



Recruitment Pack – Play Team Leader

Contract type: fixed term (until 31.08.2027)

Scale 4 point 7

Pro rata £9,419 (FTE £33,036)

12.5 hours per week, term time only

11:30am-2pm, Monday to Friday

Key Dates

Advertisement live:	Friday 2nd October
Deadline for applications:	Thursday 15th October
Shortlisting:	Friday 16th October
Interview dates:	Tuesday 20th October

Tours with Headteacher available:

To book onto a tour, contact recruitment@kingscrossacademy.org.uk with the message subject of 'Tour'.

Appointment Panel

Assistant Headteacher (King's Cross Academy): Steve Modini

Headteacher (Frank Barnes School): Dani Sive

To apply

Complete and download an application form from our website and write a personal statement demonstrating how you meet the person specification for this role. Once your application form is complete, make sure to download it and send it to recruitment@kingscrossacademy.org.uk with your personal statement by the application deadline of Thursday 15th October

Recruitment Pack – Play Team Leader

Welcome to King's Cross Academy & Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children

Thank you for taking an interest in joining us at King's Cross Academy & Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children. Ours is a warm and caring community where we are passionate about bringing out the full potential of each of our pupils.

We are proud of the strength of our many achievements and work tirelessly to build on our tradition of excellence both in and out of the classroom.



We are passionate about making sure that every child leaves our schools with the skills, passion and knowledge required to succeed in secondary education. As a team, we work hard to ensure our pupils know and appreciate what makes them a unique and special learner.

It is our hope to build a community of learners which fosters a culture where lifelong learning is truly embraced. You can see our infographic below which demonstrates the five pillars to our school vision – all the work we do is underpinned by these drivers.

We know that the successful candidate will love working with us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards



Stephen Mitchell
Headteacher - King's Cross Academy



Dani Sive
Headteacher - Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children

Introduction

Kings Cross Academy & Frank Barnes School are two schools which are co-located in the Kings Cross estate. Kings Cross is a single-school academy and Frank Barnes is a school for Deaf Children, part of Camden Local Authority. We are seeking to appoint a Play Team Leader, who will work with Play Team staff across both schools and supervise break and lunchtimes across both schools. This Play Team Leader position will play a key leadership role in the implementation and continued development of the OPaL (Outdoor Play & Learning) programme in both schools. Ideally, the Play Team leader will have good communication skills including British Sign Language in order to communicate with both deaf and hearing staff and pupils.



About King's Cross Academy and Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children

King's Cross Academy and Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children share a unique learning community in the heart of King's Cross. Together, we aim to prepare children for the modern world by helping them become confident, resilient and highly successful lifelong learners.

King's Cross Academy is a two-form entry primary school with a nursery, while Frank Barnes School is a specialist school for deaf children. Sharing the same building creates valuable opportunities for children and staff from both schools to learn, play and develop together. Our community celebrates bilingualism and multilingualism, including English, British Sign Language (BSL) and the many other languages spoken by our families.

Our location also provides exceptional opportunities to work with neighbours including Central Saint Martins, Google, Camley Street Natural Park and the Francis Crick Institute, broadening children's experiences and raising their aspirations.

Together, King's Cross Academy and Frank Barnes celebrate the diversity, creativity and culture of our community, ensuring that every child feels a strong sense of belonging and is supported to make the most of their individual talents and potential.

Safer Recruitment



We are committed to safeguarding children and any appointment is subject to satisfactory checks and references. The position will require an Enhanced DBS check including barred list check. The post is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (as amended in 2013 & 2020). This means that applicants are not required to disclose details of any youth cautions or 'protected' criminal convictions, adult cautions or bind-overs they may have incurred.

In line with KCSIE 2026 and safer recruitment practices, the school will conduct an online search for all shortlisted candidates. The online search is part of our safeguarding checks and will seek publicly available information on candidates' suitability to work with children. Shortlisted candidates will be provided with further guidance and will be asked to clarify their online presence.

Both School's safeguarding policy is included with the application pack and we ask you to read these before applying for a post.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post Title:	Play Team Leader	Grade	Scale 4, Point 7
Contract:	Fixed term (until 31.08.2027)	Salary Range	Pro rata £9,419 (FTE £33,036)
Responsible to: Headteachers of both schools			

Members of staff should at all times work within the framework provided by the Academy's Policy statements to fulfill the general aims and objectives of the School Development/Improvement Plan.

The post holder will agree their major objectives with the Headteacher. These objectives will include:

- Achieving the highest possible standard of education for pupils in the allocated class
- Supporting the creation and development of whole school policies, programs and practice to meet the needs of pupils and to improve the level of achievement within an allocated class and across the Academy.

PURPOSE OF THE JOB

The Play Team Leader will be out supervising and leading the playground daily. They will lead play in action by being a consistent presence on the playground during all playtimes, supporting colleagues through guidance and example.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES – PLAY TEAM LEADER

Playground Leadership & Pupil Wellbeing	• Be present on the playground for all playtimes, actively supporting and facilitating play. • Lead and direct play opportunities in real time, ensuring all pupils can access a rich and varied play experience. • Promote positive behaviour in line with the school's behaviour and safeguarding policies. • Respond to incidents, accidents, or wellbeing concerns, administering basic first aid where required and reporting via school systems. • Support pupils in assessing and managing risk within play.
Team Support (Non-Managerial)	• Provide in-the-moment guidance and direction to play staff during playtimes. • Model effective playwork practice • Communicate key observations and updates to the Curricular Lead for Play.

Play Environment & Resources	• Ensure play resources are accessible, safe, and used appropriately. • Conduct regular safety audits of playground equipment and address any issues. • Support the organisation, maintenance and acquisition of play materials.
Play Development	• Contribute ideas to enhance play opportunities and experiences. • Encourage inclusive and engaging activities that support pupils' social and behavioural development.
Safeguarding	• Work in line with statutory safeguarding guidance (e.g. Keeping Children Safe in Education, Prevent) and our safeguarding and child protection policies • Promote the safeguarding of all pupils in the school in line with school policy and procedures
Note: Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the employee will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the headteacher or line manager.	

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Post Title:

PLAY TEAM LEADER

You must demonstrate on your application form and during the selection process that you meet the following essential criteria: -

Factors	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications & Training	• Good standard of literacy and numeracy (GCSE Grade C/4 or equivalent in English and Maths). • Current Paediatric or Emergency First Aid qualification, or willingness to undertake training.	• Qualification in Playwork, Childcare, Education or a related field (Level 2 or above) • Level 1 or 2 BSL qualification.
Experience	• Experience working with primary-aged children, including those with SEN • Experience supporting children's wellbeing, behaviour or play. • Experience working collaboratively as part of a team.	• Experience leading play opportunities. • Experience with an OPaL or similar programme. • Experience coaching or modelling good practice. • Experience of working with deaf people
Skills and knowledge	• Understanding of play in children's development. • Knowledge of positive behaviour strategies. • Basic safeguarding knowledge. • Awareness of health and safety.	• Knowledge of playwork principles. • Understanding of dynamic risk-benefit assessment. • Inclusive play strategies for SEND children
Personal Qualities	• Excellent communication. • Builds positive relationships. • Confident leading groups outdoors. • Calm decision-maker. • Organises resources. • Models high expectations. • Passionate about children's play. • Positive, approachable and enthusiastic. • Resilient and adaptable. • Reliable and proactive. • Committed to safeguarding, equality and inclusion.	• Able to mentor colleagues. • Identifies improvements to playground provision. • Ability to communicate in BSL, and/or willingness to undertake a Level 1 BSL course • Creative and willing to undertake professional development.

Other Requirements

- Ability to work outdoors throughout the year in all weather conditions.
- Physically able to undertake an active role involving walking, standing and moving play equipment.
- Satisfactory Enhanced DBS clearance and all relevant pre-employment checks.
- Commitment to both school's values and ethos.