



The **GALLERY TRUST**



A community of special schools

**Teacher
Orion Academy**

Candidate Information Pack
October 2021
(for a January 2022 start)

Orion Academy provides education for students with a range of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, including Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs and Cognition and Learning Needs, on its site in the outskirts of Oxford. In September 2021, The Academy moved to new state of the art buildings on the same site.

All students have an Education, Health and Care Plan, which drives their educational provision.

Orion Academy currently offers places to 68 students but the roll of the school will rise steadily over the next three years to cater for 109 students, aged from 5 to 18 years. Students attend from throughout the county, and transfer from our SEND feeder school, and a number of mainstream primary and secondary schools.

Students are taught through a differentiated and bespoke curriculum designed to enhance academic and social development, with a strong emphasis on independence skills. The curriculum delivers a thematic, cyclical approach to provide a meaningful and interesting context for the development of basic skills, knowledge and understanding while providing the relevant National Curriculum requirements. Classes are grouped into stage, not age, allowing innovative and creative approaches to teaching and learning, and are taught predominantly by one class teacher, supported by additional class adults. The Academy provides support for the social and emotional needs of students through a qualified and skilled therapeutic team, underpinned by a Trust pastoral support term. The offer to students is enhanced by additional specialist therapies and interventions, which includes Digby, our lovable therapy dog!

Orion Academy is a member of The Gallery Trust, an expanding Special Needs Multi Academy Trust which is dedicated to improving outcomes for SEND learners in Oxfordshire. The Trust has a national reputation for excellence and is influential in the development of SEND strategy in the county.

Thank you for your interest in Orion Academy. This is a really exciting time to join our school and I look forward to reading your application.

Lynne Smith
Head Teacher

Teacher
Full Time Permanent

Salary: Class Teacher (TMS1– UPS3 + 1SEN point)
Start date: 1st January 2022

At the Orion Academy we have just moved into a purpose built £12 million new building. The building provides a wealth of opportunities for our pupils' curriculum and learning experiences. This is also a crucial point in time for the academy as we continue to improve our education offer as well as plans to expand the academy in 2022 and again in 2023.

If you are committed to enriching and improving the lives of young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, if you would like to join a team which delivers an exciting and diverse curriculum which is not driven by the National Curriculum or exam outcomes, and if you want to work in a vibrant Special Academy – we want to hear from you.

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The Academy provides support for the social and emotional needs of students through a qualified and skilled therapeutic team, underpinned by a pastoral support team. The offer to students is enhanced by additional specialist therapies and interventions. Our focus is to recruit teachers who are keen to grasp the possibilities offered by the Academy where practice is based on SEN pedagogy and evidence: who would relish getting involved in exciting national professional development projects, and who want to work as part of a multidisciplinary and specialist team. The teaching team actively informs developments and collectively identifies the best ways to improve the school further.

Our unique features include:

- A curriculum model which is designed around our children
- Individual learning pathways which teach the way our students learn and moves away from the “one size fits all” approach.
- An ethos of Restorative Approaches, mutual respect, and social responsibility which creates an inclusive and nurturing community
- A flexible, innovative and student-centred approach, which supports not only excellent teaching and learning, but also the emotional and mental wellbeing of students and their individual needs.

Some examples of our expectations include:

- Delivering highly personalised inclusive lessons
- Completing termly assessments that include multimedia evidence of achievements
- Working closely with other professionals and families
- Being a lead professional in the class, promoting and establishing high standards in your class team
- Supporting in the delivery of our residential trip programme
- Contributing to our continual journey of school improvement

Application Process

To apply for this post, please email an application form to application@thegallerytrust.co.uk. The application form and candidate information pack can be downloaded from The Gallery Trust website www.thegallerytrust.co.uk. If you are unable to download the application form, please call 07944 901169 to request one.

Please submit your application form **by 12noon on Monday 18th October 2021** to application@thegallerytrust.co.uk or by post.

Please ensure you detail any gaps in employment and use the selection criteria which is contained in the job pack when you prepare your application, as shortlisting for interview will be based on how closely you demonstrate your ability to fulfil the essential criteria. We do not accept CVs. If you are shortlisted, we will take up written references before your interview so please provide permission for this and provide accurate phone and email contact details for your referees. One of your referees must be your current or last employer, and if you are employed in a school, must include your current Head Teacher.

Interviews will be held on **Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd October.**

The Gallery Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and expects all staff to share this commitment. Any offer of employment with The Gallery Trust is subject to verification of ID and qualifications, satisfactory evidence of the right to work in the UK, health clearance, NCTL and Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Check. The Gallery Trust is an equal opportunities employer, and we welcome applications from candidates from all ethnic and community backgrounds.



The GALLERY TRUST

A community of special schools

The Gallery Trust is a Multi Academy Trust which is dedicated to improving outcomes for SEND learners in Oxfordshire. The aim of the Trust is to provide outstanding education and support for young people with special needs and disabilities, enabled through:

- Commitment to special education – striving to provide the best specialist learning experience for all students
- Opportunities for all to learn – ensuring that students and staff have access to learning pathways which enhance their lives
- Genuine respect and value – creating relationships which promote trust, confidence and respect within environments which are safe and secure

The Trust is on a continuing journey of expansion, growing from a Multi Academy Trust based on a single academy in 2013, to its position as the largest Special Trust in Oxfordshire.

The schools in the Trust are:

- Bardwell School, Bicester
- Bloxham Grove Academy, Bloxham, to open in 2022
- A Free Special School in South Oxfordshire, opening date to be confirmed
- Iffley Academy, Oxford
- Mabel Prichard School, Oxford
- Northern House Academy, Oxford
- Orion Academy, Oxford
- Springfield School, Witney
- The Grove (satellite provision of Orion Academy)

The Trust's vision is to continue to expand over the next five years, supporting a community of converter academies, free schools and sponsored academies. All member academies have the opportunity to share SEND expertise and to work with peers who share common aims and goals.

The Trust is committed to investment in learning, developing system leadership, working in partnership and through a shared vision, enabling all students to reach their full potential.

Orion Academy

Aims and Values

At Orion Academy we are committed to guiding and encouraging our children and young people towards reaching their full potential. We believe that each and every one of our unique learners has their own contribution to make to the life of the Academy, their family and their community, through:

- Engaging with a stimulating and challenging education of the highest quality within which they know that their achievements are valued
- Developing the ability to be independent and successful in adult life and the wider community
- Developing the ability to embrace change and the challenges this can bring
- Developing positive relationships and respect for one another
- Developing tolerance and understanding of individual needs
- Embarking on a journey of self-discovery
- Engaging with the Academy's high expectations, positive attitudes and staff that have a passion for working with young people
- Supporting the Academy's safe and secure structure
- Embracing the exciting and innovative challenges and opportunities on offer



Teacher

Job Description

Introduction

The job description should be read in conjunction with the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document and the provision of that document will apply to the post holder.

The performance of all the duties and responsibilities shown below will be under the reasonable direction of the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher, or other Senior Manager if appropriate, will be mindful of her/his duty to ensure that the employee has a reasonable workload and sufficient support to carry out the duties of the post.

The job description will be reviewed at least annually, and any changes will be subject to consultation. The academy's grievance procedure will be used to resolve any disagreement arising out of the job description. Other relevant policies may be the Stress at work policy and Dignity at work policy.

Teaching and learning

- Ensure all pupils in their care within the academy receive an exciting, effective and appropriate education as outlined in their Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) and in accordance with the academy's curriculum framework.
- Monitor, evaluate and report on the quality of teaching and learning and classroom management standards
- The provision of suitably differentiated work to meet the individual needs of the students
- The curriculum planning and review cycle is maintained in accordance with the school's planning framework and policy
- On-going assessment of students' work and abilities through comprehensive record keeping based on the academy's agreed format
- Maintenance of good discipline in line with the academy's Restorative Approaches policy
- Contribution, wherever appropriate, to the display, presentation and celebration of students' work
- Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students

Wider responsibilities relating to whole academy issues and procedures

- Work for the positive development of the academy, in line with the Raising Achievement Plan
- Attend staff meetings, curriculum forums or any other relevant meetings within the stipulated 1265 directed hours
- Take a share of supervisory duties as part of the weekly routine as necessary

- Take appropriate responsibility for one's own health, safety and welfare and the health and safety of pupils, visitor and colleagues in accordance with the requirements and locally adopted policies: including taking responsibility for raising concerns with a manager

Specific responsibilities agreed between the Head Teacher and the above teacher

In addition to the duties outline in the School Teachers Pay and Conditions document currently in operation, or any subsequent legislation, you will be responsible for the following:

Teaching

Teaching across a range of subject areas in line with the school curriculum

Staff development and support

Taking part in and/or delivering INSET training throughout the academy, as appropriate

Links with parents, Local Authority and the wider community

- Encourage full parental participation in the work, life and development of the school and make sure they are fully informed of their child's progress. To be available to deal with parental concerns and provide support where possible or refer to other professionals or agencies.
- Work co-operatively with the Governing Body and Trustee.
- Liaise and co-ordinate with external agencies and other professionals.

Selection Criteria Teacher

	Essential	Desirable
Professional Qualifications	Qualified to work and teach in the UK Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)	
Experience	Successful teaching experience Planning for and teaching pupils with SEN Effective involvement in school improvement planning and monitoring Evidence of strategies developed for target setting and monitoring performance in order to raise pupil achievement Experience of interactive teaching methods Evidence of differentiation of the curriculum	
Professional Knowledge & Skills	Awareness of current initiatives, issues and legislation Knowledge and experience of developing a purposeful learning environment and using a range of strategies to promote good behaviour Respect for pupils' social, cultural, linguistic, religious and ethnic backgrounds with an understanding of how these may affect their learning Understanding the role of teaching assistants in maximising pupils' learning Knowledge and experience of applying a framework of curriculum planning which: includes long and short term plans; requires learning objectives to be identified for classes, group and individuals; enables monitoring, assessment and recording of pupils' progress	
Personal Skills and Qualities	Strong commitment to raising standards High expectations of self and others Ability to establish and maintain positive relationships, including with parents Ability to remain positive and enthusiastic, including when under pressure Good communication skills Effective computing skills	