

Stormont House School

Information about the SEN Leader/ SENCo post

www.stormonthouse.hackney.sch.uk

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Downs Park Road Hackney London E5 8NP

(020) 8985 4245

Who are we?

A three times outstanding special school whose vision is

Achievement for all in a unique world-class school

that

- intends to be the best in the world at what we do
- moved into a brand-new building 3 years ago
- provides good teachers with the opportunity to become excellent
- is respected locally and nationally in the education and creative sectors
- believes our students deserve the very best from us

What does the job involve?

Ensuring students achieve as highly as possible in order to progress to further study, find employment and self-expression as active citizens in an ever-changing future, as a result of you leading our SEN processes and inclusive practice.

What will I be directly responsible for?

- Leading and continuing to improve the way we meet students' individual and collective SEN
- Ensuring that SEN systems in the school lead to the best possible progress and outcomes for every individual and group of learners.
- Leading and evaluating the impact of the school multi-disciplinary team; intervention strategies; universal and targeted provision
- Developing and maintaining clear tiers/ waves of support and intervention appropriate to various levels of need
- Acting as a source of advice, guidance and expertise for meeting SEN within and beyond the school.

Who are you?

1. Passionate about the difference schools can make to young people's ability to learn, create, express themselves and become active global citizens
2. A first-class teacher with a track record you can speak to
3. A decent human being that doesn't take themselves too seriously but is fully committed to the work in hand
4. Highly knowledgeable about SEND; the Code of Practice, person-centred planning, differentiation and how to spread and develop best practice
5. Experienced in leading improvement and learning from mistakes
6. Committed to keeping children safe through learning how to avoid/ minimise online risks
7. A self-starting team player with much to offer while still ready to learn
8. Ready to make the most of a rare opportunity to shape inclusion, curriculum, teaching and learning in our school
9. Clear on your views about the implications for students with learning difficulties of the new National Curriculum and changes to accreditation routes
10. Clearer still on what you have to offer us that can move us closer to our school vision

Who are the students?

Our students

1. Are fantastic, though not an 'easy ride' in any sense
2. usually come from mainstream primary school at age 11 as a large secondary school just wouldn't work for them
3. usually remain here until age 16 or 17 before going onto mainstream local colleges
4. have a wide range of Learning; Speech, Language & Communication and Emotional Needs
5. have many strengths and talents as well as difficulties, achieving up to GCSE/BTEC levels
6. make great strides with their personal, social and academic development during their time here

What else do you need to know?

- The staff here are also fantastic!
- We're looking for someone with relevant experience of SEN and leadership, but expertise and drive are equally important whether you're coming from a primary, secondary, special or other setting
- This is the first external advert for SENCo that we've placed in over 20 years, so be prepared to reshape the initial job description when in post!
- In 2014 we moved into a brand-new 3-storey building that we helped design; exciting!
- This role is part of the Extended Leadership Team, where you will have a direct role in shaping the future of the school, working closely with an experienced Deputy Head for Inclusion and Safeguarding
- Our expectation is that this role will contribute to the professional development of teachers and other staff beyond the school as well as within it.
- We are a lead school in the Hackney Teaching School Alliance; having a bigger impact on teacher training and CPD beyond our school is a priority in the coming years. We are working on the John Hattie Visible Learning Programme, developing evidence-informed approaches to teaching and learning
- Almost all of our students have been in mainstream primary schools before coming here at secondary transfer and have a wide range of Learning, Speech, Language & Communication and Emotional Needs (see information for parents, carers and professionals).
- Although they make great strides with their personal, social and academic development during their time here, most students will still have considerable difficulties with their learning when they are in KS4.
- Salary is competitive: Inner London Scale (progressing to the top of the Upper Pay Range) plus SEN1 or 2 (depending on qualifications) plus a TLR of around £5k.
- This post is available due to the current postholder preparing for retirement
- We take safeguarding children seriously: employment is not confirmed until a reference for your current/ most recent Headteacher and enhanced clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Scheme (DBS) are received.
- If you think your skills and experiences don't fully fit the bill, but the rest excites you, please read on and discuss it with the Headteacher, Kevin McDonnell.

What do I do next?

- Find out more about the life of the school from our website <http://www.stormonthouse.hackney.sch.uk/>
- Download more information about the job and the school
- Have an informal discussion with [Kevin McDonnell](#), Headteacher (020) 8985 4245
- Arrange to visit the school
- **Apply** if all of the above 'fit'