



# West London Free School

Director of Sport

Closing Date: 23rd March 2023



## Director of Sport

Start date:	1st September 2023
Contract Type:	Full time
Contract Term:	Fixed term
Salary:	Commensurate with experience
Reports to:	Senior Leadership Team



### The West London Free School

The West London Free School (WLFS) is a non-selective state school based in Hammersmith, West London. We are suited to teachers at all stages of their careers, priding ourselves on a supportive working environment and valuing the importance of staff wellbeing.

The WLFS provides all pupils, irrespective of their background, with a Classical Liberal education. By a Classical Liberal education, we mean a rigorous, knowledge rich education that draws from the most important work in both the humanities and the sciences. We believe that knowledge is a good in and of itself, empowering pupils to understand and take an interest in the world around them. We believe a secondary education is not just a preparation for work, but a preparation for life. As such, we value the knowledge of our teachers, and the passion for their subject that they bring to the classroom.

We have a firm but fair approach to behaviour:

- senior leaders see it as their responsibility to ensure all teachers can teach without disruption;
- school rules are non-negotiable, and poor behaviour is met by escalating sanctions;
- pupil detentions are centralised and run every day by heads of year and senior leaders.
- teachers can therefore prioritise planning and teaching their lessons.

We are very proud of our exam results at WLFS. In 2022, our headline figures were as follows:

- **A-level:** 45% of entries were graded A\* to A, and 73% were graded A\* to B.
- **GCSE:** 49% of entries were graded 9 to 7, and 88% were graded 9 to 4. Progress 8 was 0.61.

Our pupils go on to study at some of the best universities in the UK and abroad, with seven students accepted to courses at Oxford or Cambridge in 2022 alone.

As well as a knowledge rich education, the WLFS runs an extensive co-curricular programme that encourages children to develop outside the classroom. The clubs are central to the school and give pupils the opportunity to try new activities and develop new interests. The school specialises in music and offers a range of sporting opportunities as well as general interest clubs. All staff are encouraged to share their co-curricular enthusiasm by committing one hour a week to running a school club.



## The Physical Education (PE) and Games Department

PE and Games are an integral part of the WLFS curriculum. All pupils from Years 7 to 11 take part in two hours of Games per week, with the aim of introducing them to a varied diet of different sports. In Years 7 and 8, pupils have one hour a week of PE, allowing for a more technical and curriculum-based study of sport and physical fitness. PE is a well-established option subject at GCSE, and this year have introduced it as a new subject at A-level. Sport is incredibly popular at WLFS, and we have a busy schedule of clubs and fixtures. WLFS teams have a strong track-record and growing local reputation, with recent success including:

- Netball borough champions across three year groups.
- Finalists in six QPR Football League finals, having entered seven teams both boys and girls.

The large majority of our sport provision takes place at Kings House Sports ground, a top-of-the-range facility located 5 minutes away from our school site.

Key characteristics of the role include:

- to impart your passion for sport to all pupils at WLFS.
- to lead the planning and delivering of schemes of work for Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 within your Department, and monitor their effectiveness.
- to enhance the quality of teaching and learning in the department by lead on collaborative planning, sharing resources, mentoring and observing teachers, and participating in continuing professional development within your department.
- to manage a full schedule of sports clubs and fixtures across the school.
- to line manage other members of the PE department.
- to build the profile of PE and Sport within the West London Free School, and encourage other teaching staff to take part in coaching and fixtures.

The successful candidate will have:

- a passion for sport, strong subject knowledge, and an ability to communicate that passion and knowledge to pupils;
- a commitment to ensuring as many pupils as possible learn an enthusiasm involved in sport, regardless of ability or prior experience;
- an ability to teach PE at Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 to all ability levels, including pupils with SEN;
- a proven track record of excellent PE teaching and, where relevant, outstanding outcomes for pupils at both GCSE and A-level;
- an understanding of the ethos of the WLFS, and our approach to teaching;
- high expectations of pupil conduct and behaviour;
- excellent team working skills and communication skills with both pupils and staff.



## Rewards & Benefits

People are at the heart of our success. We look for talented and ambitious individuals who share our vision for creating an exceptional school, and are committed to ensuring that every child has access to the best possible education. Pursuing a career at the WLFS also gives you the chance to work alongside a highly capable and committed Senior Leadership team. Senior Leaders at WLFS all teach, pay due attention to workload pressures and are highly visible 'in the corridors'.

We have developed a positive and supportive staff culture at the WLFS, and we invest in our staff with support, coaching and mentoring as well as external training programmes. To that end, we offer:

- Teachers' Pension Scheme for teaching staff
- Cycle to Work Scheme
- Complimentary drinks
- Employee counselling
- Recommend a teacher bonus scheme
- Staff children have priority admission into the school (after 2 years' service)
- Season ticket travel loan

## Closing date and interviews

The closing date for applications is **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at midnight**, although candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. The School reserves the right to commence or complete the interview process at any time prior to the closing date.

Interviews: **w/c 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Please apply either via TES Jobs, or by completing the application form on the WLFS website and returning it to the Joint Headteachers Ben McLaughlin and Rob Peal via [careers@wlfs.org](mailto:careers@wlfs.org).

## Equal Opportunities

The Knowledge Schools Trust is an equal opportunities employer. The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the School is therefore permitted to ask job applicants to declare all convictions and cautions (including those which are "spent" unless they are "protected" under the DBS filtering rules) in order to assess their suitability to work with children.

The West London Free School and the Knowledge Schools Trust is fully committed to the principles of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion. We want to attract and retain the very best staff in all areas of the Trust, ensuring our staff body reflects the diversity of our students and local community.