



Northampton School for Boys

Post: KS3 LEARNING LEADER (DT) (TLR 2c)
Start Date: September 2024
Remission: 1 lesson
Line Manager: CTL Design Technology

In addition to the requirements of a main scale teacher, the Learning Leader is expected to fulfil key roles and responsibilities:

- Provide support to the Curriculum Team Leader in acting as curriculum lead for DT.
- Liaise with relevant individuals and external organisations to support curriculum leadership: other Learning Leaders (if applicable), whole school co-ordinators (e.g., SENDCo, Gifted & Talented, Careers) relevant support staff, parents etc.
- Enhance the teaching practice and pedagogical-content knowledge of other staff in the team.
- Monitor and support overall student progress and attainment – identifying and intervening with underachieving students as necessary.
- Support the Curriculum Team Leader to ensure that academic achievement in DT meets whole school academic targets for Year Groups and for disadvantaged students within each Year Group.

All Lls are expected to lead their curriculum areas to ensure that individual subjects align with our whole school intent and the following core principles:

- to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that is ambitious for every student.
- to embolden students with ‘powerful knowledge’ – knowledge that takes students beyond their own experiences and enables social mobility for all students.
- to prioritise a knowledge-rich and word-rich curriculum that allows students to know more, remember more and be able to do more, over time.
- to develop a carefully sequenced curriculum that allows students to make both explicit and implicit connections between topics/concepts.
- to create a curriculum that allow students to build increasingly complex mental models of ideas and concepts.
- to sequence the curriculum to revisit prior learning and progress towards deliberate end points.
- to avoid the ‘curse of content coverage’ and prioritise depth of understanding across the curriculum to design a curriculum that inspires students’ curiosity.

The role of a Learning Leader is central to our whole school vision to build a ‘curriculum culture’. Lls have an extremely active role in shaping this culture and leading ‘curriculum conversations’ with their teams alongside CTLs. All leaders must recognise that the curriculum is never a finished artefact – it is always in the process of review, reflection, evaluation and improvement. In contributing to this culture, Lls will be involved in a range of activities as directed by the CTL:

- Prepare for and contribute to the ‘curriculum conversations’ that occur in curriculum team meetings across the year.
- Lead departmental agenda items and CPD to ensure that all staff engage with pedagogical-content knowledge – the teaching and learning strategies that are specific to your subject.
- Engage with wider reading to ensure that the curriculum is evidence-based and research-led.
- Foster a culture of ongoing reflection during curriculum team meetings and training days: support with ongoing curriculum development and the sharing of evidence-based ‘best bets’ in your subject.

- Collaborate with the CTL and team to create a shared approach to curriculum intent and implementation.
- Engage in an ongoing process of curriculum evaluation – detailing the rationale for your departmental approach and making any necessary changes to fulfil the whole school vision.
- Advise the CTL on suggested adaptations to schemes of work, resources and feedback strategies.
- Support the CTL in ensuring the curriculum can meet the needs of students with SEND and that all staff implement necessary adaptations to teaching and learning strategies.
- Actively involve teams in agreeing the ‘fundamentals’ for curriculum implementation – the pedagogical-content knowledge that is right for your subject and students.
- Review curriculum end points at regular intervals across the year – identifying the explicit knowledge and skills that students need to ‘master’ within and across the curriculum.
- Ensure that the curriculum is planned deliberately to allow students to progress through the key stages and encounter increasing challenge and complexity.
- Ensure that the curriculum allows students to systematically revisit and retrieve agreed end points.
- Utilise membership to the ‘Curriculum Thinkers’ community to support the CPD of you and your team – adopting best practice and sharing your expertise with the department.
- Support the CTL in writing the departmental response to the whole school development plan and to take responsibility for subject progress against these priorities.
- Support the CTL in preparing students for internal assessments and examinations – developing assessment materials that ensure students are being tested on the full depth and breadth of the curriculum.
- Support the CTL in responding to national developments and changes to the subject’s curriculum.

Other key responsibilities:

- Assist CTL with quality assurance activities, especially learning walks, drop-ins, and work scrutiny across the year in line with whole school QA calendar.
- Utilise the feedback from relevant QA activities to drive departmental CPD that is focused on continuous improvements to student outcomes.
- To ensure that a rigorous and robust assessment, tracking and intervention framework is in place to support students in achieving aspirational target grades, as per the requirements of the CTL.
- Lead internal QA activities during curriculum team meetings that are designed to evaluate curriculum provision and lead to changes in teachers’ deliberate classroom practice.
- Support the CTL in ensuring that the relevant reporting data is entered onto the school Information Management System in line with the whole school assessment calendar.
- Contribute to the analysis and evaluation of school and national performance data, including engaging in rigorous exam analysis to help inform the curriculum development plan.
- Liaise with the CTL about student behaviour and support with appropriate sanctions and reward where appropriate.
- Support departmental staff in dealing with student behaviour and welfare where appropriate.
- Ensure that relevant student information is provided when required by the CTL, Year Team Leaders or senior staff.
- To ensure that where teachers are absent work set for students in DT is of appropriate challenge and rigour.
- Provide information for the school newsletter/press releases as and when required.
- To promote the subject at relevant whole school events, in particular the January Open Evening.
- To develop links with external organisations to support with the wider enrichment of the subject.
- Add to the extra-curricular programme of the department through the planning and delivery of suitable opportunities.
- Complete other demands requested by the CTL, in keeping with the generic job description for this role.

March 2024