



January 2024

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the position of Year 4 class teacher (maternity cover) at our school.

We hope that you enjoy looking through the information provided, and that you decide to apply to join our great team.

West Hampstead Primary is a two-form entry school with space for 446 pupils, from Nursery to Year 6. The Nursery which has 30 pupils, is seen as an integral part of the school. West Hampstead Primary draws pupils from a socially and culturally diverse local community. Around 40 languages are spoken by pupils and their families representing over 60 countries. The main languages spoken, other than English, are Somali, Bengali and Albanian.

West Hampstead Primary School is housed in a pleasant Victorian three-storey (listed) building with plenty of light and the space to accommodate 13 classrooms to fit 30 children and a further 3 to fit up to 20 children as well as a resources room, music room, staff room and several smaller teaching rooms. The school grounds have been developed and provide three adventure playgrounds, a football pitch, a sports area, a quiet zone and a garden area. The school is well served by public transport with bus, rail and Underground links. It is situated in an attractive residential area within walking distance of local shops, restaurants and cafes.

We include children with a wide range of abilities and needs, including those who are exceptionally able and those who have learning difficulties and statements of special educational needs. The school is fully accessible. Our staff have a positive attitude towards inclusion and are highly trained and highly skilled.

West Hampstead Primary was recently inspected by OFSTED in March 2022. West Hampstead Primary School continues to be a good school. <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50183915>

The rich diversity of our pupil intake is both stimulating and challenging for staff, in terms of the skills required in the classroom, and the priorities expressed by parents. Many parents take an active interest in their children's education, are in regular contact with staff and give us a great deal of support and encouragement. This is a healthy partnership which the school encourages. There is a lively and involved Governing Body, where many members are also parents. The school also works closely with neighbouring schools.

We are well provided with resources for teaching across the curriculum. The school budget is supplemented by funds raised by our active PSA, which also arranges enjoyable social events. Visits to a wide range of local venues and those which are further afield are frequently made in order to support learning across the curriculum. Likewise, we invite visitors from such venues to the school.



We have 18 teachers which includes the Deputy Head, Assistant Head/SENDco and three Phase Leaders. We also have a PE instructor who works with classes throughout the school. We have a large inclusion team made up of a team of Learning Support Assistants who support pupils in class and 4 inclusion learning support assistants who support pupils with EAL and lead interventions. We also have 2 site staff and three office staff. Children receive a variety of instrumental tuition on the premises from self-employed staff.

Our staff are a mixture of people who have worked in the school over an extended period, as well as those who are less experienced and recently appointed. Staff members are lively, friendly, supportive and committed and between them have an impressive range of skills and a great sense of humour.

West Hampstead Primary is a thriving school serving a wonderful community. We are a school committed to inclusion and our ethos pervades everything we do. We have high expectations of our pupils both in terms of attainment and behaviour. We respect and welcome the diversity in our community as well as thinking of ourselves as one big family.

We are looking for talented staff to join our school. We are also seeking to recruit individuals who are keen to continue developing their learning and skills. You will receive excellent CPD opportunities to develop your career through a supportive and outstanding team, as well as bespoke training to meet your individual needs. Our Maths Lead is the NCETM Primary Maths Lead for London Central and NW, therefore we provide many opportunities for Maths CPD.



We are an ambitious school and are keen to recruit only the very best candidate to join our fantastic team. From experience, brilliant teachers do not always realise that they are exceptional; they tend to be highly reflective and are often very modest. Think about your skills, expertise and ambitions carefully and apply for the post with us if you like what you read.

First and foremost, we are looking for excellent teachers who have passion and who care about the difference they make to children's lives. We are also looking for teachers who have an excellent understanding about the needs of children with additional needs and those who are most vulnerable.



## What kind of person are we really looking for?

Please do read carefully through the Person Specification and Job Description. In addition, we are looking for someone who:

- has the drive and energy to be an outstanding teacher along with the skills to provide inspirational learning opportunities for our children
- works really hard and is generous with their time
- is interested in being involved our wider school community
- is looking for real challenge and seeking to progress their career through hard work and unlimited opportunities – we welcome ambition
- wants to be professionally respected, valued and well supported
- has a resilient personality and a great sense of humour
- is a highly professional, positive teacher who will do almost anything to get the job done to a very high standard and secure the very best outcomes for pupils
- is a creative person who can think 'out of the box' and contribute to our vision
- will fight for our children to succeed and really care about them

We would welcome and encourage potential candidates to visit our school. Please telephone or email to arrange this: [head@westhampstead.camden.sch.uk](mailto:head@westhampstead.camden.sch.uk)

## We have visits on:

Thursday 11th January at 4.30pm

Friday 12th January at 5pm

Thursday 18th January at 4.30pm

Friday 19th January at 4.30pm

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by email. Please be aware that references will be taken up following shortlisting and before interview.



### **When is the deadline?**

Apply by: 8:00am, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Job start: April 2024

Contract type: Fixed-term (maternity cover) commencing April 2023, full or part time, subject to an enhanced DBS check

Early application is encouraged, as we are hoping to interview and appoint as soon as possible. West Hampstead Primary School reserves the right to close applications early and make an appointment at any stage.

**The advert will be live for almost two weeks, but candidates may be invited in for an interview during this time period.**

### **What will the interview process involve?**

Interviews will be in person and will include a lesson observation and a panel interview. The lesson observation will be the first part of the interview and successful candidates will then be invited to the panel interview.

**When will the successful candidates take up post?** April 2024

### **Is the role fixed term or permanent?**

The role is a fixed term contract for one year, with a view to make it permanent from September 2024 onwards. Over the past three years, all of the teachers who have been recruited on fixed term contracts have received permanent contracts at the end of the first year.

I hope that you find the enclosed information helpful. If you have any questions or would like to find out more about the position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I very much look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes

Sam Drake

Head Teacher