



CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK

Academic Mentor for English



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Dear Applicant,

Our Vision:

“Be the best you can.” This is what we ask of our pupils and our staff.

We are committed to providing the very best educational experience for our young people and invite applicants who share this commitment and want to be a part of our success story.

The Academy is on a journey from Good to Great and this has been confirmed by Ofsted in May 2022; “leaders and governors remain focused on doing the right things to improve the school further. They have developed an ambitious and clear long-term plan that outlines how they will reach their vision”. The recruitment of an experienced **Academic Mentor for English** is crucial to the success of this journey.

About You:

- You can motivate and inspire pupils to build on their current achievements.
- You have excellent interpersonal skills and a commitment to collaborative working.
- You have the drive and energy to work to utilise your skills in innovative ways to benefit the Academy.
- You are committed to working in an inner city school and believe that such schools should provide the best possible environment for academic success and personal development.
- You are resilient and have a great sense of humour, as you never give up.

About Us:

- Reconfirmed as a ‘Good’ school by Ofsted in May 2022.
- We provide a world class education for boys and girls aged 11-19, in a modern state of the art building that opened in September 2010.
- We provide a welcoming, caring and stimulating environment with excellent teaching facilities.
- We have pupils who strive to maximise their achievement and are fully supported by parents who work with us in partnership.
- We have excellent transport links; 5 min walk from the bus stop or 7 min walk from Manor House tube station which serves the Piccadilly Line.
- We have a high-quality teaching staff fully committed to supporting pupil’s academic and personal development.
- We offer excellent opportunities for your own professional development
- We believe qualifications open doors but are only part of the story. All children deserve a full rounded education.

Thank you for your interest in our Academy. I look forward to receiving your application.

Shereka James
Principal of Skinner’s Academy

SKINNERS' ACADEMY HISTORY

Skinners' Academy, a school in the Woodberry Down (North Hackney) community for boys and girls aged 11-19, provides a world class education in a state-of-the-art building. The Academy opened in 2010 and is supported by the Skinners' Company, who is proud of the Academy being at the heart and hub of the local community.

The Academy provides a learning environment that is inspiring, exciting and motivating for every pupil. Therefore, with your contribution, we will challenge and support their paths to success.

Our "Be the best you can" ethos is applicable to both pupils and employees.

OUR MISSION

'Be the best you can'

Our Mission:

The Principal and Governors at Skinners' Academy believe that all children will be the best they can by working in active partnership with the Academy to achieve excellence for themselves and the wider community. The Academy will provide the necessary prerequisite skills, knowledge and experiences for children to ensure they have the opportunities to succeed. Not only will our young people be successful and productive citizens, but they will also be a source of influence in the society that they live in, ensuring that they make sustainable and authentic contributions for future generations.

Our Values:

- Be Curious** - We will ask the right questions, learn from others and look for ways to work smarter.
- Be Cooperative** - We will work in partnership with others to achieve our goals.
- Be Determined** - We will see challenges as obstacles that we can overcome. We will not give up.
- Be Kind** - We will be generous with our time and resources; we will show empathy.
- Be Respectful** - We are committed to upholding the values of equality and inclusion. We will not tolerate prejudice in any form.
- Be Outstanding** - Exceptionally good; this is what we strive for 100% of the time.

Our Specialism:

In our commitment to ensuring that our young people are not only prepared for every step of their learning journey but that they also have the agency to influence their future, we believe that Enterprise forms a crucial role in realising this. As an Academy, we will ensure that pupils understand the skills of Enterprise and that they can use these effectively to carve out their desired futures.

"Enterprise is about motivating young people to learn and excel in their education and to see the relevance of their studies. It is more than the creation of entrepreneurs, it is about a can-do and positive attitude and equipping people with the confidence to develop ambitious career and vocational interests. Enterprise therefore supports the development of a wide range of work and professional skills and capabilities, including resilience, risk taking, creativity and innovation, as well as a self-belief that starting a business is a viable career choice and one of the most exciting and challenging things a person will ever do."

- Lord Young 2014

STAFF REWARDS AND BENEFITS

Annual Season Ticket Loans

Staff members can apply for an annual season ticket loan where the cost of the season ticket is spread over 10 monthly payments, interest free.

Cyclescheme

Skinners' Academy is a registered employer of the Cyclescheme which is the UK's most popular Cycle to Work benefit, providing staff members with the opportunity to purchase a bike of their choice, tax free. Staff can save 25-39% of the cost of a new bike and accessories whilst also spreading the cost. Payments are deducted via payroll over a term of 12 months.

CycleScheme has also launched the UK's first Cycle to Work scheme for City Bike Hire, which is perfect if you can't have a bike of your own or if you want a multi-modal commute.

City Bike Hire enables staff to save 32-42% on the cost of bike hire membership. Cyclescheme has partnered with Santander and Brompton, with more exciting partnerships coming soon.

Discounted Mortgages for Teachers

Endorsed by the NEU, Teachers Building Society was established specifically to help teachers with smaller deposits buy their very first home. As the only building society dedicated to teacher lending, they not only reserve their best (cheapest) mortgage deals especially for teachers, but they also use their expert understanding of the education industry to make the home buying process as smooth and simple for teachers as possible. Buying a property with someone else? No problem, only one applicant needs to be a teacher.

Electric Car Salary Sacrifice Scheme

Skinners' Academy has partnered with a leading company in the field, WeVee, who provide a scheme designed to save Academy staff money on the cost of a brand new car, whilst simultaneously cleaning up the air in the community and leading to a reduction in the carbon footprint, by helping you switch to electric.

By lowering your Income Tax and National Insurance payments, you can save you up to half your motoring costs and a designated Account Manager is available to provide answers to any bespoke queries you may have.

Employee Assistance Programme

Our Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) is a package of emotional and practical support that provides the following:

- A range of counselling options including telephone, online or face-to-face sessions, and a mindfulness module.
- A dedicated coaching service for line managers, aimed at developing soft skills and building confidence for handling challenging situations.
- Financial, legal and practical support from qualified professionals on a range of personal issues.
- Access to online health and wellbeing resources and a specialist information service.

This free service is confidential and can be used to support staff with any personal or work-related issues that may be affecting their wellbeing.

Gift Vouchers for 100% Attendance

We really value staff commitment to each working day and as a token of this, each term, staff members who have achieved 100% attendance participate in a prize draw, offering them the prospect of winning £100 worth of LOVE2SHOP vouchers which is accepted in over 20,000 stores, restaurants and attractions.

Local Café Discount

One of our local cafés, [Drury Cafe N4](#) kindly offers all Skinners' Academy staff a 15% discount on food and drinks upon presentation of their staff ID card.

They are a casual café and restaurant serving Middle Eastern breakfast, brunch/lunch and dinner with an East London Twist.

London Borough of Hackney School Staff Offers

All employees of London Borough of Hackney schools can register for the borough's savings and discounts scheme where employees can enjoy 100's of offers on big name brands such as BT Broadband and supermarket digital gift cards. Employees can register for free using their school email address and Scheme ID Number.

Pension Scheme Contributions

We pay in a high percentage of monthly contributions for Teaching Staff (Teachers' Pension Scheme) and Support Staff (Local Government Pension Scheme) members enrolled in these pension schemes.

Social Events

The Skinners' Social Committee helps to connect staff during this challenging time by organising lively staff social events to ensure that staff get the opportunity to unwind and enjoy a well-deserved break from work.

Staff Wellbeing

Regular guided mindfulness meditation takes place remotely via the Skinners' Academy All Staff Wellbeing Channel in MS Teams.

Regular Wellbeing Audits occur throughout the year, followed by a Wellbeing Action Plan, giving opportunities for staff, pupils and parents to suggest strategies that would positively impact wellbeing.

We encourage a culture of celebrating each other. 'Staff Shout Outs' can be sent via a link for members of staff to nominate a colleague they particularly want to celebrate each week.

Techscheme

The Techscheme is powered by Apple and Currys PC World and lets staff members choose from over 5,000 tech products, from tablets and televisions, fitness trackers and phones, to games consoles and kitchen appliances. More recently, the home furnishings retailer, Ikea, has also been added as a redemption partner. Staff can spread the cost of purchases from their salary via a salary sacrifice across 12 months and make a National Insurance saving of up to 12%.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post:	Academic Mentor for English
Grade:	Scale 2, Spine Point Range 10 - 13 £24,716 - £25,250 FTE (£21,674 - £22,142 pro rata)
Hours:	Full time, 36 hours per week Term time only
Responsible to:	Head of English

Job Summary

To support pupils who are facing difficulties making progress in English, and to work with these pupils to overcome their barriers to learning and improve academic progress.

Main Activities and Responsibilities

The duties outlined in this job may be modified by the Principal, to reflect or anticipate changes in the job, commensurate with the salary and job title.

1. Teaching and Learning

- Tutor English GCSE and other literacy-based qualifications to small groups of underachieving pupils
- Develop action plans for pupils facing particular difficulties, and work with staff and parents/carers to put them in place
- Promote and support inclusion for all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), English as an additional language (EAL) or with a physical disability
- Role model good levels of literacy and numeracy, and encourage improvement in these areas among pupils who are struggling
- Support pupils' successful transition to the next phases of education
- Where appropriate, visit pupils at home to discuss issues and plan next steps

2. Behaviour and Safeguarding

- Work with parents/carers, pupils and staff to create open discussions about pupils' needs, the school's expectations and what appropriate support looks like
- Work with pupils to demonstrate and encourage good behaviour in line with the school's behaviour policy
- Support the physical and emotional wellbeing of pupils, encouraging confidence and self-esteem through listening to them, and through individual and group support
- Follow all relevant legislation, guidance and procedures regarding child protection, safeguarding, and health and safety
- Support the attendance and punctuality of all pupils, and work to improve attendance rates where issues are identified, recognising how this links to pupils' wellbeing
- Work collaboratively with appropriate external agencies to support pupils' development and progress

3. Curriculum and Leadership

- Demonstrate enthusiasm for learning and improving skills, and model this to all pupils
- Network with other learning mentors and local SEND/safeguarding partners to share and promote best practice
- Take part in relevant training in order to tutor the English GCSE curriculum
- Take part in line management within school, and set goals for continuing professional development
- Report to the head of department and senior leadership team on pupil progress and absence rates
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date records, and prepare written evaluations and reports

Please note that this list of duties is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the postholder will carry out. They may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the Principal.

Key Organisational Objectives

The Postholder will contribute to the Academy's objectives in service delivery by:

- Following Health and Safety requirements and initiatives as directed
- Ensuring compliance with Data Protection legislation
- At all times operating within the Academy's Equalities policies, demonstrating commitment and contribution to improving standards for pupils as appropriate
- Attend staff meetings
- Participate in staff training and development
- Contributing to the maintenance of a caring and stimulating environment for young people
- Adhere at all times to professional business standards of dress, courtesy and efficiency in line with the ethos and specialism of the Academy

Conditions of Service

Governed by the National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service, supplemented by local conditions as agreed by the Governing Body.

Special Conditions of Service

Because of the nature of the post, candidates are not entitled to withhold information regarding convictions by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 as amended. Candidates are required to give details of any convictions on their application form and are expected to disclose such information at the appointment interview.

This post allows substantial access to children, candidates are required to comply with Academy procedures in relation to DBS checks. If candidates are successful in their application prior to taking up post, they will be required to give written permission to the Academy to ascertain details from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) regarding any convictions against them and, as appropriate the nature of such convictions.

Equal Opportunities

The postholder will be expected to carry out all duties in the context of and in compliance with the Academy Equalities Policies.

Person Specification

Job Title: Academic Mentor for English

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications and Training		
Educated to GCSE level or equivalent, including at least a grade C/grade 4 in English and Maths	✓	
Experience of using SIMS	✓	
Ability to use IT effectively	✓	
Experience of working in a school/Academy environment	✓	
Experience		
Must be highly organised	✓	
Must be well presented	✓	
Excellent verbal and written communication skills	✓	
Excellent numeracy and literacy skills	✓	
Ability to work hard under pressure while maintaining a positive, professional attitude	✓	
Ability to organise and prioritise workload and work on own initiative	✓	
Working with children of the relevant age, and managing situations relating to challenging behaviour	✓	
Assessing pupils' needs and barriers to learning	✓	
Delivering programmes for pupils with challenging behaviour, including one-to-one, small group and whole-class activities	✓	
Coaching and advising staff on suitable behaviour interventions	✓	
Working closely with families/carers, including carrying out home visits	✓	
Working collaboratively with outside agencies and participating in meetings	✓	
Initiative, maturity, flexibility, efficiency, resilience and the ability to learn	✓	
Skills and Knowledge		
Strong listening skills and proven ability to deal with sensitive situations with integrity	✓	
Proven ability to communicate effectively with adults and children, including through written and verbal communication	✓	
Proven ability to create good relationships with pupils, staff and parents/carers	✓	
A well-developed understanding of strategies to manage and support young people with challenging behaviour in a school environment	✓	
Proven ability to tailor interventions to individual pupils	✓	
Excellent understanding of safeguarding policies and procedures, and their role in child protection	✓	
Proven ability to be flexible to changing workload demands and new challenges	✓	
Ability to use IT systems and to conduct analysis and produce reports	✓	
Personal Qualities		
Willingness to provide the best possible opportunities for all pupils	✓	
Ability to relate to young people and act as a positive role model	✓	
Well-developed sense of empathy	✓	
Organised, proactive and self-motivated	✓	
Good time management skills	✓	
Commitment to upholding and promoting the ethos and values of the school	✓	
Ability to work collaboratively	✓	
Ability to work well under pressure and prioritise effectively	✓	
Ability to self-evaluate own work and actively seek opportunities for development	✓	
Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times	✓	
Commitment to safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion	✓	

Academic Mentor for English

Salary: Scale 2, Spine Point Range 10 - 13
£24,716 - £25,250 FTE (£21,674 - £22,142 pro rata)

Contract Type: Fixed Term until 31st August 2024, Term Time only
Required: Immediate Start
Location: North Hackney

Skinners' Academies Trust is seeking to appoint a highly efficient and experienced Academic Mentor to support pupils who are facing difficulties making progress in English at Skinners' Academy. The Academic Mentor will also work with these pupils to overcome their barriers to learning and improve academic progress.

Our Vision:

"Be the best you can." This is what we ask of our pupils and our staff.

We are committed to providing the very best educational experience for our young people and invite applicants who share this commitment and want to be a part of our success story. We believe in the power a community can have and so intentionally have developed a strong Academy community of dedicated and friendly support staff to inspire our pupils.

The Academy is on a journey from Good to Great and this has been confirmed by Ofsted in May 2022; "leaders and governors remain focused on doing the right things to improve the school further. They have developed an ambitious and clear long-term plan that outlines how they will reach their vision". The recruitment of an enthusiastic and committed **Academic Mentor for English** is crucial to the success of this journey.

About Us:

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- We offer excellent opportunities for your own professional development.
- We believe qualifications open doors but are only part of the story. All children deserve a full rounded education.

How to Apply:

Please send a completed application form and monitoring form to: recruitment@skinersacademy.org.uk.
Please note that we do not accept CVs.

The closing date for applications is 9am on Monday 11th December 2023. Interviews will be held w/c 11th December 2023.

Skinners' Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced criminal record check via the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) will be undertaken for the successful candidate, including a check of the DBS Children's Barred List. All applicants must be willing to undergo safeguarding screening appropriate to the post, including checks with the DBS and at least two satisfactory references.

It is an offence to apply for the role if you are barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.