



Information for Candidates:

Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for Creative and Media/Head of Drama

(Pay Range: MPR1 – UPR3 + TLR2B)

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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in this post.

At SBL Academy, we benefit from an experienced, professional and cohesive Creative & Media curriculum team comprising of 7 teachers who collectively teach Art, Photography, Music, Media and Drama.

As a team, our aim is to foster a life-long passion for the creative arts in our students. We emphasise to them the importance of creative expression, collaborative working and high-quality performance. We champion these essential transferrable skills, emphasising their vital importance to nurture success into adult life.

We are committed to offering our students excellent subject teaching, access to high-quality learning spaces, and extra-curricular opportunities that expand cultural horizons. Our curriculum development and pedagogy reflects our desire to nurture emerging creativity in students across all of our teaching areas.

School development

SBL Academy is in a significant phase of growth, academically and culturally, and this is an exciting time to join our school community. In November 2021 SBL Academy was judged to be 'Good' by Ofsted and we are now working towards becoming an outstanding school. For the next academic year we have been asked by the local authority to expand the number of Year 7 places we offer as we are now the school of choice for our community. Similarly, our post-16 centre is seeing year-on-year growth with many of our existing students choosing to continue to study with us at KS5.

As part of SBL's development, we are expanding our creative arts offering to students. The last couple of years have seen significant investment in a new Creative Media department, complementing our already strong Photography and Fine Art departments. Music is currently expanding, with the launch of a new GCSE Music course in September 2023.

We now have the opportunity to renew our focus on Drama at SBL and as such are keen to relaunch GCSE Drama or BTEC Performing Arts, along with reintroducing musical productions that were a popular feature of the school calendar before the Covid pandemic.

About the role

The Head of Drama & Assistant CTL role is multifaceted, requiring someone with energy and enthusiasm who is able to manage competing priorities.

As Assistant Curriculum Team Leader (CTL):

You will support the Curriculum Team Leader for Creative & Media in the day-to-day running of the Curriculum Team (CT). This will include but is not limited to:

- Deputising for the CTL when they are unavailable.
- Acting as the Pupil Premium liaison for the CT in meetings with the senior leadership team.
- Line-managing the Music department (currently two teachers, with no designated Head of Music)
- Conducting termly teaching observations and appraisals of selected department members.
- Contributing to the long-term strategy for developing Creative Arts as an area of excellence for the school.
- You will be the primary Drama teacher for KS3.
- Working within the Futura Trust performing arts framework, you will be required to review and revise our existing KS3 schemes of work to ensure that they are as stimulating as possible for students.
- You will spearhead the reintroduction of annual productions (plays and musicals).
- Through engaging teaching and extra-curricular opportunities, you will generate significant enthusiasm amongst Year 9 students, enabling the provision of a GCSE Drama / BTEC Performing Arts cohort the following academic year.

As Head of Drama:

- You will be the primary Drama teacher for KS3.
- Working within the Futura Trust performing arts framework, you will be required to review and revise our existing KS3 schemes of work to ensure that they are as stimulating as possible for students.
- You will spearhead the reintroduction of annual productions (plays and musicals).
- Through engaging teaching and extra-curricular opportunities you will generate significant enthusiasm amongst Year 9 students, enabling the provision of a GCSE Drama / BTEC Performing Arts cohort the following academic year.

About the right candidate

The right candidate will be able to demonstrate clear leadership ability in their subject and within the wider school community.

As a teacher:

- You will have experience of teaching Drama/Performing Arts, preferably to KS4, with evidence of your own independent curriculum development.
- You will be able to clearly articulate what excellent teaching and learning looks like in a Drama setting. You will be able to demonstrate ways to successfully engage vulnerable students and enthuse them in your subject.
- You will understand the importance of appropriate assessment and feedback within Drama as a means of tracking student performance and enabling student progress. You will be confident in identifying and articulating the narrative of student learning from trends visible to you in data sets as well as your own wider self-evaluation.
- You will be able to coordinate extra-curricular activities that lead to further student engagement in Drama.

As a theatre producer:

- You will have experience of making a leading contribution to school productions (plays and/or musicals), including leading rehearsals, arranging licensing and working closely with colleagues in Music.
- You will be a passionate advocate for school productions, with experience of involving students, staff and school community members to ensure the success of each show.

As a middle-leader:

- You will be willing to develop your experience of line-managing colleagues with whom you work closely. You will understand how to offer appropriate support and guidance to enable colleagues to fulfil their potential as excellent teachers.
- You will be able to contribute to collaborative medium- and long-term planning to raise the profile and quality of your subject and curriculum team within the school community.
- You will be committed to actively supporting wider departmental and whole-school priorities, e.g. the embedding of literacy teaching within all subjects in the school.

What SBL can offer you

The successful candidate will join an experienced, enthusiastic and supportive curriculum team. Moreover, SBL's senior leadership team is very keen to support the growth of Drama within the school. We offer well-equipped performance and teaching spaces, supported by the Trust's theatre technician and media technician.

You will benefit from teaching in a school with very high expectations of student behaviour. SBL's extensive pastoral system ensures that low-level classroom disruption is notably minimal, enabling you to teach effectively and to enjoy your role.

The supportive Senior Leadership Team is mindful of the exacting nature of teaching today and makes active effort to reduce administrative demands on staff. A full CPLD calendar offers whole-staff training, mentoring opportunities and Trust-wide courses to help your career flourish.

In the Supporting Statement on your application form and at interview I am particularly looking forward to hearing your views on how you would make Drama enjoyable, accessible and inspiring for students at SBL Academy. In your supporting statement, you may wish to express a view on:

- The role of Drama in developing young people who are ready to take their place in 21st century Britain.
- How you work with your colleagues to continually improve what you do.
- How your teaching prepares students well for the deep learning required to be a successful student and lifelong learner.

This post has the potential to significantly expand Drama as a core part of the Creative & Media curriculum area and of the Academy as a whole. We are committed to achieving our goals and look forward to welcoming this new and important member of our team. We therefore look forward to receiving your application.

If you would like to know more please contact Mr Jonathan Alderson (Curriculum Team Leader for Creative & Media): jalderson@sblacademy.org.uk

Yours sincerely



Simon White
Head of School