supported Learning. In order to realise this purpose, Heads of School lead members of staff organised in curriculum teams. Curriculum teams design, deliver and develop a portfolio of courses within a subject and/or vocational area. Curriculum teams also support students through disciplined academic and pastoral support processes. Heads of School are also responsible for agreeing targets for income associated with short courses or full cost provision.

# Duties

**Marketing and Recruitment of Students**

* To develop a marketing plan for the School and ensure that the college website is up to date with the current programme offer.
* To understand market needs associated with their respective industry and employment sector.
* To liaise and strengthen links with industry/employers and the community to ensure student access to learning and recruitment.
* To manage the recruitment and guidance of students onto the correct courses, including the use of initial and diagnostic assessment and agreements for learning support.
* To provide staffing for open evenings, recruitment events and summer guidance and enrolment.

## Design and Delivery of Programmes

* To ensure that course handbooks are available and up-to-date for all courses.
* To ensure the availability of schemes of work and planning for teaching and learning, including the use of Learning Advocates where appropriate.
* To ensure that IT is increasingly used as a tool for learning in all programmes.
* To ensure that assessment plans are consistent with College policies and that students have information about what standards and work are expected of them.
* Where relevant ensure that learning support strategies are integral to the design and delivery of programmes.
* To develop new and innovative methods of delivery relevant to learner needs and which maximise the use of flexible and open, distributed distance learning.
* To contribute a School programme of short courses, fully costed provision and income generation.
* To ensure the SEND Code of Practice is followed for all students with learning needs
* To ensure programmes meet all requirements of the study programmes including maths and English and work experience including through liaison with the Head of English and maths and other College departments.
* To teach on a range of programmes according to your specialism, in accordance with College policy (currently Management Guidelines for Formal Scheduled Teaching Loads).

# Quality and Evaluation

* To ensure the completion of programme reviews on an annual basis, using evaluation and student information to inform action plans which are monitored throughout the year.
* To prepare the School’s Self-Assessment Report and monitor the implementation of any improvement activities.
* To ensure that arrangements are in place to induct and support staff in the management of teaching and learning, including the observation of all teaching staff.
* To encourage staff in the development of teaching and learning strategies, and the up-dating of skills and knowledge relevant to their subject or employment sector.
* To ensure that student evaluation is sought and used to effect improvements.
* To use data on performance (achievement, retention and attendance) to set and achieve targets for the maximisation of improvements and to assist in measuring success.
* To liaise with external awarding bodies.

# Student Support and Tutoring

* To provide an appropriate Tutoring structure within the School consistent with College policies and the needs of students, ensuring that Attendance Co-ordinators are used to monitor and promote student attendance.
* To provide reports for parents/employers on a regular basis and organise parent/employer events to provide feedback on student progress.
* To ensure that students are fully aware of their progress through clear, active and purposeful academic tutoring based on target setting principles.
* To ensure the effective discipline and management of students, including the keeping of records and provision of information.
* To ensure that all learning agreements and profiling documents are recorded and kept in accordance with the College’s requirements.

# Planning and Change

* To prepare the School’s Development Plan/Business Plan on an annual basis in discussion with course teams.
* To communicate effectively with all staff to engage them in the planning process and develop the School’s portfolio of work.
* To use a number of communication strategies to inform and be informed (team meetings, team briefings, social events).
* To develop the School’s portfolio.
* To contribute to the development of application for funding and new initiatives and where appropriate lead and manage projects.
* To prepare staff and course timetables in liaison with Assistant Principals, Section Managers and Course Team Leaders.

# Resources

* To manage a designated budget for part-time staffing and consumables, staying within budget and providing services according to an agreed Service Level Agreement.
* To ensure that teaching resources are fit for purpose and accessible to teaching staff.
* To deploy staff effectively and efficiently to maximise resources and minimise expenditure, ensuring that staffing resource allocations are not exceeded.
* To ensure that accommodation under the Head of School control meets the College’s accommodation standards and is managed efficiently.

# Staffing and Development

* To line manage and implement all relevant staff policies including discipline, grievance, etc
* To ensure that all staff within the School are effectively appraised and are developed as required.
* To coach and support staff to achieve, improve and develop to their full potential.
* To induct, train and develop staff, giving access to relevant knowledge and information necessary for them to do their job.
* To induct and support agency teaching personnel and any other casual or temporary staff so that they can carry out their duties effectively.

**Other**

* To promote Equality and Diversity and Safeguarding/Prevent and implement the College’s Equality and Diversity and Safeguarding policies.
* To provide a secure, safe and friendly learning environment including implementation of the College’s Health & Safety Policy.
* To complete all documents necessary to comply with College personnel policies, e.g. agency lecturer booking forms, sickness forms, appraisal forms, etc. and ensure all staffing records are kept up-to-date.
* To carry out any other duties commensurate with the scale and grade of the post.

**Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable adults**

* Understand and comply with Safeguarding legislation and ensure that best practice is embedded in all working practices as required.
* Commitment to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults, ensuring that this commitment is demonstrated in all aspects of the role as appropriate.

Further Education is an ever-changing service and all staff are expected to participate constructively in College activities and to adopt a flexible approach to their work. This job description will be reviewed annually during the appraisal process and will be varied in the light of the business needs of the College.

**Head of School: Supported Learning**

**Person Specification**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Essential | Desirable | How assessed?\* |
| **Qualifications** |  |  |  |
| * Degree or equivalent level qualification | **✓** |  | Cert/AF |
| Relevant professional qualification | **✓** |  | Cert/AF |
| Maths and English at GCSE grade C/4 or equivalent | **✓** |  |  |
| A full (minimum Level 5) teaching qualification recognised by the FE sector (e.g. PGCE, DET)\*\* | **✓** |  | Cert/AF |
| **Knowledge and Experience** |  |  |  |
| * At least 3 years relevant teaching experience in Further Education | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| Specialist knowledge and experience in SEND |  | **✓** | AF/IV |
| A skilled practitioner in teaching and learning, and experience of implementing strategies to improve attendance and retention | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * Up to date knowledge of curriculum developments and recent initiatives in SEND, with knowledge of the SEND code of practice | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * Knowledge of quality improvement processes | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * Understanding and practical application of inclusive learning strategies and a proven commitment to equality and diversity | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| Successful experience of managing a team, including coaching and developing staff | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * Successful experience of curriculum management | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * Understanding of the education market, including regional and community influences | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| Experience of managing change and implementing new initiatives including curriculum developments | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| Understanding of FE funding requirements | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| Experience of efficient resource management | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| **Other Skills and Personal Qualities** |  |  |  |
| * Strategic vision and ability to engage others to achieve it | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * A commitment to student success and the development of the curriculum to meet funding and employability agendas. | **✓** |  | IV/T |
| * Ability to build strong partnerships with a range of internal and external stakeholders | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * Strong leadership skills, respect for others and ability to enthuse staff and students | **✓** |  | AF/IV |
| * Good communication skills, written and verbal. | **✓** |  | AF |
| * Commitment to continuous professional development. | **✓** |  | IV/T |
| * Good IT skills and an understanding of the use of technologies for learning | **✓** |  | AF |
| **Competencies**  Heads of School should be able to demonstrate  competency in all of the following areas:  Communication; Planning and Organising;  Interpersonal Sensitivity; Strategic Vision; Motivating Others;  Problem Solving and Decision Making; Developing Self and Others |  |  | AF/IV |

**Evidence of criteria will be established from:**

AF = Application Form Cert = Certificates checked on induction

IV = Interview T = Test (Micro-teach/skills test)

\*\*Qualifications that are equivalent to the Diploma in Education and Training (DET) include: DTLLS (Diploma in Lifelong Learning Sector); 7407 Stage 3/FE Certificate Stage 3; older Certificates in Education; Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) – FE and/or Secondary; any qualification that is recognised as fully qualified for the FE sector.