



THE PARK
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL



Head of Art - Application Pack

Start Date: September 2025

Closing date: 06/02/2025 at 9am; Interviews: w/c 10/02/2025

Contract Type: Full-Time, Permanent

Salary: MPS / UPS plus TLR2 £5645

The Park Community School, Park Lane, Barnstaple, EX32 9AX

is proud to be part of the Tarka Learning Partnership



Welcome from the Headteacher



Park has a proud history and strong sense of tradition with the origins of the school dating back to 1910. We have an excellent reputation within our local community and beyond.

Our vision is for every student to achieve to the best of their potential. In working towards this we recognise the need for a highly skilled, suitably qualified and motivated staff.

We can only achieve our vision by working alongside colleagues to create the right climate and culture for teaching and learning, allowing teachers to focus on teaching and their own development.

As a school we are keen to develop and maintain links with a range of schools and educational establishments. These links provide opportunities for learning, discussion, reflection and staff development to enable everyone to deliver the best education for our students.

The school is a member of a locally based MAT, the Tarka Learning Partnership, involving our main primary feeder schools. This allows for excellent collaboration between partner schools, staff development and primary/secondary partnership working.

This is a great opportunity for an experienced colleague to join a dynamic and supportive group of Middle and Senior Leaders. The school has an extensive support programme for all staff to ensure high quality, timely and meaningful CPD including 'true', non-judgemental, coaching.

If this role interests you, we look forward to receiving your application.

Ms V Owen

Why choose North Devon?



South West England | Situated on the outskirts of Barnstaple town | Easy access to North Devon Coast | Nearby sandy beaches and cliff walks | Close to Exmoor & Dartmoor National Parks | Low crime rates | Affordable house prices

Devon is consistently voted one of the best places to live in England due to a better quality of life, stunning landscapes, world-class beaches, wild moorland, vibrant cities, and historic towns and villages.

About The Park Community School

The Park is one of two 11-16 comprehensives in Barnstaple. Park was opened in 1972 following the re-organisation of selective education in the town; however, the origins of the school date back to 1910, with the site housing both the Boys and Girls grammar schools. Many elements of the original buildings remain and these help to link the school to its proud and strong history.

The school currently educates 1450 students, mainly from the town of Barnstaple and outlying villages. In recent years, the popularity of the school has meant that the geographical catchment has increased, with many students now travelling some distance to join us.

On joining the school, each student is assigned to one of our five houses: Fortescue, Raleigh, Drake, Chichester or Kingsley. The house system is rooted in the DNA of the school with many parents and grandparents showing allegiances to a particular house. Siblings will also join the same house meaning that the Head of House creates a strong relationship with students and families over time. Each house contains two tutor groups from each year group. Students recognise the strength of the house system and value this greatly. It creates a family environment within the school and leads to healthy competition in sports and other inter-house activities.

The student numbers for the school are healthy and the school finances are in an equally healthy position. The School Community Board and Headteacher are keen to continue the development of the campus providing greater facilities for staff and students alike.

The school is led by a dynamic leadership team whom all share the school passion and drive to develop quality teaching and learning. The school is forward looking and sets itself high standards and expectations.



Park is a part of the Tarka Learning Partnership (TLP)—which currently consists of Park, five feeder primary schools and a SCITT. The MAT supports Park and ensures academic rigour, collaboration and the further development of teaching and learning. Through Spring 2025, the TLP and another local Trust, Ventrus, will be joining together to provide an even stronger education provision for North Devon.

The school also belongs to the South West Institute for Teaching (SWiFT), which is a fantastic hub for CPD, and also Education Futures North Devon (EFND), an association that covers North Devon providing supportive mechanisms between partner schools for staff training, developing and sharing ideas.

The Job Description

We are seeking an inspirational Head of Art to lead the department from September 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity to take on an already successful and well resourced department and continue to support and develop our amazing, creative students.

The successful candidate will be enthusiastic about teaching and have a passion for art and photography. We are interested to hear from professionals that have the ability to make an impact in the classroom and beyond. They should have a track record of high quality outcomes and for someone who has a commitment to students of all abilities in our comprehensive secondary school. Applicants must be able to demonstrate high levels of emotional intelligence as well as an ability to develop and lead a high quality curriculum. We expect all of our Teaching and Learning Leaders to develop and improve teaching and learning within their team through CPD and coaching, monitoring this through regular Quality Assurance.

The Art Department

Our Art department has two main teachers and an art technician (who also has some wider school responsibilities). The remainder of the curriculum is delivered by two art specialist senior leaders and support from the Design and Technology department. The art department has a specialist building, which will be refurbished in the next 18 months, with two 'wet' art rooms, an ICT suite, dark room, kiln and drying room as well as an office and storage spaces.

Both art and photography are popular at Park and results have been incredibly strong both in terms of progress and attainment both recently and over the past 20+ years. Students currently rotate through different mediums and projects throughout the year, with at least one photography/ICT based project per year in Key Stage 3. Each cycle is linked with Knowledge Organisers which are at the heart of our whole school homework system.

We aim for all our students to achieve their very best in art and photography by ensuring our schemes of work are relevant and challenging. We also push students to apply for local and national competitions with a number of students having their work displayed in local and national galleries.

To support our Art curriculum, we also offer a range of extra curricular opportunities and use local gallery spaces in Barnstaple and Braunton to share their work with the wider community.

This is a great opportunity to develop your practice as a leader in school and springboard a department from an already established and high base.

All teachers are expected to have a tutor group and be part of our House system, which we are very proud of, and teach PHSEE as a discrete subject.

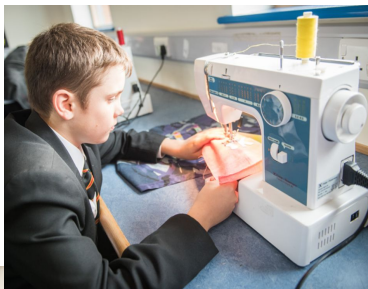
The Job Description

Anticipated Outcomes of Post:

Students, regardless of their social or cultural background, are motivated to succeed and make outstanding progress through creative, relevant and innovative teaching and learning.

Key Duties and Accountabilities:

- Lead all aspects of the Art department to ensure the highest possible provision and outcomes for all students at The Park Community School including (but not limited to) the curriculum, teaching and learning, quality assurance, line management and appraisal of appropriate staff, ordering of resources, community liaison.
- Teach Art and photography across the age and ability range in such a way as to challenge and inspire all students, with clear objectives, delivered in line with department schemes of work and school policies.
- Plan and deliver lessons to students according to their educational needs and with reference to prior attainment, SEN and EAL as required, striving to ensure equal opportunities for all and to provide students with the opportunity to achieve their potential.
- Assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of students in line with school policies, ensuring that marking and assessment are of consistently high quality and in accordance with the school assessment policy.
- Maintain effective behaviour management in the classroom and across the team, using positive behaviour strategies to ensure students fully engage in the lesson.
- Monitor the progress and achievement of the students following the course and identify the appropriate intervention strategies for underachieving students.
- Set high expectations for students and develop their attitude for learning through focused teaching and through the development of positive and productive relationships.
- Manage, develop and share resources to enhance teaching of Art and Photography.
- Promote enrichment and extension of Art and Photography across the department, participating and developing events, trips and visits.
- Embrace the continued professional development programme within the school, striving to be a lifelong learner, maximising opportunities to make impact within the role.
- Be familiar with, fully support and reinforce the aims, ethos, policies and procedures of the school and Trust with students, staff, parents and other stakeholders where and when appropriate.



The Job Description

Pastoral Responsibilities

The pastoral role is of prime importance in supporting the ethos of the school as a place where students can be happy and confident and feel encouraged to work hard.

Form Tutor

- Promote the general well-being and progress of students in the tutor group.
- Provide guidance and advice to students on educational and social matters and to respond to their individual needs quickly and in a constructive manner.
- Carefully monitor attendance, punctuality and reasons for absence, keeping a register in accordance with legal requirements.
- Communicate with parents in consultation with the Head of Year and Teaching & Learning Leader.
- Record information on students and raise, where appropriate with the Head of Year.
- Support and participate in year group activities.
- Attend Year Team and House meetings as required.
- Deliver the PSHEE curriculum in line with the school timetable.

General

- Attend all departmental and staff meetings.
- Play an active part in the life of the school, sharing the aims and objectives of the school.
- Contribute to the protection of children as appropriate, in accordance with any agreed policies and/or guidelines, reporting any issues or concerns to the School's Child Protection Lead.
- Play an active role in your own CPD and share development ideas with others.
- Uphold the teacher standards and make a positive contribution to the life of the school.

Our Safeguarding Commitments

As part of the Tarka Learning Partnership we have strict Safer Recruitment Employment standards and checks will be carried out as part of our commitment to Safer Recruitment. We do not accept Curriculum Vitae. Any successful candidate would be subject to a fully enhanced DBS check, and would be expected to adhere to our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy as well as other mandatory policies.

For more information please contact HR - hr@theparkschool.org.uk

The Person Specification

We expect our staff members to role model positive behaviours for young people, be resilient and adaptive in a school with rapidly changing needs, and help promote a supportive and compassionate working environment.

Shortlisting will be ranked based on the essential criteria (set out in the table below) being evidenced where possible in your application form. Candidates who are successfully shortlisted, will be invited to an interview to explore their suitability for the job.

The Park Community School, and Tarka Learning Partnership, is a Disability Confident Committed employer. If you are disabled and meet the minimum essential criteria (highlighted), you will be guaranteed an interview. Please complete the information on Page 15 of the Application Form.

We know there is no 'perfect' candidate, so if you meet most of the criteria and feel you would be an asset to the team, we would encourage you to apply. We provide training and mentoring to give you the best opportunity to excel in your role. The table below is not exhaustive and many more personality traits and skills are required to join the team.

In addition to the interview you may be required to perform a Task and, or undergo an Observation of skills in practice. If applicable, this is indicated in the Assessment Method column below as follows:

A = Application

I= Interview Questions

T = A Task

O = An Observation

R = References

The Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Measured by
Qualifications	Graduate (2:2 or above) PGCE or equivalent Appropriate evidence of in-service training. Qualified Teacher Status	Demonstration of your commitment to further professional development.	A, I
Experience	Experienced teacher with a history of strong progress outcomes at GCSE level in art and/or photography. Experience of improving the quality of teaching and learning of colleagues. Teaching experience across a broad age and ability range in KS3 and KS4.	Experience of creating and developing a high quality curriculum.	A, I, R
Knowledge	Excellent curriculum knowledge of art and photography. Knowledge of GCSE specification.		A, I, R
Skills	Excellent classroom management skills. Ability to enthuse students of all abilities to achieve their very best. Reflective practitioner who is willing to be coached to improve their own practice. Ability to use assessment to improve students' learning and progress.	An experienced coach with evidence of having a positive impact on the performance of others.	A, I, R
Other Requirements	Ability to form excellent working relationships with other members of staff. High expectations of students and staff. To have inclusive practice at the core of your teaching. Demonstrate knowledge of Child Protection and Safeguarding requirements within an education setting.	Career ambition. An desire to continue to raise the profile of Art and The Park Community School in the local and wider community.	A, I, R
Personal Characteristics	Enthusiastic, energetic, innovative and ambitious. Able to work independently and be a team player.		A, I, R

How to Apply

Apply via our Application Form which can be found on our website under 'vacancies'.

If you wish to discover more about this exciting opportunity, need any further information or you wish to have an informal discussion, please contact our HR department. Contact details can be found below.

Closing date: 9am on 06/02/2025

Interviews: w/c 10/02/2025



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Park Lane
Barnstaple
EX32 9AX

T: 01271 373131

E: hr@theparkschool.org.uk

