

Dear colleague,

Thank you for your interest in the post of English Teacher at Isaac Newton Academy, an ARK School. I'm delighted to have this opportunity to introduce myself, to give some details about our school and to describe the kind of candidate we hope to appoint to the position.

Isaac Newton Academy opened in September 2012 in Ilford, East London, in brand new, purpose-built accommodation. The Academy has been carefully designed with ARK's philosophy in mind and has facilities and resources to support a rich and diverse 21<sup>st</sup> century curriculum. It will have an intake of 180 year 7 students each year. When full, in 2018, the secondary school will be 1,250 students (900 11 – 16 year olds and 350 sixth formers). In 2014 the primary phase of the Academy opened to 90 reception-aged pupils. This too will grow year on year, until full in 2020. The Academy benefits from joining a number of successful secondary schools in the diverse Redbridge community as well as being part of the ARK Schools network.

I feel both privileged and excited to have been appointed as Isaac Newton Academy's Principal. This is my third Headship but without doubt my most exciting leadership opportunity. The chance to create a new and outstanding school from scratch, designing the curriculum, policies and procedures, structuring the school day and year and appointing the staff, is a rare and golden one.

In June 2014 the Academy had its first full OFSTED inspection. It was graded outstanding in all areas. English and the development literacy at the school were especially commended: *"The achievement of students is outstanding."* *"Students' behaviour in lessons is exemplary."* *Students make rapid and sustained progress in many subjects, including English."* *"The school proactively promotes literacy skills."* *"The marking and checking of students' work and progress is generally of the highest quality, noticeably in English."* *"Students' attainment levels in reading are rising rapidly."*

English at Isaac Newton Academy is taught by a talented team of subject specialists, with a range of experience, who plan collaboratively and share a commitment to the continuing development of their subject knowledge and English pedagogy. Students follow a thematic English curriculum with each Scheme of Learning allowing students to develop skills in Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening, whilst also answering an overall key question. The department has a passionate belief in creativity and all students in KS3 participate in fortnightly creative writing lessons or writing workshops at KS4 and have regular opportunities to reflect on their individual progress in English through review lessons.

Students study English for five hours per week with an additional lesson for Reading in Years 7 and 8. In year 11, students study English for 6 hours per week to prepare them thoroughly for their English Language and Literature exams. The average class size is twenty-five and students are loosely grouped by current attainment. The department is committed to relating English to wider communities, through curriculum content, by linking learning to real outcomes, and by providing an inspiring extra-curricular programme.

This is a really exciting time to join the English Department because we are currently planning our A Level provision to be delivered in September 2017. As a result, there may be opportunities to teach A Level Language or Literature or contribute to the planning and course design.

The new English teacher at Isaac Newton Academy will be a key member of staff.

First and foremost, we are looking for an individual who is committed to ARK's six pillars (see attached booklet) and feel as passionately as we do about the school's vision (outlined in the prospectus found on the Academy website). You will read that at Isaac Newton Academy we have extremely high expectations of ourselves and of each and every student. It is important that the post holder believes unswervingly that, regardless of background or prior attainment, every student entering the school has the potential to leave with a set of qualifications that will enable them to pursue their education at a top university. We are setting ourselves very ambitious goals, and the post holder will play a central role in ensuring that Isaac Newton becomes a truly great school. They will require determination, resilience, optimism and creativity in order to ensure that effective and efficient systems are in place to support every student to achieve their target grades.

It is our vision that Isaac Newton Academy will be at the centre of the local community, with opportunities for the students' parents, siblings and neighbours to attend classes and benefit from the amazing facilities. We are looking to appoint an English teacher who shares this desire to enrich the lives of the residents of Ilford and make the school a true community school.

And what can you expect from me as your Principal? I will be committed to providing you with the environment, support and resources necessary to carry out your role to an outstanding level. I will prioritise your professional development needs and ensure that you receive supportive and developmental line management and coaching.

If what you have read about Isaac Newton Academy chimes with your personal educational philosophy, I very much hope that you will consider applying for the post. This is a key role in the Academy and a challenging yet highly rewarding opportunity.

If you would like to discuss the role, please contact Gina Webb, HR Manager, on 020 8911 6666 or [g.webb@isaacnewtonacademy.org](mailto:g.webb@isaacnewtonacademy.org).

To apply please go to: <https://goo.gl/UoFMAZ>. Please complete your application by **9am on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January**. If you have any technical issues with the application form please contact the recruitment team on 0203 116 6345 or [schools.recruitment@arkonline.org](mailto:schools.recruitment@arkonline.org)

Yours faithfully,



Rachel Macfarlane  
**Principal**