

Job Title	<i>Head of School</i>
Responsible to	<i>Executive Headteacher</i>
Responsible for	<i>Senior Leadership Team, Deputy/Assistant Headteacher, Teachers,</i>
Key Internal Contacts	<i>Other staff within the Education team</i>
	<i>Staff in other departments within the Service</i>
	<i>Staff in other Services in the Region</i>
	<i>Central Office Staff</i>
Key External Contacts	<i>Service User relatives, advocates and others</i>
	<i>Placing Authorities and Service Providers</i>
	<i>Regulatory Authorities, Local services – statutory, voluntary and community,</i>
	<i>Neighbours, External Service providers</i>

JOB PURPOSE

- The Head of School will provide effective leadership and management of the school that ensures the school meets its aims and objectives and operates within the overall strategy and guidelines of the Acorn Education.

KEY TASK AREAS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Key Objectives

- Outstanding outcomes for Children and Young People that reflect their needs, abilities and aptitudes.
- A safe environment that protects the welfare of Children and Young People and staff in the school.
- Meeting all statutory requirements as defined by the DfE, Ofsted and other external bodies and achieving the highest inspection ratings possible.
- A motivated staff group that is fully engaged in the goal of achieving excellence in all areas of school life and who are committed to continuing personal and professional development.
- The commercial success of the school as defined by 100% occupancy, the rigorous management of costs and the development and implementation of growth plans as appropriate.
- Effective strategic and operational planning, that includes self-evaluation, school improvement and delivery.
- A shared vision, that fits within the overall Outcomes First Group strategy, which inspires and motivates students, staff and all other members of the school community.

Key Accountabilities

The ultimate goal for the school is to admit pupils and assess where they are in terms of their academic and personal development. Develop and implement programmes that result in the pupils achieving their full potential whilst at school and go on to have a fulfilling life, making a positive contribution to society.

The Head teacher is responsible for leading on the delivery of outcomes for students, the overall success of the school and line manages all the staff, including volunteers and contract staff.

To achieve the goal of outstanding pupil outcomes the job holder will need to develop, apply and review several elements that contribute to its success. This work will be done in conjunction with the Outcomes First Group and also using the School Quality Forums.

The areas contributing to delivering outstanding pupil outcomes include:

- A highly engaging and relevant Curriculum that meets the needs of the
- An understanding of where the students are on a range of academic and non-academic criteria and the assessment processes that enable the tracking of progress against this baseline assessment.
- Evidence of outstanding pupil progress, relative to their start point, measured against national guidance, which leads to achievement of appropriate and recognised qualifications.
- High quality teaching that delivers effective learning.
- Strategies that result in improved behaviour which in turn increases engagement in learning.
- Therapeutic programmes which are integral to the education programme.
- Strategies that improve attendance.
- Provision of positive experiences which promote the pupil's spiritual, social, moral and cultural development.

The Head of School will build close working relationships with all stakeholders, including pupils, parents, LA staff, to work as a team whose aim is to deliver excellent outcomes for the pupils.

The Head of School will develop and implement systems that regularly monitor the effectiveness of the teaching standards.

Safe Environment

The Head of School should ensure that the school has in place Health and Safety policies and procedures and that there are structures and systems that ensure the application of these policies and procedures. The establishment of these policies, practices and procedures is done in association with the Outcomes First Group resources.

The Head of School should ensure that all elements of Safeguarding are in place at the school, all procedures and practices followed precisely and that the recording of all incidents, and follow up, is completed in full and on time.

The elements of Safeguarding that must be in place include: safer recruitment, staff induction and training, care and control policies, practices and procedures, Child Protection policy, practices and procedures in line with LCSB, e-safety, anti-bullying, educational visits and activities with appropriate designated responsibilities in place.

Other aspects of the Head of School role include:

- To undertake responsibilities as defined by the School's Health & Safety policy and systems.
- To ensure pupils and staff can work and learn in an environment free from discrimination, bullying or harassment.
- To ensure that safe working and operational practices are in place including risk assessments and PHP's.
- To develop and implement DDA plan.
- To provide quality physical provision that meets the needs of the students and effective delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum.

Statutory Requirements

- The job holder must be completely familiar with all the detail in all regulations, statutory instruments and standards which apply an Independent Special School.
- There must be regular auditing and review processes to ensure compliancy at all times. This will be done in association with the Acorn Education Quality Manager.
- To maintain an awareness of the potential changes in legislation and therefore the impact on the School and its status.

Motivated Staff Group

- Central to the establishment of a highly motivated staff group is a structured rigorous recruitment and selection process which clearly sets out the quality of person and professional skills required.
- To maximise the contribution of staff to improve the quality of education provided and standards achieved.
- To create an effective working environment that establishes positive and trusting relationships are formed between staff and the C&YP.
- Develop and implement a strategic plan for CPD for the entire school workforce that supports the achievement of the school improvement objectives.
- The Head of School is responsible for the development of excellent employee relations and managing all aspects of employment legislation.
- Implementing and sustaining effective systems for the management of staff performance, incorporating performance management and regular supervision.
- The Head of School is an effective role model and therefore requires the capacity and capability to mentor and operationally manage staff.

Commercial Success

- The commercial and administrative operation of the school are key to supporting the core pupil outcome and other school goals and will enable further investment and development in the school to take place.
- The Head of School will take an active role in the marketing of the school to parents and local authority customers to ensure that all potential referrals are captured and evaluated by the school.
- The Head of School must also ensure that the school has effective internal processes that move each referral through the pipeline as quickly as possible, meeting standards expected by our customers
- The Head of School has at their disposal the central Outcomes First Group marketing and admissions team to support this work.
- The school should have clear and rigorous cost control processes to ensure that expenditure is kept within agreed limits and is reviewed in the light of movements of pupil numbers outside the originally agreed planned levels

Effective Planning and Operations Within a Continuous Improvement Culture

- The Head of School, in association with central Outcomes First Group team, should complete an annual review of the school's performance and create an improvement plan which covers all areas of school life. These plans will have clear, concise goals with timed targets, together with supporting action plans.
- The Head of School will ensure that all stakeholders are engaged with the plan and are aligned appropriately to ensure delivery of target outcomes.

- The process of school Self Evaluation will form part of the review of the school's performance, and the cycle of improvement.
- The Head of School will establish clear systems of meetings, e.g. agenda and actions.
- The Head of School will establish and review management structures, roles and responsibilities to ensure strategic and operational effectiveness.
- The Head of School will report progress of the school in terms of achievement of outcomes and the completion of the agreed action plans.
- Progress against these plans and key performance indicators will be reviewed with the School Group Manager each month and revisions made as appropriate.
- Appropriate communication re the progress of the school and pupil progress will be made to other stakeholders, including parents, LAs and Ofsted

Working as Part of Acorn Education

- To act as an ambassador for Acorn Education and actively promote the organisation and its values.
- To positively support and participate in the Strategic Plan of the organisation.
- To engage in professional developments within the organisation.
- To support and mentor colleagues.
- To attend regional/national meetings and conferences.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Experience	Essential	Desirable
At least three successive years experience as a senior leader in special education	✓	
Experience of conducting performance management	✓	
Evidence of management of the curriculum and assessment	✓	
Experience of working with children with challenging behaviours	✓	
Experience of leading INSET activities	✓	
Experience of appointing, managing and inducting staff	✓	
Experience of resource management	✓	
Experience of financial management		✓
Experience of successful marketing and admissions work	✓	
Experience of managing Health & safety in schools	✓	
Experience of successful team leadership	✓	
Experience of implementing strategies to raise pupil achievement and improve pupil behaviour	✓	
Experience of school improvement planning or action planning	✓	
Experience of planning the curriculum across a range of ages and abilities	✓	
Experience of monitoring and evaluating school effectiveness	✓	
Experience of working with and supporting parents	✓	
Skills	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications & Training	Essential	Desirable
Qualified Teacher Status or equivalent	✓	
Higher degree qualification, postgraduate course, recognised special education qualification		✓
Willingness to extend personal and professional development	✓	
Completion of NPQH		✓
Other	Essential	Desirable