

HEAD OF MATHS

(WITH COMPUTER SCIENCE)

Salary: MPR/UPR + TLR1b

Contract: Permanent, Full Time

Start Date: 1st January 2025 (or sooner if possible)



Information for Candidates

www.unity.blackpool.org.uk

WELCOME TO UNITY ACADEMY



Welcome to Unity Academy Blackpool and thank you for your interest in the post of Head of Maths (with Computer Science) at Unity. This booklet is designed to give you some information about the role, department, school and trust but we would always encourage you to come along and see us in action! We hope this information is helpful to you.

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WELCOME FROM THE HEAD



It has been my pleasure to lead Unity Academy since April 2017 but beyond that I feel privileged to have been able to work with our children and staff since September 2013 when I arrived here.

Unity is a family school. We work together collectively to support our children, many of whom have specific and complex backgrounds. Our strap line 'In Unity, we Succeed' is not just words, this is how we operate across the academy. Many of our children face challenges, that is why we are lucky to have a strong and large team of staff to support our young people.

We have recently worked hard to respond to feedback from inspectors and have produced the biggest and most comprehensive offer of CPD support that we can to support our children. Please take the time to look through our CPD offer when considering us as your next employer.

Unity is a great place to work and has a very special feel and culture, words don't do us justice. Please see details on the last page of this booklet to arrange a visit and spend some time with our wonderful staff and students.

Stephen Cooke
Headteacher



THE UNITY FAMILY



"I want to thank every and each one of the teachers that have ever helped me on my journey towards my goals! Thank you for always believing in me, for pushing me towards bigger opportunities, for the patience and help you have demonstrated and for the laughter and fun you have filled me with!"

Y11 Leaver, 2023

"The staff at Unity are exceptionally welcoming and friendly. The Unity team cares about the welfare of their staff and students which shows in morale and also the environment we work in"

New staff member 2024

"Working at Unity Academy is a truly remarkable experience. This school is not just a 'school' but a vibrant community"

Teacher, 2024



OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Staff development is at the heart of our ethos at Unity Academy and we prioritise supporting the development of staff very highly. Our CPD offer is enclosed alongside this application pack so that you can see the offer we are making to you. Each week you will be given the opportunity to share ideas and thoughts about pedagogy and practice alongside culture and mindset through our deliberate practice sessions. This is supported by specific offers for middle leaders and extensive online platforms.

Leadership Development

This post represents an ideal opportunity for a candidate eager to continue their journey in or step into subject leadership. This post will report to an Assistant Headteacher who will carry out leadership development meetings fortnightly. These meetings will focus on strategic priorities and supporting you as a leader. The academy makes use of a range of Arbinger Outward Mindset tools and approaches to support leaders in their development. We have provided the full structure for the department in subsequent pages.





WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

This post incorporates the operational and strategic leadership of the maths department and management responsibility for the teacher of Computer Science who is part of the wider maths team. This is not an academy that is scared of change and we are open to new ideas that you may bring. There is an opportunity for a new Head of Department to build a department in the academy and bring in new strategies and ideas in order to raise outcomes and build strong relationships in the department.

We are seeking a Head of Department with the energy and enthusiasm to inspire and develop students and staff in our popular and thriving academy. It is no secret that outcomes in maths are not yet good enough and we are looking for a new Head of department who will lead the school to a better place in terms of external measures.

The successful candidate will have a proven track record in teaching Maths and delivering good outcomes for students. This will ensure that we continue to provide a high-quality education for all children in a caring, inclusive environment.



WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

We would welcome applications from those with prior leadership experience but also those new to leadership and keen to take a step into subject leadership with a fully supportive structure of development. A full and comprehensive package of training, mentoring and coaching will be provided. Unity Academy has a supportive staff team who work together to ensure that the school motto is clearly articulated and we demonstrate that 'In Unity, we Succeed'.

Unity Academy is an all through school and as such an awareness of curriculum coverage across all phases of education is required, although the specific remit of this role will be leading the curriculum development and team of teachers who contribute to teaching in Years 7 to 11. Our curriculum is designed from Nursery to Year 11 and in maths, the White Rose scheme is used throughout these years. This post represents an excellent professional development opportunity for any aspiring middle leader at our academy as we continue our journey to being the best we can be.

ABOUT UNITY ACADEMY



Unity Academy is an all through school for children aged 2-16 serving a large part of central Blackpool. Students travel to the academy from across Blackpool. Many of our students live in areas of high deprivation and most children are eligible for pupil premium funding. Whilst many of our children have challenges, our job as an academy is to overcome these and to ensure that children are supported to be successful in all that they do.

The academy motto is 'In Unity, we Succeed'. This is more than words, this is how we operate as an academy - we work together and when we work together we are successful.

It is no secret that at the last inspection of the academy, the overall judgement was requires improvement. We recognise that there are improvements to make and have already begun to make these as recognised in a recent HMI monitoring visit. As part of these improvements we have completed staff training through Trauma Informed Schools UK and through Arbinger Outward Mindset. We are beginning a programme of work alongside the authors of 'When the Adults Change, Everything Changes' shortly in order to fully develop a model of relational approaches to behaviour across the academy.

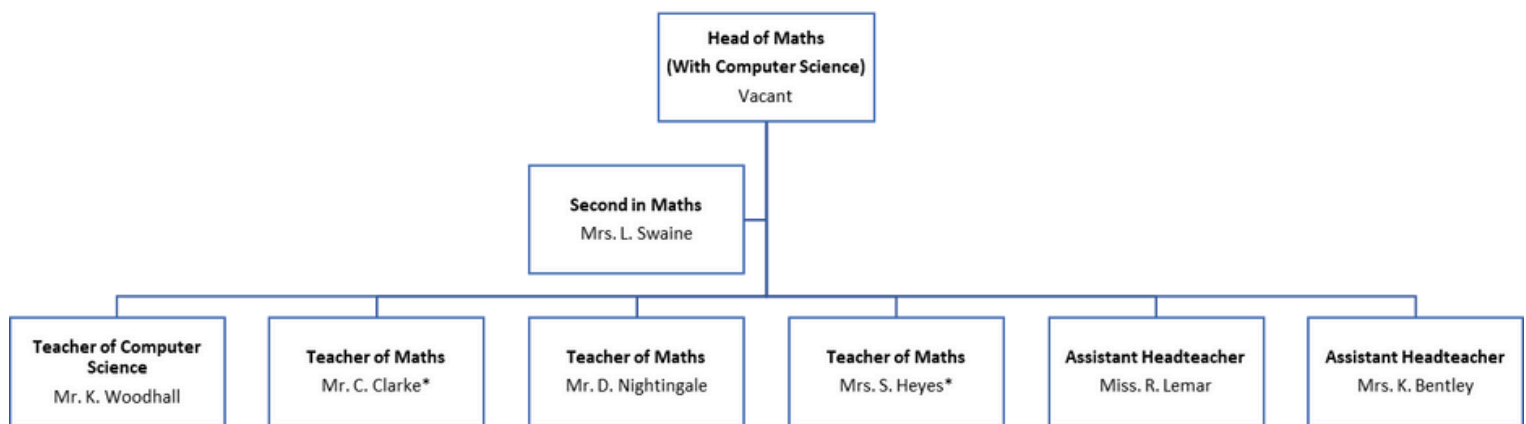
We have also worked hard to improve our understanding of essential knowledge within curriculums and improved our offer of training for all. Please spend some time looking at the CPD offer so you can see the full extent of our offer to you.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT



The current staffing structure within the maths department provides an opportunity for a new leader to build a team around them. They will be supported by Assistant Headteachers who contribute to the delivery of maths and a second in department. The teacher of computer science will join the department in order to provide collaboration opportunities for them but specialist curriculum support will be provided for this subject area.

The Maths department includes all those who contribute to the delivery maths or Computer Science. It is led by a Head of Department who retains overall responsibility for the subject and line manages the respective staff. The department head is line managed by a member of the senior team.



*denotes temporary positions

In the 24-24 academic year, students in Year 7 and 8 have 3 hours a week of maths, Year 9 have 4 hours per week. Year 10 and 11 usually have 4 hours per week but exceptionally for 24-25, they have 5 hours per week. Students are divided into 5 groups (except for Y11) and are initially taught in mixed ability groups before being put into sets during year 8. The KS3 and 4 curriculum is built around White Rose Maths.



The best we can be

ABOUT FCAT

Fylde Coast Academy Trust (FCAT) was established in 2012 by Fylde Coast Teaching School. Unity Academy was the first academy within the trust in September 2013. The aim of our trust is to ensure first class learning opportunities for all young people on the Fylde Coast and across Lancashire. Learners are at the heart of what we do and their outcomes and successes are what drive us.

We are a Multi-Academy Trust working in partnership with educational institutions at the heart of our local community, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing which is critical to our culture of continuous improvement. The trust has grown to include 10 academies and is in a very exciting stage of its development with the recent significant increase in capacity created through additional appointments of Directors of School Improvement.

Full information about the trust and its work can be found on the website www.fcat.org.uk

BENEFITS AND PERKS

- ✓ An amazing and supportive team
- ✓ Membership of the Teachers Pension Scheme
- ✓ Access to free health support services via Smart Clinic
- ✓ Cycle to work scheme
- ✓ Free annual flu vaccine
- ✓ Blackpool Council travel discount
- ✓ Childcare voucher scheme
- ✓ Free eye tests
- ✓ Commitment to our Team FCAT Work and Wellbeing Charter

The Fylde Coast Academy Trust is committed to equality of opportunity for all. Fylde Coast Academy Trust is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all learners, staff and visitors. All staff will be carefully selected using recruitment and selection procedures designed to emphasise our commitment to safeguarding. All posts, including volunteers, are subject to enhanced DBS clearance.

HOW TO APPLY

Please complete the online application form at www.fcat.org.uk including a supporting statement. This supporting statement should be no more than two sides of A4.

For any information regarding the position or the school or to arrange a visit to Unity Academy please contact Mrs. K. Linney, Headteacher's PA who will be happy to assist you.

Closing date/time:

9AM on 5th July 2024

Interview/Selection day:

9th July 2024



CONTACT US



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