West London Free School

Teacher of Computer Science

Start Date: 1ˢᵗ September 2024

Teacher of Computer Science

Start date: 1st Spetember 2023
Contract Type: Full time
Contract Term: Permanent
Salary: Commensurate with experience
Reports to: Head of Computer Science

The West London Free School

The West London Free School offers academic excellence, attentive pastoral support and a thriving co-curricular programme, allowing pupils to become the best version of themselves. As a member of the Knowledge Schools Trust, we are driven by a common desire to overcome inequality of opportunity through education. We believe that knowledge is a good in and of itself, empowering pupils to understand and take an interest in the world around them. The education we offer is not just a preparation for work, but a preparation for life. As such, we value the knowledge of our teachers, and the passion for their subject that they bring to the classroom.

We offer a challenging curriculum, with a supportive environment, underpinned by fantastic teachers. Through this combination, pupils at the West London Free School excel. In 2023:
- **A-level:** 48% of entries were graded A* to A, and 77% were graded A* to B.
- **GCSE:** 48% of entries were graded 9 to 7, and 86% were graded 9 to 4. Progress 8 was 0.69, and Attainment 8 was 6.1, placing us in the top 2% of comprehensive schools in the country.
- WLFS students went on to study at some of the best universities in the UK and abroad, with seven students accepted to courses at Oxford or Cambridge in both 2022 and 2023.

At the West London Free School, we aim to build a culture of sustainable success. We have a stable body of staff who feel supported and fulfilled.
- Senior leaders see it as their responsibility to ensure all teachers can teach without disruption. School rules are non-negotiable, and poor behaviour is met by escalating sanctions.
- Our annual survey (conducted by EdSRS) revealed that 100% of teaching staff would recommend the WLFS to other teachers as a good place to work (84% nationally); 71% said that staff morale is high (47% nationally); and 87% said that the SLT are highly visible and approachable (71% nationally).

As well as a knowledge rich education, the WLFS runs an extensive co-curricular programme that encourages children to develop outside the classroom. The school specialises in music and offers a range of sporting opportunities as well as general interest clubs. All staff are encouraged to share their co-curricular enthusiasm by committing one hour a week to running a school club.

The Computer Science Department

The Computer Science department at WLFS is a young department ready to be moulded into something special. We teach a Python based curriculum from Key Stage 3, that ensures all students are equipped with the skills needed to enter an evolving digital world. Currently, Computer Science is a department of one, with teaching from Years 8 to 11. All pupils at WLFS receive one 55-minute period of Computer Science a week in Years 8 and 9, and those who chose it for GCSE receive three 55-minute periods a week. We are confident that our first set of GCSE results this summer will be strong. The successful candidate for this role will help the Head of Department launch a Computer Science A-level at the WLFS Sixth Form from September 2024. The successful candidate will become part of a small team that works closely with other departments to best share knowledge in a way that allows both subjects to shine.

Key characteristics of the role include:

- to impart your passion for Computer Science to the pupils you teach, whilst also ensuring their mastery of the subject.
- to assist the Head of Department in planning and delivering schemes of work for Key Stages 3, 4 and 5, and monitoring their effectiveness.
- to monitor the progress of pupils according to the department and school assessment policy.
- to enhance the quality of teaching and learning in the department by taking part in collaborative planning, sharing resources, mentoring and observing teachers, and participating in continuing professional development.
- to be a form tutor, and work collaboratively with your year group team.
- to contribute to the wider school life, such as events, trips, and co-curricular clubs.

The successful candidate will have:

- strong subject knowledge, a passion for Computer Science, and an ability to communicate that passion to pupils;
- an ability to teach Computer Science at Key Stages 3 and 4 to all ability levels, including pupils with SEN; teaching to A-level would be beneficial, but not a requirement.
- a proven track record of excellent Computer Science teaching and, where relevant, outstanding outcomes for pupils at both GCSE and A-level;
- an understanding of the ethos of the West London Free School, and a commitment to teaching a knowledge-based curriculum;
- high expectations of pupil conduct and behaviour;
- excellent team working skills;
- excellent communication skills with both pupils and staff;
- a willingness to contribute to the school's co-curricular programme.

Rewards & Benefits

People are at the heart of our success. We look for talented and ambitious individuals who share our vision for creating an exceptional school, and are committed to ensuring that every child has access to the best possible education. Pursuing a career at the WLFS also gives you the chance to work alongside a highly capable and committed Senior Leadership team. Senior Leaders at WLFS all teach, pay due attention to workload pressures and are highly visible 'in the corridors'.

We have developed a positive and supportive staff culture at the WLFS, and we invest in our staff with support, coaching and mentoring as well as external training programmes. To that end, we offer:

- Teachers' Pension Scheme for teaching staff
- Cycle to Work Scheme
- Complimentary drinks
- Employee counselling
- Recommend a teacher bonus scheme
- Staff children have priority admission into the school (after 2 years' service)
- Season ticket travel loan

Closing date and interviews

The School reserves the right to commence or complete the interview process at any time prior to the start date.

Please apply either via the jobs portal through which you found this advert, or by completing the application form on the WLFS website and returning it to the Joint Headteachers Ben McLaughlin and Rob Peal via careers@wlfs.org.

Equal Opportunities

The Knowledge Schools Trust is an equal opportunities employer. The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the School is therefore permitted to ask job applicants to declare all convictions and cautions in order to assess their suitability to work with children.

The West London Free School and the Knowledge Schools Trust is fully committed to the principles of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion. We want to attract and retain the very best staff in all areas of the Trust, ensuring our staff body reflects the diversity of our students and local community.