**Job Title:** Financial Planning Analyst – Reporting and Analytics

**Location:** Bolton – Hybrid working – 2 days per week in the Bolton office

**Reports to:** Lead FP&A Analyst

**Accountable to:** Head of FP&A
**Links to:** Property Team, Executive Team

**About Us:**

At Outcomes First Group, we believe every child can thrive when given the right environment for success. As one of the world’s leading providers in our sector, we deliver exceptional, research-led education tailored to each individual, with smaller class sizes and personalised learning plans. Our vision is to empower every child with a world-class education that nurtures potential and inspires lifelong learning, our mission is to unlock that potential through personalised learning and opportunity, and our promise is simple: we listen, we work together, and we are accountable to one another to make the remarkable happen.

**Job Purpose**

To provide high-quality financial planning, analysis and reporting to the finance leadership and operational teams to drive business performance, foster understanding and support growth.

**Key Responsibilities:**

**Financial performance:**

* Lead month-end reporting and analysis to Operational leaders, delivering clear and accurate financial results in a timely manner.
* Analyse monthly financial results prepared by the accounting team to highlight and comment on key variances to budget or forecast.
* Collaborate with and support stakeholders to understand, track and analyse site financial performance, building rapport and holding them accountable for budget targets.
* Ensure that financial KPIs for relevant divisions are clearly and accurately reported on, with key trends highlighted to support informed decision making.
* Communicate performance effectively and objectively to the business, challenging budget holders and fostering a culture of accountability.
* Manage and maintain the month-end query tracker, ensuring site leaders receive prompt and clear responses to aid their understanding of financial results.
* Continuously review and improve the reporting processes and analysis across the FP&A and wider Finance team where appropriate.
* Work closely with the Business Intelligence team to create and distribute financial results and scorecards through systems and automation.

**Budget and Forecast:**

* Support the Finance Business Partners in the budgeting process across all areas of the Group, ensuring alignment to strict timelines and relevant analysis is adhered to.
* Maintain a budget and forecasting financial model to ensure consistency of data across all areas, including relevant KPIs.
* Support the Lead FP&A Analyst, Head of FP&A and Business Intelligence team in implementing system-driven automation for reporting, budgeting and modelling tools.

**Customer service:**

* Build strong relationships with senior leaders and operational teams, including relevant department heads.
* Act as the main point of contact on behalf of the wider finance team for responding to queries raised directly to the job holder.
* Demonstrate strong financial business partnering skills by:
* Providing timely delivery of monthly reports and scorecards (with support from the Business Intelligence team)
* Offering training and guidance on financial awareness to key senior leaders in operational teams as needed.
* Model a positive, professional and collaborative ethos in the Finance team, fostering a supportive and productive work environment.

**Projects:**

* Provide financial analysis and reporting on capital expenditure projects, ensuring robust data insight and budget tracking.
* Partner with the Property and project teams to monitor project performance, support decision-making, and ensure budgets remain on track.

**Standard responsibilities:**

* There are a number of standard duties and responsibilities that all employees, irrespective of their role and level of seniority within OFG Group are expected to be familiar with and adhere to;
* Participates in an annual performance review programme
* Works, at all times, in accordance with the policies and procedures of the OFG Group and statutory regulations applicable to the Group.
* Observes, at all times, strict rules of confidentiality appropriate to the post.
* To comply at all times with the requirements of Health and Safety Regulations
* to ensure their own wellbeing and that of their colleagues.
* OFG Group is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expect all employees to work in accordance with this.
* Undertakes other duties as assigned.

**Measures:**

* Measures against set objectives relevant to the role
* Set performance indicators
* Departmental Net Promoter Scores

**Experience, Skills & Qualifications:**

**Essential**

* Studying towards or completed a relevant accounting qualification (CIMA / ACCA / ACA etc.)
* A relevant degree (Accounting / Finance / Maths etc.) or AAT qualification.
* Unqualified candidates with significant relevant experience would be considered.
* Advanced Excel skills is critical – data manipulation (including extraction from financial ledgers), analytical and presentation skills at a level suitable for Senior Manager review.
* Proven ability to influence financial outcomes and work closely with operational managers.
* Strong interpersonal and communication skills. Ability to communicate and build relationships with people at different levels.
* Ability to present complex data and analysis in a high impact visual manner to senior stakeholders, drawing out the key messages and findings.
* Relevant management accounting experience.
* Excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office including PowerPoint.
* Experience of Access Dimensions and Power BI would be advantageous, though not essential.