Dear candidate,

Thank you for expressing an interest in our Teacher of Computer Science vacancy. We are a very well-established department at NLA, and are seeking that last piece of the jigsaw that will fit in with our amazing team. We have transformed the computing provision over the last five years, to ensure that NLA students have the skills and knowledge they need to progress within our subject and into the wider world of academia and employment. This has supported seeing a larger uptake from KS3 students picking computing related subjects for options at KS4, a higher proportion of students achieving above the national average at KS4 and three cohorts so far of A-Level Computer Science students in double figures. As a bespoke ‘Quantum’ pathway within NLA, we are also one of only four centres within the North West that offers access to the Cyber EPQ qualification worth up to 28 UCAS points.

We are fortunate to have our own dedicated computing rooms each, with recently replaced high-spec machines. We have a broad range of software installed to support the teaching of KS3 Computing, BTEC Digital Information Technology, GCSE Computer Science, Cyber Extended Project Qualification and A-Level Computer Science. Being able to teach to KS5 level is not a pre-requisite for this position, but we have access to excellent CPD to support deeper understanding of our subject to this level. As a department we offer in-house ECT mentorship and subject development, in addition to the wider school professional development provision.

Our extra-curricular and experiential learning offer is the envy of not only other computing departments in other schools, but also other departments here at NLA. We own and use on a regular basis LEGO robotics, VEX IQ robotics, class sets of BBC Micro:bits as well as participation in national eSports competitions via the Digital Schoolhouse programme, in which we are one of 67 national Digital Schoolhouse schools. We also take part in several national competitions and initiatives, an example of which is a trial of KS3 resources on behalf of The Raspberry Pi foundation which we have completed recently to support shaping the learning of computing students nationally.

We welcome any additional interest in the post, and I am happy to make time to speak or host any prospective candidate that wishes to know more about our department and the school. If you would like to get in touch, please do so at d.cross@northliverpoolacademy.co.uk where we can arrange a phone call, Google Meet or a visit to answer any questions. Please feel free to see our social media posts too, especially twitter (@NorthLivAcademy) where you can read about many of the rich experiences that NLA and computing offers our students.

Kind regards,

Dave Cross

Curriculum Leader of Computer Science