



Enriching lives

Unleashing possibilities

Building futures



Ethos and Values

*Enriching Lives
Unleashing Possibilities
Building Futures*

The Opossum ethos is based on our core belief that all pupils deserve high quality education, which engages, inspires and challenges, to ensure that everyone meets their full potential. We strive to create safe and happy learning environments, which promote independence and high expectations of all. We are committed to providing opportunities, which promote open mindedness, empathy and celebration of the rich and diverse communities, which we serve, aiming to ensure that everyone is able to contribute positively to society. We are dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyle choices so that our pupils develop physically, emotionally and morally. We are determined that our pupils will be successful and will leave us as confident, highly educated members of the community.

We do this by:

- Raising achievement through quality first teaching, which enthuses and motivates; encouraging aspiration to fulfil their potential.
- Ensuring pupil voice is at the heart of all we do to enable children to become confident, resilient and reflective independent learners.
- Offering a broad and varied curriculum, which ensures all children can read, write and are numerate.
- Having an open and welcoming environment where everyone feels welcome and included.

Our Federation

Opossum is a family of schools located in east London, in the borough of Waltham Forest. The federation comprises Dawlish and Newport schools, in Leyton, Oakhill Primary School in Woodford Green and Thorpe Hall Primary School in Walthamstow.

The Opossum Federation is committed to transforming and enriching the lives of the communities it serves.

Applications

The application form has been attached in this email. It may also be obtained by contacting Chloe Foulger. Please submit all completed applications to hr@opossumed.org. Only applications submitted on the school's application form will be considered.

Safeguarding Statement

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

All posts are subject to an enhanced DBS clearance and satisfactory references and candidates are required to submit a self – disclosure form with their application.

Data Protection & Privacy *The school is registered in accordance with the General Data*

Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. We are committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal information.

You can view our [Workforce Privacy Notice here](#) for full details on how we collect and use your data.

Opportunities at Opossum Federation

We are looking for an enthusiastic and committed Early Years Practitioner to join our team as soon as possible.

Workplace: Opossum Federation contract –Newport Nursery initial base

Start Date: ASAP

Responsible to: Assistant Head of School Nursery

Position: Permanent

Salary: Scale 6 point 18-21

£35,520 – £37,134 Full Time Equivalent

£30,689.99 - £32,084.52 Pro Rata

Hours of work:

9.45am-6pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

9.45am- 5.45pm Thursday

36 hours per week. Term Time Only plus inset days (45.05 weeks per year including annual leave)

We are looking for someone with:

- A positive outlook who is able to ensure the children are at the heart of all your actions
- A passion for early years teaching and empowering children to reach their maximum potential
- Excellent written and spoken communication skills
- Excellent ICT competency in all Microsoft Packages and a working knowledge of Apple systems.
- Excellent organisational skills
- Ability to use own initiative and work as part of a team
- Ability to work in a highly pressured environment to meet demands and deadlines
- Willingness to work flexibly

Closing dates for applications: 28.06.2026

Interview date: 06.07.2026

To discuss the role, arrange a visit or to apply please contact Chloe Foulger at: hr@opossumed.org

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Purpose

- 1 To work in partnership and complementary to the Nursery reception teacher or lead professional, to help meet the aims of the Nursery. Nursery reception teachers or lead professionals are responsible for planning the overall policy and curriculum, and EYPs are given some responsibility for planning part of the programme and are to play a full part in its implementation.
- 2 To provide service delivery within the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework, Every Child Matters and Ofsted Care Standards (Under 3s).

Major Tasks, Duties and Responsibilities

Support for Children

- 1.1 Share responsibility for safety, health and welfare of children at all times
- 1.2 Ensure all children have access to the full curriculum
- 1.3 Relate well to children
- 1.4 Guide the development of children's social behaviour and attitudes
- 1.5 Frequently supervise children on activities without a teacher present including outdoor activities
- 1.6 Observing and assessing children's development and progress
- 1.7 Keeping accurate records of observation, assessment and development of children
- 1.8 Acting as a keyworker for a group of children
- 1.9 Taking responsibility for specific activities with large or small groups of children or individuals
- 1.10 Report writing for individual pupil priorities

Support for the Teacher

- 2.1 Organising materials and equipment for use within the nursery
- 2.2 Sharing responsibility for care and maintenance of resources and equipment
- 2.3 Lead in preparation and clearing up of activities and encourage children to help
- 2.4 Share responsibility for display
- 2.5 Contribute to curriculum development ensuring a stimulating environment
- 2.6 Take sole responsibility for specific activities including the planning
- 2.7 Take responsibility for an area of learning
- 2.8 Taking on other tasks such as Lunch Time supervision
- 2.9 Attend weekly staff and planning meetings
- 2.10 To work closely with other agencies and professionals on a regular basis

Support for Parents

- 3.1 Encourage parents and carers to be involved in the setting and their children's learning
- 3.2 Establish good relationships with parents and carers
- 3.3 Build up a trusting relationship with parents/carers of keyworker group
- 3.4 Take part in home visits when appropriate and required
- 3.5 Supporting parents with outside agencies when appropriate or required
- 3.6 Responsibility for actively developing home-setting liaison and parental involvement in the setting
- 3.7 Participating in organising and leading training for parents in the setting and in the wider community
- 3.8 Support for pupil progress & attainment

Supporting the Early Years Setting – School

- 4.1 Promote the aims and policies of the setting
- 4.2 Promote the ethos of the setting at all times
- 4.3 Promote and develop wider links within the wider community
- 4.4 Have an active participation in organising and leading training for the early years work force

- 4.5 General supervisory responsibility for students
- 4.6 Supporting children transition from Nursery & Reception.

Other requirements:

- 1 To attend and participate in staff meetings.
- 2 To participate in training and performance management as required.
- 3 To have an up-to-date Enhanced DBS Disclosure.

The job description and allocation of particular responsibilities may be amended from time to time.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications

- NNEB/CACHE Level 3/NVQ Level 3 in Childcare and Education Essential
- GCSE's Grade A* - C in English and Maths or equivalent Essential

Experience

- At least 2 years working with children aged 0 – 4 Essential
- Evidence of anti – discriminatory practice Essential
- 2 years experience in a nursery education setting post qualification Desirable
- Working with children with special needs Essential

Knowledge and understanding

- Early Years Foundation Stage Essential
- Child Development Essential
- Learning through play Essential
- Child Protection guidelines Essential
- Maintaining a safe environment Essential

Skills and aptitudes

- Good standard of written work Essential
- Good interpersonal and communication skills Essential
- Ability to use computers Essential
- Ability to work part of a team Essential
- Flexibility and enthusiasm for the job Essential

Other job requirements

- Willingness to undertake in service training Essential