



BRIDGE ACADEMY

Sociology Subject Leader Information Pack



'At The Bridge Academy, we believe that every child deserves the chance to succeed and we all work hard to make sure that happens'

| Hard Work | Integrity | Kindness |

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Dear Applicant,

Our Academy is an academic, inclusive and inspirational environment where innovative thinking and creativity are encouraged and aspirations are raised.

Our core values of Hard Work, Integrity and Kindness underpin everything that we do, and from the moment our students arrive at The Bridge Academy we ask them to live these values 100% of the time. Our approach of high expectations, rigour and a relentless focus on success means that it is cool to be smart at Bridge and all students work hard to reach their full potential.

Our award winning building is outstanding. We have state of the art facilities and a wide variety of community groups we work with benefit from this. We value our staff members and we offer a professionally stimulating and supportive working environment. We hold a strong commitment to professional development and our staff enjoy a range of rewards and benefits, as outlined from page 5.

Our sponsors UBS, a leading global financial services firm, has led the establishment of our school from the outset and they continue to support us significantly.

Thank you for your interest in this position and we look forward to receiving your application by **9:00am on Tuesday 9th March 2021**. The application documentation should be submitted to Priscilla Agyare, Human Resources Manager: Priscilla.agyare@bridgeacademy.hackney.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Mr C. Brown
Principal

THE BRIDGE ACADEMY MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

We are an Academy on a mission: to ensure that every student can succeed at a good university or equivalent, thrive in their chosen field and live a great life. This has led us to develop The Bridge Academy values to guide our decision making and set our expectations for both students and staff:

Hard Work

- We do what it takes for as long as it takes.
- We remain positive and never give up.
- We never stop trying to get better.

Integrity

- We do the right thing, even when no-one is watching.
- We are always honest and do not make excuses.
- We take responsibility and do our best every time.

Kindness

- We have high standards because we care.
- We treat others fairly and respectfully.
- Helping a member of our team is helping ourselves.

STAFF REWARDS & BENEFITS

We believe that working at The Bridge Academy is different from working at other Academies - we are always prepared to go the extra mile for our students to succeed. Our Academy has many unique aspects and one of them is the degree to which we care for our staff. A snapshot of some of the particular rewards and benefits are outlined below.

Annual Salaries

We offer competitive salaries including recruitment & retention allowances, in some cases.

Annual Season Ticket Loans

Staff members can apply for an annual season ticket loan where the cost of the season ticket is spread over 10 monthly payments, interest free.

Barbican Card

<http://www.barbican.org.uk/>

The Barbican card through UBS, is free for all staff members who request it. It provides a variety of benefits and discounts:

- Unlimited free access to Art Gallery exhibitions for all staff members and a guest
- 25% off standard price first run and regular release cinema tickets*
- 25% off selected theatre and music productions*
- 15% off food and drink at all Barbican restaurants, bars and cafes
- 15% off purchases at the Barbican shops
- Access to the Members Lounge with up to 3 guests (pre-booking recommended)

*Subject to availability. A maximum of 2 tickets can be purchased per booking.

Cycle Scheme

<http://www.cyclescheme.co.uk>

Our cycle scheme provides staff members with the opportunity to purchase a bike of their choice, tax free. This for most people means a saving of around 25-39% of the total cost. Payment(s) are deducted via payroll over a specific period.

Employee Assistance Programme

The Employee Assistance Programme, offered via UBS is a 24/7 confidential service giving all Bridge Academy employees access to a range of support from lawyers, health and wellbeing professionals,

financial and debt specialists and counsellors. This free service can be used to support you with any personal or work-related issues that may be affecting your wellbeing.

Mindfulness Programme

Headspace is a mindfulness programme offered by UBS to all Bridge staff. It is an app-based solution of guided techniques designed to help you find more balance, wind down after a long day and reduce stress levels. It also gives helpful advice on physical exercises and healthy living, improving your sleeping habits and increasing your energy levels overall.

Optical Expenses

A contribution up to the amount of £25 is paid on behalf of the Academy for staff who require an eye tests. A contribution of £60, is also available towards glasses, for staff who frequently use Display Screen Equipment (DSE) and require glasses solely for this use.

Work + Family Space Services (Sponsored by UBS)

This service provides practical support, resources and information to working parents and carers, in order to assist them in juggling the demands of work and family. This includes:

- Backup Care: staff can book nannies, nurseries, childminders and/or adult and eldercare specialists when and where they need them. Staff are eligible to receive 10 free sessions of back up care per year.
- Help for fathers: topical information and Q&A responses looking at work and family from a father's point of view
- Confidential expert advice over the phone for all work and family challenges.
- Access to a range of holiday clubs nationwide, ideal for filling in awkward care gaps during the school holidays.
- Access to blogs, insider guides and webinars which provide guidance on a wide range of topics.

Gift Vouchers for 100% Attendance

We really value the commitment of our staff members and as a token of this, each term staff who have achieved 100% attendance are included in a prize draw, offering them the prospect of winning vouchers from top stores.

Our Award Winning Building

The quality of the working environment at The Bridge Academy contributes to the positive working atmosphere. We offer our staff members state of the art facilities & fantastic resources at our stunning canal-side location, just minutes from Haggerston Station and just over a mile from the heart of the City of London. Our facilities include the following:

Art Floor

- 3 designer classrooms

- A Kiln room
- An Art terrace affording views of London landmarks including the Olympic Park, Canary Wharf and the City and the BT Tower.

ICT suites

- 3 purpose built ICT suites, with retractable I-desks
- ICT facilities on all floors within the Academy

Music Facilities

- A large separate and dedicated, fully equipped music area, with three large classrooms and 12 practice rooms
- A separate music media suite, equipped with bespoke Mac desks and music keyboards
- Hi-tech recording studio

Performance Hall

- 370 seat auditorium with bleacher seating and a retracting dividing wall to create spaces on two levels.
- Cinema projection capability, instruments and AV lighting and sound systems.

Sixth Form

- A bespoke Sixth Form block
- Provides both Cisco training and Microsoft in-house

Sports Facilities

- A large sports hall, with a variety of sports resources
- Basketball facilities
- An Off-site Multi User Games Area (MUGA) and two Astroturf football pitches

Pension Scheme Contributions

We pay in a high percentage of monthly contributions for teaching staff (Teachers' Pension Scheme) and Support Staff (Local Government Pension Scheme) members enrolled in these pension schemes.

Relocation Support for Teaching Staff

New appointees joining The Bridge Academy on an annual salary below £30,000 may be eligible for additional support towards relocating to London. Applicants whom wish to be considered, should provide an additional statement with their application form, confirming details of the proposed relocation. Relocation support is not mandatory and the decision to provide support will be based on the applicant meeting a set of criteria.

Social Events: Lively staff social events are organised during the year, to ensure that staff members get the opportunity to unwind and enjoy a well-deserved break from work.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post:	Sociology Subject Leader
Reporting to:	Head of Learning Area
Annual Salary:	Main Pay Scale or Upper Pay Scale Plus TLR2b

Role Profile

The primary objective of this role is to provide professional and curriculum leadership for Sociology, and to ensure excellent outcomes for students in the subject area.

Accountabilities of the Role

- To support and promote the ethos and values of The Bridge Academy.
- To believe in the potential of every child, in line with the Academy's mission statement.
- To ensure outstanding curriculum provision which is exceptionally well structured, and enables students to develop an excellent understanding of key facts and processes and a deep understanding of and love for the subject.
- To ensure that the Subject Area makes an outstanding contribution to whole-school priorities, including the appropriate application of the Literacy and Numeracy Policies.
- To ensure effective provision and develop outstanding teaching and learning, attainment and progress across the Subject Area.
- To develop outstanding marking across the Subject Area, with a particular focus on impact.
- To keep abreast of developments in Sociology to ensure that changes and developments in course content are introduced and delivered in a timely manner.
- To ensure that all assessment within the Sociology Subject Area is high quality and robust.
- To ensure that homework is used effectively to augment the curriculum and drive pupil progress.
- To have an excellent understanding of the Subject Area's effectiveness, and to make highly effective use of data to set targets and identify and tackle underachievement quickly and effectively.
- To facilitate enrichment opportunities for students as appropriate (for example, extension classes, trips or G&T classes).
- To maintain high standards of behaviour in the Subject Area, both in classrooms and on the corridors, and across the Academy as a whole.
- To develop an ethos within the Subject Area where students consistently tackle challenges positively and do not give up.

- To ensure that good relationships are fostered between the Subject Area and parents, which support excellent student behaviour and progress.
- To ensure that staff consistently reach the highest of standards in all that they do, including the achievement of students in the Subject Area.
- To ensure that the performance management of staff (if recruited), within the Subject Area is high-quality, challenging and formative, and that any underperformance is dealt with swiftly and effectively.
- To observe colleagues as part of professional development, NQT or Quality Assurance programmes and give objective feedback, setting targets for improvement where appropriate.
- To comply with any reasonable request from a manager to undertake work of a similar level which is not in this job description.
- To support the Academy in key events during holiday time (for example, KS4/5 exam results days).

JOB SPECIFICATION

Qualifications

- Qualified Teacher Status.
- Relevant specialist qualifications and experience in your subject specialism with the ability to teach at all key stages and all abilities.
- Outstanding classroom practitioner.
- Commitment to improving practice through reflection, appropriate professional development and through being open to advice and feedback.
- Evidence of continuing professional development or relevant research.

Professional Knowledge & Understanding

- Evidence of commitment to the principles and policies of equal opportunities.
- Secure knowledge and understanding of a range of Assessment for Learning strategies.
- Secure knowledge and understanding of how to make effective personalised provision for all students, including those for whom English is an additional language and students who have special educational needs.

Experience and Skills

- Leadership skills, attributes and professional competence.
- Proven excellence as a Sociology classroom practitioner at secondary level across the ability range.
- Proven track record in improving teaching and classroom practice, bringing about specific improvements for the school by constantly striving for excellence.
- Strategies to engage and inspire students.
- Application of ICT in teaching and learning.
- Department development planning.
- Analysis and application of data to teaching and learning and to inform planning drives and focuses on success.
- Experience of developing and sustaining positive relationship with parents, staff and students.
- Decision-making skills – the ability to solve problems and make decisions.
- Communication skills – the ability to make points clearly and understand the views of others.
- Self-management – the ability to plan time effectively and to organise oneself well.

Personal Qualities

- Energy, enthusiasm, determination and an insistence on high standards.
- A passion for the value your subject can bring to students and a commitment to the ethos of the wider life of the Academy.
- A willingness to learn new skills and approaches and to share the experience with others.

Post:	Sociology Subject Leader
Annual Salary:	Main Pay Scale or Upper Pay Scale, Plus TLR2b
Job Start:	September 2021
Location:	South Hackney
Contract Type:	Permanent

'The best school I've ever worked at: the culture, the staff and students, the training, everything!'
(staff member)

'I was amazed at what a great atmosphere the school exuded, how well turned out the children were and how polite and bright they all seemed' (visitor)

The Bridge Academy is a truly exceptional school. Our students' progress is consistently excellent for GCSE and A level, and our superb personal development offer means that over the last three years we have been national debating champions, enjoyed a host of sporting successes and won both the Incorporated Society of Musicians Gold Award and the Hackney Mayor's award for music.

Why choose us?

- Excellent student behaviour and highly supportive Senior Leadership Team.
- An achievement-oriented culture where students work hard and it is cool to be smart.
- A warm/strict approach, meaning that our high standards do not come at the expense of inclusion.
- The belief that teaching must be a sustainable profession: clear systems and structures, sensible approach to feedback and no 'late night culture'.

We are seeking a Sociology Subject Leader who is totally aligned to our values of Hard Work, Integrity and Kindness, and completely committed to our mission: to ensure that every student will succeed at a good university or equivalent, thrive in their chosen field and live a great life.

The Sociology department is an important and growing part of the Academy's Sixth Form offer, with large numbers of enthusiastic, committed and hard-working students studying the subject every year. Sociology is part of a range of Social Sciences that are offered at A-level and as subject leader, you will work alongside other subject leaders and teachers to develop the curriculum, teaching and enriching experiences for our Sociology students. This is an exciting opportunity to continue to develop the department in a supportive school environment which really values the subject. If you are a passionate subject specialist who wants to make a profound difference to the lives of your students, we would love to hear from you.

Our sponsors UBS provide significant support to the Academy, and we also work with a wide variety of community groups to ensure the best for all our students. Our award winning building is outstanding and is based at our stunning canal-side location, just minutes from Haggerston Station and just over a mile from the heart of the City of London.

To apply for this position, please download and complete the application form and the additional information and monitoring form. Please ensure that you read our school workforce privacy notice. The application documentation should be submitted to Priscilla Agyare, Human Resources Manager: Priscilla.agyare@bridgeacademy.hackney.sch.uk. We encourage applicants from all sectors of the community to apply. **The deadline for applications is: 9:00am on Tuesday 9th March 2021.**

The Bridge Academy is committed to safeguarding children and all appointments will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory Enhanced DBS check and references.