



WHITLEY BAY HIGH SCHOOL

Head of Drama/Theatre Studies

MPS/UPS +TLR 2B (Currently £5,872)

I am looking to appoint for January 2027 an outstanding teacher of Drama to take on the leadership of this successful subject. The vacancy has arisen as a consequence of the current Head of Department, Annie Reith retiring. Annie has provided excellent leadership of this subject over a number of years and her successor will be leading a subject where students enjoy studying Drama at all levels. We would like the successful candidate not only to have a passion for leading drama, but also be committed to offering a substantial contribution to the extracurricular life of the school. This is a one-person department which is supported by the English Department.

In Year 9, students can choose Drama as an option subject, currently 40 students are taking Drama at KS3. At GCSE students pursue the Pearson Course/DRO, currently 44 students take Drama at KS4. At A'level students follow the Pearson 9/DRO course. Our aim would be for more students to continue Drama at KS5 after studying it at KS4. With the curriculum changes that have been announced the possibility to develop a Post 16 Performing Arts course could be an exciting addition to our curriculum.

The Department

The Drama Department is housed in a purpose built arts block. It consists of:

- A drama studio suitably equipped and another flexible dedicated drama room.
- There is moveable rostra/seating, versatile performing areas with the potential to create different levels and environments.
- Versatile areas that can be used as dressing room/changing area/drama office/work area and storage space
- Good provision and access to performance technology, including a computerised lighting control system with a fully equipped grid and efficient blackout, high grade sound system incorporating suitable loudspeakers, amplification, sound mixing and playback facilities. Students also have access to computers with software relevant to set or lighting design, editing equipment and a recording studio.

In your application you will need to provide evidence that you:

- Are a successful and innovative teacher with varied experience across the full secondary age range.
- Have already demonstrated team leadership and management skills.
- Are able to generate ideas, exercise initiative, and carry responsibility and accountability comfortably.
- Can demonstrate the impact of a Raising Achievement activity that you have led.
- Play a full part in the wider life of your current school and will do so here.
- Have regularly taken steps to upgrade your skills, in preparation for a senior promoted post such as this.
- Have responded to the information about the post and the school.



In addition

You will be a tutor within the school pastoral system and will join a team of tutors led by a Head of Year. You will be responsible for overseeing the welfare and progress of some 20 students in one of our five year groups.

The school for a number of reasons enjoys a strong standing in the local community, one of which is the high quality and range of extra-curricular provision. I therefore always expect to appoint people who will not only enthuse students in the classroom but who will also make exciting things happen within the wider context of the school.

Conclusion

There is a significant job to be undertaken here and it offers a great opportunity for an ambitious and enthusiastic teacher to take this key subject forward over the next few years, and an ideal preparation for further promotion.