

The American School in London

Lower School Classroom Teacher

Reporting to: the Lower School Principal

Hours: full time

Start date: August 2017

Salary range: Competitive rates apply, from £39,597 to £86,884

Overall purpose

The Lower School Classroom Teacher is responsible for the instruction and pastoral care of 18-20 children, with support from a full-time assistant teacher. The Lower School comprises 21 classes and our philosophy is based on constructivist learning theory and a curriculum that is primarily American. Our school is located in the heart of London and we use the rich resources of museums, theatres, parks, and speakers throughout the Lower School program.

Summary of duties

- Plan for and teach five to ten year old children, as assigned
- Collaborate closely with other Lower School faculty and staff to plan integrated, developmentally appropriate curriculum
- Conference with parents three times yearly, including a student-led portfolio conference
- Provide continuity of the students' educational experience to allow smooth transition from/to the US education system
- Participate actively in the life of the School, through attendance at events, committee membership and leadership of extracurricular activities
- Any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the Lower School Principal

Selection criteria

Essential qualifications/experience:

- A bachelor's degree in a relevant discipline
- A minimum of three years' full time teaching experience in a similar school, preferably including substantive experience teaching grades 1-4
- A proven commitment to the safeguarding and welfare of children
- Experience and commitment to collaborative working in a team-focused environment
- Recent training and professional development in the areas of writing/literacy instruction (such as Readers/Writers Workshop, guided reading), current trends in mathematics, and the use of technology to enhance instruction
- Experience in a school with a similar teaching philosophy to that of ASL, which employs comparable teaching methods and curricula, or training that will adequately prepare the candidate for the American style teaching methods employed by the School
- Experience teaching an American curriculum and familiarity with research-based best practices in American pedagogy

- Significant recent professional development germane to the position
- Commitment to and facility with integration of technology in the service of student learning
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Experience with differentiating instruction to meet the learning needs of all students
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- A child-centered experiential philosophy with an emphasis on inquiry
- Ability to articulate clearly a developmentally appropriate early childhood philosophy to parents and colleagues
- Willingness to contribute to school life and activities in additional ways through coaching, advising and special projects
- Ability to support and nurture the school-home partnership

Desirable qualifications/experience:

- Advanced degree preferred
- Experience with student portfolios and student-led portfolio conferences
- Experience within a standards-based curriculum
- Knowledge and understanding of international and/or independent school communities

This position description is current at the date shown but following consultation may be changed to reflect or anticipate changes in the role that are commensurate with the job title and salary.

The American School in London is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all employees and volunteers to share this commitment. Safer recruitment practice and pre-employment checks will be undertaken before any appointment is confirmed. A disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service will be requested for all successful applicants.

Diversity and equality of opportunity are cornerstone values of The American School in London.

September 2016