Birches Head Academy
Stoke-on-Trent

Recruitment Pack

Art & Design Technology Technician

Frank Field Education Trust



INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Thank you for downloading this application pack and for your interest in becoming an Art & Design Technology Technician at Birches Head Academy, in Stoke-on-Trent.

This is an exciting time at the Academy, as we have made dramatic improvements and seen a complete culture change in recent years, resulting in growing numbers of children applying for places.

We have recently joined the Frank Field Education Trust, providing a firm foundation to enable us to flourish. As an Academy within the Frank Field Education Trust, schools will particularly benefit from the Trust's access to services that will improve the support we can offer to all students and families and also from the opportunity to work with like-minded people, who want the best for children and young people.
The Academy works in partnership with a number of schools both locally and nationally, including our primary feeder schools and colleges to ensure all students have the very best opportunities and outcomes.

Our vision is to provide:

- An exceptional academic education to all children (Intellectual Capital)
- A values led approach to education for every child (Cultural Capital)
- The right environment for every child to flourish by building learning communities in partnership with parents and carers (Social Capital)

Achieving these commitments will ensure that, when pupils leave the Academy, they are ready for the next step in their journey; leaving with the necessary skills and knowledge, and the desire to serve others, to become the next generation of leaders.

Our determination to do this, in its fullest sense, resonates with our Academy motto inspired by the words of Oscar Romero "Aspire to be More". I have very high aspirations for the young people at Birches Head Academy. I want the very best for them. I want them to 'Aspire to be More'.

If you feel you can make a contribution to this important enterprise and help our children to be the best that they can be, then I look forward to receiving your application.

If you would like to discuss this vacancy or visit the school please contact Mrs J Bracegirdle, Principal's PA and Office Manager, by email at: jbracegirdle@bircheshead.org.uk.

Ms Katie Dixon
Principal

A WELCOME FROM THE CEO OF THE FRANK FIELD EDUCATION TRUST

Frank Field
Education Trust

The Frank Field Education Trust (FFET) is a multi-academy trust (MAT) based in two Regional Schools Commissioners areas (L&WY and West Midlands) which aims to build on the work of the Outstanding teachers, leaders and schools within the Trust to serve the most disadvantaged schools and communities in England.

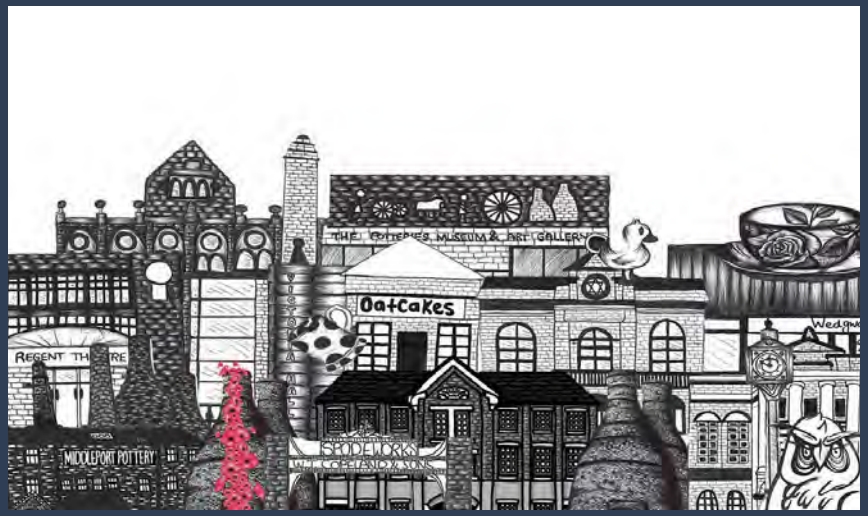
The founder and Chair of the Trust, the Rt. Hon. Lord Frank Field, served for almost 40 years as the Member of Parliament for Birkenhead. During this time, Frank has written extensively on education and, in 2010, wrote "The Foundation Years: preventing poor children becoming poor adults" report, which is regarded as a landmark document regarding the importance of education and Early Years care in ending disadvantage. The review found that the gap in cognitive, social and emotional skills between the most and least disadvantaged students starts well before children enter the education system. This gap widens still further during school years.

Our intention is to work with schools that buck this national trend, with the aim of equalising or bettering life chances by the time our young people leave school. We believe social justice can be achieved through excellence in education.

We welcome applications from people who share our ambition to provide an education for children that is unparalleled in this country and have the enthusiasm and drive to make this a reality.



Mr Tom Quinn
CEO of The Frank Field Education Trust



STOKE-ON-TRENT

The City of Stoke-on-Trent is in the West Midlands and has a population of 270,000, which is predominately white British, but with a significant minority ethnic community. Ambitious plans are underway to transform and renew the City through major investment in health, housing, economic development and education.

The ‘Potteries’ as Stoke-on-Trent is affectionately called, is renowned for its world-class ceramics industry and industrial heritage. The Midlands power house is driving economic growth and renewed prosperity.

The City boasts a strong cultural tradition with its ceramics and Performing Arts heritage. With an increase in the number of children, education is of critical importance to the future prosperity of the City.

JOB DESCRIPTION:
Art & Design Technology Technician

Grade/Salary Scale: Grade 4 equating to (£14,285 to £15,160)
Reports to: Head of Design and Technology
Accountabilities: Teaching Groups - Student Progress and Achievement

The Technician is responsible, under the direction of the Curriculum Leaders for Art and Design Technology, for the effective delivery of technical support to the school, in the areas designated by this job description.

The Technician will have working knowledge, and experience of, technician responsibilities and will hold, or be willing to train for, the relevant accredited safety certification for working with the machinery and equipment for the role.

Technicians will not be responsible for other staff.

Duties:

- Preparation of materials to exact specification from stock, as directed, and clearing away equipment.
- Safe use of metal cutting, milling and turning machines, sewing machines and wood conversion machines (planer/thicknesser, circular saw and bandsaw).
- Tool maintenance - familiarisation with competence in:
  (a) Sharpening techniques for edge and point cutting and marking tools, e.g. wood planes, chisels, twist drills, scribers, etc.
  (b) Routine maintenance of all machinery, including textile machinery, hand and machine tools, making adjustments for wear and tear.
- Marking of models, fixtures etc. - the design and making of the jig, fixtures, racks, tool trays and teaching aids, as required by the school teaching staff, and working upon own initiative.
- Provision of support services to the teaching staff in organising requirements for their work, in both the Art and Design Technology departments.
- Oversight of specialised teaching areas, stores and preparation rooms and arrangements for maintenance and repair services to equipment and working surfaces.
- Maintenance of stock and breakage records, catalogues and user manuals.
- Ordering, receiving and accounting for new stock and equipment.
- Assisting in the maintenance of safety standards in the departments.
- Design and construction of apparatus.

JOB DESCRIPTION:
Art & Design Technology Technician

- Assistance to teaching staff with demonstration lessons and practical lessons.
- Use of CAD/CAM machinery.
- Operation of audio-visual equipment and arrangement for appropriate maintenance and servicing.
- Any other duties which are commensurate with the grading of the post.

Notwithstanding the detail in this job description, in accordance with the Academy's Flexibility Policy the job holder will undertake such work as may be determined by the Principal/Governing Body from time to time, up to or at a level consistent with the main responsibilities of the job.

Monitoring:	As specified by the Principal and in accordance with the Academy calendar
Meeting Attendance:	As directed
Other:	As an Art & Design Technology Technician, perform whole-school duties and other reasonable tasks, commensurate with the post, as requested by the Principal.



PERSON SPECIFICATION:
Art & Design Technology Technician

The following lists provide the Essential and Desirable Skills, Qualities, Experience and Qualifications for the Art & Design Technology Technician at Birches Head Academy.

Qualifications

Essential:

- GCSE grade C or Level 2 equivalent functional skills in English and Maths.

Desirable:

- GCSE or equivalent in Design Technology or Engineering.
- The relevant accredited safety certification for working with the machinery and equipment for the role, or be willing to train for this certification.

Experience

Essential:

- Experience of using technology-based equipment, e.g. circular saws, welding equipment, etc.
- Working knowledge, and experience of, technician responsibilities.

Desirable:

- Previous experience working in a similar role within education.
- Experience of working in a workshop environment either in education or industry.
- Experience of using ICT based equipment.
- Outline understanding of curriculum for design & technology-based subjects.
- Understanding of Health and Safety legislation, policies and procedures.

Skills & Abilities

Essential:

- Understanding of workshop methodologies and practices.
- Good organisational, time management and communication skills.
- Ability to work as part of a team.
- The ability to work effectively as part of a team, but also to use initiative within the guidelines set by teaching staff with tact and diplomacy.
- The ability to recognise and be sensitive to the individual needs of students.
- Willingness to undertake appropriate training.
- Awareness and sensitivity with regard to equal opportunities and race equality.
- Well organised.
- Flexible.

Desirable:

- Good ICT skills.
- Willingness to undertake First Aid training as required.

Notwithstanding the detail in this job description, in accordance with the Academy's Flexibility Policy the job holder will undertake such work as may be determined by the Principal/Governing Body from time to time, up to or at a level consistent with the main responsibilities of the job.

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Design Technology Department Information

In Key Stage 3, projects focus on assessment strands of the National Curriculum through both theory and practical work.

We currently offer GCSE 3D Design, Engineering and Food and are looking to expand our curriculum offer to our students.

We have high expectations of our students and aim to provide them with the skills necessary to aspire to be more in our subjects. We instil a love of learning in our students and pupil progress is at the heart of what we do.

There are two specialist Technology classrooms, a workshop with equipment for wood and metal working, including a brazing hearth area, and a food room. The Technology department has access to its own laptops with CAD software including 2D Design and Google Sketchup and facilities to be able to use Solidworks. We also have a Boxford laser cutter and equipment for ceramics, textiles, printmaking and electronics.

The department is keen to promote an innovative and caring environment where all students and staff feel happy and safe to work. Health and safety are regarded as being of paramount importance and the teaching and learning of this continues each year.

Art Department Information

The Art department offers students a wide range of learning experiences and is fully equipped to teach across Key Stage 3 and 4. The overriding aim of the department is to equip students with the necessary skills and tools to be able to express themselves creatively. We have the highest expectations of our students and hope to instil in them a high level of aspiration and determination, coupled with an enjoyment of Art and Design.

Facilities

The department has three practical classrooms in the main school with storage for work and materials and a separate Kiln room. There are desktop computers, Mac computers and laptops within the department which have Photoshop for use by the students. In addition, the department also has a set of digital cameras, a large A3 colour photocopier / printer and facilities / equipment for ceramics, textiles, photography and printmaking. Currently, there are two full time art teachers and one part time art teacher, who teach across both Key Stages. The department is also supported by one full time technician.

Curriculum

At KS3, our students follow a learning journey that builds skills and knowledge as they progress. Students are encouraged to develop their skills through a wide variety of projects and starting points. Students use sketchbooks and are encouraged to consider presentation and self evaluation as an integral part of their work. Students are taught a total of two periods per fortnight.

At KS4, students can opt to study Art or Photography, following the broad based AQA Art and Design course. Art and Photography are both a popular choice at GCSE, there is a high take up with excellent results. Students are encouraged to develop their own artistic style and the range of projects allow for individual choice and personal development. Teaching time is six periods per fortnight.

HOW TO APPLY

If you decide to apply for this position, please complete an application form: curriculum vitae alone will not be accepted. Your formal letter of application (supporting statement) should be no longer than two sides of A4 and should address:

- Why you are attracted to this position and Academy
- How your experiences and achievements match the job description and person specification

Please return your completed application to:

Jocey Bracegirdle (PA to the Principal)
at: **jbracegirdle@bircheshead.org.uk**

Please note, it is the policy of Birches Head Academy to contact shortlisted candidates only.

Key Dates

Closing Date: Tuesday 9th November 2021 at 9.00am
Interviews week commencing Monday 15th November 2021

Academy Location

Birches Head Academy
Birches Head Road
Stoke on Trent
ST2 8DD
01782233595
Email: info@bircheshead.org.uk

Additional Information

Ofsted Reports: www.ofsted.gov.uk
Information about Stoke City Council: www.stoke.gov.uk
Frank Field Education Trust: www.ffet.co.uk



ABOUT THE FRANK FIELD EDUCATION TRUST

The Frank Field Education Trust (FFET) is a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) formed with the explicit intention of delivering world-class education. We do this by delivering a curriculum that focuses on developing intellectual, social and cultural capital in our young people, that will enable them to become adults who will have choice-filled lives and be good people. Our Trust has a particular focus on working with the most disadvantaged in our society and we believe, through excellence in our schools, we can ensure that social justice will prevail for all our students and families. There are currently three schools in FFET (and two Associate Schools):

The Ellesmere Port Church of England College

Based in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, this 11-18 school has been transformed into a high performing College. It is a faith school and, as such, reflects our vision within a Christian context.

Handforth Grange Primary School

Based in Handforth, near Manchester, this outstanding primary school and National Support School leads the way in innovative curriculum development and inclusion.

Birches Head Academy

Based in Stoke, BHA is our newest school to join the Trust and is rapidly growing in pupil numbers as its reputation for inclusion, diversity and excellence spreads amongst its community.

The Frank Field Education Trust is recognised by the Department for Education as a sponsor. This means the Trust has given a commitment to support academies facing all types of challenges, including educational standards and financial viability. Our growth model is established around local hubs within the Lancashire & West Yorkshire and West Midlands RSC regions which will provide education from 3-18 years and also include support from birth to three years.



WHAT FFET HAS TO OFFER OUR STAFF:

- We work collaboratively with academies in our FFET family, allowing our students and staff many opportunities to develop themselves. This is embodied in the FFET vision: 'Social Justice through Excellence in Education'.
- A strong organisational culture and purpose.
- A commitment to staff development and staff well-being.
- A palpable sense of community built on trust and transparency.
- A culture that embraces new ideas and uses innovation for continuous improvement.
- The opportunity to help establish a positive school culture that is focused on achievement and well-being.





GROWING NETWORK

Joined December 2018

The Ellesmere Port C of E College

Joined February 2019

Handforth Grange Primary School

October 2020

Christ Church Primary School joined FFET as an Associate School

November 2020

The Acorns Primary & Nursery School joined FFET as an Associate School

Joined December 2020

Birches Head Academy

September 2021

Early Life Project begins

Early Life Programme

September 2021

Esprit MAT Partnership begins



ASPIRE TO BE MORE

Birches Head Academy, Birches Head Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST2 8DD

Telephone: 01782 233595 **Fax:** 01782 236647
info@bircheshead.org.uk www.bircheshead.org.uk

Frank Field
Education Trust