

# HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

## Harris Garrard Academy

### Leadership Scale

### How To Apply

Please visit [www.harriscareers.org.uk](http://www.harriscareers.org.uk) to apply online and submit your application. We only accept applications submitted before the closing date via our careers website. Please refer to the last page of this candidate pack and our website for guidance on applying to opportunities within the Federation.

### Safeguarding Notice

The Harris Federation and all our academies are committed to ensuring the highest levels of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and we expect all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All offers of employment are subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, references, an online search, and where applicable, a prohibition from teaching check will be completed. Before applying, please review our **Policy Statement on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders.**

## About the Harris Federation

The founder and sponsor of the Harris Federation, Lord Harris of Peckham, opened our first school in 1990. We have, over the past thirty years, implemented ideas and initiatives that have transformed the opportunities of pupils from working class and disadvantaged backgrounds. Harris academies are widely recognised as a force for social mobility. We are immensely proud of the role that our alumni are now beginning to play in the world and of what we believe our current generation of pupils will go on to achieve.

The Harris Federation has a track record of accomplishment in achieving success through rapid school improvement and has built an unrivalled reputation for running outstanding academies. We now have over 50 schools educating more than 40,000 young people across London and Essex, and employ over 5,000 staff across our academies and head office. With the majority of our academies located in areas of high socioeconomic disadvantage, a high-quality education is key to the futures of the pupils we serve.

## Our Vision

We are a pioneering education charity, and one of the leading multi-academy trusts in the country. We have built a reputation for transformative change, taking on some of the most challenging schools in London and turning them into places where every young person can access a high-quality education and have opportunities to succeed.

Our vision, from the start, has been to provide the structure and services needed for our schools to amount to more than the sum of their parts, and to free-up our teachers and leaders to focus on one thing and one thing only: the outstanding education of all their pupils. Our young people and communities are at the heart of everything we do. Our core mission has always been to close the educational gap between young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers. Our ambition is one where every child in London, no matter their background, has equal access to high quality education, giving them the same opportunities and potential to succeed.

## Our Values

We have exceptional teachers, support staff, and leaders that come from a wide range of backgrounds. They bring many different skills, but they all share a strong commitment to delivering an outstanding education and creating an inspiring and happy school environment. We know there are many challenges facing our young people and the communities we serve, and that's why we need determined people like you to help us tackle those inequalities.

Whilst each of our academies has their own unique cultures and values; as a whole Federation, we have four core values which are central to successfully achieving our vision: **Excellence, Collaboration, Support, and Innovation**. We are proud of our values because they guide us in how we work allowing us to achieve the best possible outcomes for our young people, communities, and colleagues. No matter what your role is, where you're based, or what your career goals are, our values act as a guide to empower you to do your best work.

## What Sets Harris Apart

We are a Federation rather than a chain, and the autonomy of our Principals, and their individual academies is a key element of our success. In addition, the support structure from our central team provides a range of efficient and time-saving services to our academies, but Principals have ownership of running their schools to determine the best curriculum and other local policies to suit the context of their school, staff, and students.

Our head office based in East Croydon, provides expertise and guidance across Commercial, Governance, IT and Data, Finance, Estates, Procurement, HR and Recruitment, Sixth Form and Marketing. Harris academies are funded on the same basis as other state schools in England, but by negotiating shared contracts and services, and delivering other economies of scale, our academies save over £5m per year, all of which goes back into the education of our students.

As part of the central team we have more than 70 consultants, each a subject specialist and highly-skilled teachers who are available to our academies as a resource to use as they need. Their job is to create curriculum excellence in every subject. Our schools are able to access their full support to ensure the most effective curriculum intent, implementation, and impact.

## From Our CEO

*We see Harris as a system disrupter – whose purpose is to make life fairer for children in and around London. Our focus is to take on the most challenging schools and turn them into exceptional places of learning where everyone – staff and students – thrives.*

*We strive to deliver an excellent education to our young people so they can progress into top careers and the very best universities and apprenticeships, giving them the chance to fulfil their potential, no matter their background.*

*The secret of our success is that every Harris academy is different; every school has its own culture and ethos nurtured by its leadership team to suit the local community and context. However, all Harris academies are united by a determination to constantly improve and to quickly identify and share what works to ensure that every pupil is successful regardless of background.*

*As we grow, we are delighted to welcome new and experienced teachers, leaders, and support staff into the Federation, all of whom are crucial to our ongoing success. We encourage staff in their learning and development, our CPD is regularly described as ‘outstanding’, and all of us are committed to growing our expertise and sharing it with each other.*

*Sir Dan Moynihan  
Chief Executive*

## Our Benefits

We know our success is a direct result of the hard work and dedication of our teams. No matter what your role, by joining the Harris Federation, you will be making a difference to young people across London and in recognition of this, you will be able to enjoy the tangible and intangible benefits of working at Harris.

Harris has a strong culture of collaboration and best practice, with professional development and career planning at its centre. We invest in our staff with support, coaching, mentoring, and a wide range of top-quality training programmes delivered at every level.

You will also have access to a variety of benefits, support programmes and initiatives. [Visit our website](#) to discover more.

## Diversity and Inclusion

We are committed to encouraging and sustaining a positive and supportive working environment for our staff, and an excellent teaching and learning experience for our young people. As a provider of employment and education, we value the diversity of our staff and students, and all our staff are equally valued and respected. We are committed to providing a fair, equitable and mutually supportive learning and working environment for our students and staff.

Our work will impact many generations to come, and our staff come from all backgrounds and walks of life, coming together to inspire young minds. We promote an inclusive culture that embraces the valuable and enriching contribution that all of our community make. We continue to be proactive in uplifting and supporting all voices at Harris.

# Job Purpose

- To provide strategic and operational leadership of the Sixth Form, ensuring exceptional standards of student achievement, attendance, conduct, personal development and progression.
- To lead the development and implementation of a high-quality Sixth Form provision that supports the academy improvement priorities and the wider Harris Sixth Form strategy.
- To establish a culture of high expectations, professionalism and aspiration in which all students are supported to achieve their academic and personal potential.
- To be accountable for the recruitment, retention, progress and destinations of Sixth Form students.
- To lead and develop the Sixth Form team, including tutors and support staff, ensuring consistently high-quality pastoral and academic support.
- To ensure the Sixth Form operates efficiently, compliantly and in accordance with academy, federation and statutory requirements.

# Main Areas of Responsibility

## Strategic Leadership

- To provide strategic leadership for the Sixth Form and contribute to whole-school leadership as a member of the extended leadership team.
- To develop, implement and evaluate a Sixth Form Improvement Plan informed by student outcomes, attendance, destinations and stakeholder feedback.
- To work with senior leaders to ensure that Sixth Form provision aligns with academy priorities and federation expectations.
- To contribute to self-evaluation, school improvement planning and inspection preparation.

## Student Outcomes and Academic Progression

- To establish and oversee robust systems for monitoring student progress, attainment and engagement.
- To analyse assessment and performance data, identifying trends and implementing appropriate interventions.
- To work closely with curriculum leaders to ensure high levels of achievement across all pathways.
- To monitor the progress of key student groups and ensure appropriate support is in place to close gaps and maximise outcomes.
- To promote a culture of academic excellence and high aspiration.

## Behaviour attendance and Standards

- To lead on attendance, punctuality, conduct and professional standards within the Sixth Form.
- To implement effective systems to monitor attendance and engagement, ensuring timely intervention where concerns arise.
- To establish and maintain a professional Sixth Form culture, including expectations relating to conduct, leadership and professional dress.

- To ensure students understand and uphold their responsibilities as role models within the wider academy community.

### **Student Experience and Personal Development**

- To lead the Sixth Form tutor programme, ensuring high-quality delivery of personal development, careers education and pastoral support.
- To oversee enrichment, student leadership, work experience and wider opportunities that enhance the student experience.
- To promote student voice and ensure students contribute meaningfully to the development of the Sixth Form.
- To Lead and quality assure the provision of careers education, UCAS, apprenticeship and progression guidance.

### **Recruitment, Retention and Transition**

- To lead recruitment activities and contribute to the growth and sustainability of the Sixth Form.
- To oversee transition and induction programmes for students entering Year 12.
- To monitor retention and implement strategies that support students through to successful completion of their programmes of study.
- To work collaboratively with lower school leaders to promote progression into the Sixth Form.

### **People Management**

- To lead, manage and develop the Sixth Form tutor team and associated support staff.
- To ensure staff receive appropriate guidance, training and professional development.  
To undertake performance management responsibilities in accordance with academy policy.
- To foster a culture of collaboration, accountability and continuous improvement.

### **Operational Leadership and Compliance**

- To oversee the effective day-to-day operation of the Sixth Form.
- To ensure accurate student records and reporting systems are maintained.
- To support the implementation of assessment, examinations, funding, enrolment and census processes.
- To ensure compliance with academy, federation and statutory requirements relating to post-16 provision.
- To work closely with pastoral, safeguarding, SEND and administrative teams to ensure effective support for students.

### **External Relations**

- To build positive relationships with parents, carers, higher education institutions, employers and external agencies.
- To represent the Sixth Form positively at academy and external events.
- To promote the Sixth Form within the local community and contribute to recruitment and marketing activities..

## Academy Ethos

- To undertake such other duties as may be required, commensurate with the level of responsibility of the post
- To engage actively in the performance review process, addressing appraisal targets set in conjunction with the line manager each autumn term
- To participate in training and other professional development learning activities
- To promote equal opportunities and celebrate diversity in all aspects of the academy
- To play a full part in the life of the academy community, to support its distinctive aim and ethos and to encourage staff and students to follow this example
- To support and attend academy events such as Open Evening
- To promote actively the academy's corporate policies
- To adhere to the academy's Dress Code
- To comply with the academy's Health and Safety policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate
- To be familiar with and promote safeguarding requirements, demonstrating adherence to the DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education and the academy's Safeguarding/Child Protection policies
- To be aware of and comply with all academy and Federation policies and procedures, in particular those relating to conduct, child protection (as above), health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person

Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description. Employees are expected to be courteous to colleagues and provide a welcoming environment to visitors and telephone callers.

The academy will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition (as defined in the Equality Act 2010).

Following consultation with you this job description may be changed by management to reflect or anticipate changes in the job which are commensurate with the salary and job title.

# Person Specification

Area	Essential	Desirable
<b>Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good honours degree (or equivalent)</li> <li>• Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)</li> <li>• Evidence of ongoing professional development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership qualification (e.g. NPQSL, NPQH or equivalent)</li> <li>• Further qualification in leadership, education or pastoral care</li> </ul>
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful teaching experience, including post-16 teaching</li> <li>• Experience of leading and improving student outcomes</li> <li>• Experience of using assessment and student data to drive improvement</li> <li>• Experience of leading or contributing to pastoral systems and student support</li> <li>• Experience of monitoring attendance, behaviour and student progress</li> <li>• Experience of working collaboratively with staff, parents and external agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience as Head of Year, Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Head of Sixth Form or equivalent leadership role</li> <li>• Experience of leading tutors or pastoral teams</li> <li>• Experience of UCAS, careers education and destination planning</li> <li>• Experience of student recruitment, transition and retention strategies</li> <li>• Experience of leading whole-school or cross-school improvement initiatives</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge, Understanding &amp; Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong understanding of effective post-16 education and student support</li> <li>• Knowledge of curriculum pathways and progression routes including university, apprenticeships and employment</li> <li>• Strong understanding of safeguarding and student welfare</li> <li>• Ability to analyse performance, attendance and destination data and implement effective interventions</li> <li>• Excellent organisational and administrative skills</li> <li>• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills</li> <li>• Ability to lead, motivate and hold others to account</li> <li>• Ability to manage competing priorities and work effectively under pressure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of current post-16 accountability measures and inspection frameworks</li> <li>• Knowledge of funding, enrolment and operational requirements within sixth form provision</li> <li>• Understanding of the Gatsby Benchmarks and careers guidance framework</li> <li>• Experience of using Bromcom, PowerBI or equivalent systems to support strategic decision making.</li> </ul>
<b>Personal &amp; Interpersonal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passion for improving life chances and social mobility</li> <li>• High expectations of students and staff</li> <li>• Commitment to inclusion and equality of opportunity</li> <li>• Ability to build strong relationships with students, families and colleagues</li> <li>• Resilience, professionalism and emotional intelligence</li> <li>• Ability to inspire confidence and foster a culture of aspiration</li> <li>• Strong judgement and solution-focused</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of coaching and developing colleagues</li> <li>• Experience of leading change successfully</li> <li>• Ability to represent the academy confidently with external stakeholder</li> </ul>

<p><b>Academy Ethos</b></p>	<p>approach Commitment to continuous improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commitment to the Harris Federation vision and values</li> <li>• Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people</li> <li>• Commitment to maintaining high standards of attendance, conduct and professional behaviour</li> <li>• Commitment to developing students as successful learners and responsible young adults</li> <li>• Willingness to contribute fully to academy life and the wider community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of working within a multi-academy trust or large organisation</li> <li>• Commitment to sharing best practice and collaborative working across schools</li> </ul>
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We will consider any reasonable adjustments under the terms of the Equality Act (2010) to enable an applicant with a disability (as defined under the Act) to meet the requirements of the post. The job-holder will ensure that academy policies are reflected in all aspect of his/her work, in particular those relating to:

1. Equal Opportunities
2. Health and Safety
3. General Data Protection Regulations (2018) and Data Protection Act (2018)
4. Safeguarding children

## Applying For The Position

We encourage you to apply as soon as possible as we may interview and offer to a candidate before the closing date. Please note that we only accept applications submitted before the closing date via our careers website.

Thank you for your interest in the Harris Federation. We look forward to receiving your application.

## Before You Start Your Application

Please remember to check your junk mail folders for our email communications and add us to your safe senders list to ensure all future email communication is received. This is important to ensure you are kept up to date on the status of your application and to avoid delays in the recruitment process.

To submit an application, you'll need to have ready:

- Personal information about you
- Details of your education and employment history
- Details of any qualifications and training gained
- A CV and/or supporting statement to upload

## Help and Support

For our Help and Support completing your application, visit [www.harriscareers.org.uk](http://www.harriscareers.org.uk)

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