



*Opportunity to join an 'Outstanding' all-through academy  
specialising in mathematics and citizenship.*

# **Social Sciences Teacher Sociology & Psychology**

## **Candidate Information Pack**



Dear Candidate

We are looking to recruit a talented, committed and inspiring teacher who is committed to helping our students fulfil their potential.

Ark Academy Sixth form opened in 2015 and has grown into a highly successful and competitive Key Stage 5 provider. The Sixth Form serves as the pinnacle of education for pupils in the lower school but also attracts a number of applicants from other schools in the local area. The Sixth Form has built a solid foundation of achievement in ensuring our pupils achieve outstanding results and make excellent progress when compared to their peers nationally.

We are committed to ensuring every child is challenged to achieve their maximum potential and have celebrated wonderful successes in seeing our pupils progress to study at the most competitive universities, both Oxbridge and Russell group and onto competitive degree level apprenticeships. If you are an experienced **Sociology & Psychology** post16 teacher looking to make your mark, this is the perfect opportunity for you.

Our Sixth form has over 300 students and has an impressive record in providing all students with the highest quality of teaching and experience in A level and BTEC level 3 courses. There are approximately 100 students studying sociology and/or psychology and we annually send approximately 75 - 80% of our Y13 cohort to top third universities and have a strong reputation locally within Ark Schools.

The Social Sciences department is well resourced and staffed.

We are very proud of our reputation for academic excellence and also the superb pastoral care our students receive. We aim to nurture every post 16 student to attain the best possible destination for them post sixth form.

To apply, follow the link at <https://arkacademy.org/vacancies> by **9:00am on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026**. To arrange an informal, conversation about the role, please contact Mr Lisle, Head of Social Sciences via [a.lisle@arkacademy.org](mailto:a.lisle@arkacademy.org)

We wish you the best with your application.

**Delia Smith OBE**  
**Principal**



# Ark Academy

## The Principal

Delia Smith is the founding principal of Ark Academy. Previously she was the headteacher of St Angela's Ursuline School in Forest Gate. She has also been a schools' inspector and was awarded an OBE for services to education.

## About Ark Academy

We are a non-selective school specialising in **mathematics** and **citizenship** that serves children of all abilities. Our commitment is to know every pupil as an individual, and to foster the principles of team spirit, responsibility and care for others. Our pupils enjoy both a nurturing environment and the range and resources of a large, well equipped academy.

## Facilities

We have well cared for buildings, organised with a wide range of specialist facilities. The sixth form block was opened in 2017 to support our growing sixth form numbers.



## About ARK Schools

ARK Schools is an education charity set up in 2004 to create a network of high achieving, non-selective, inner city schools where all pupils, regardless of their background or prior attainment, achieve highly enough by age 18 to have real choices: to go on to university or the career of their choice. ARK Schools has no faith affiliations.

All the ARK schools are situated in areas of high deprivation or educational need and our pupil profile reflects this: over half of our pupils are eligible for free school meals compared to 18% nationally.

The ARK network operates 38 schools in the UK across London, Portsmouth, Birmingham and Hastings. Each of our schools has its own distinctive character, reflecting its local community.

# About the Social Sciences Department

The sociology and psychology department currently consist of a team of 3, teaching AQA specifications across both subjects.

Sociology and psychology are popular subjects at A Level within the sixth form, where students are encouraged to explore their passion for the subjects outside of just classroom-based learning through trips to museums, lectures and conferences. Students are guided in becoming independent learners whilst ensuring they develop the skillset required to be an active citizen within the community. Students demonstrate high level evaluation and analysis skills and are taught following a rigorous long-term plan, which has led to strong outcomes including 80% A\*-B grades in sociology.



# Job Description: Sociology/Psychology Teacher

<b>Reports to:</b>	Head of Social Science
<b>Start date:</b>	September 2026
<b>Contract:</b>	Permanent Full Time
<b>Salary:</b>	Ark Main/Upper Pay Scale

## The Role

To deliver outstanding teaching, to ensure effective student learning in the subject and to facilitate excellent outcomes for students.

To be a role model and impact positively on the academy more widely.

## Key responsibilities

- To plan, resource and deliver lessons and sequences of lessons to the highest standard that ensure real learning takes place and students make superior progress
- To provide a nurturing classroom and academy environment that helps students to develop as learners
- To help to maintain/establish discipline across the whole academy
- To contribute to the effective working of the academy.

## Outcomes and Activities

### Teaching and Learning

- Enrich the curriculum with trips and visits to enhance the learning experience of all students
- With direction from the Head of Department and within the context of the academy's curriculum and schemes of work, plan and prepare effective teaching modules and lessons.
- Teach engaging and effective lessons that motivate, inspire, and improve pupil attainment.
- Use regular assessments to set targets for students, monitor student progress and respond accordingly to the results of such monitoring
- To produce/contribute to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual and groups of pupils
- Develop plans and processes for the classroom with measurable results and evaluate those results to make improvements in student achievement
- Ensure that all students achieve at least at chronological age level or, if well below level, make significant and continuing progress towards achieving at chronological age level
- Maintain regular and productive communication with pupils, parents, and carers, to report on progress, sanctions and rewards and all other communications.
- Provide or contribute to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual pupils and groups of pupils

- Direct and supervise support staff assigned to lessons and when required participate in related recruitment and selection activities
- Implement and adhere to the academies behaviour management policy, ensuring the health and well-being of pupils is maintained at all times.
- Participate in preparing pupils for external examinations.

### **Academy Culture**

- Support the academy's values and ethos by contributing to the development and implementation of policies practices and procedures
- Help create a strong academy community, characterised by consistent, orderly behaviour and caring, respectful relationships
- Help develop a small school/department culture and ethos that is utterly committed to achievement
- To be active in issues of student welfare and support
- Support and work in collaboration with colleagues and other professional in and beyond the school, covering lessons and providing other support as required.

### **Other**

- Undertake, and when required, deliver or be part of the appraisal system and relevant training and professional development
- Undertake other various responsibilities as directed by the Head of Department or Principal.

*This job description is not an exhaustive list and you will be expected to carry out any other reasonable tasks as directed by your line manager.*

*This post is covered by Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent English is an essential requirement for the role.*

*Ark is committed to safeguarding children; successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.*

# Person Specification: Sociology/Psychology Teacher

## Qualification Criteria

- Qualified to degree level and above
- Qualified to teach and work in the UK.

## Experience

- Experience of raising attainment in a challenging environment
- Experience of reflecting on and improving teaching practice to increase student achievement
- Evidence of continually improving the teaching and learning of their subject through schemes of work and extra-curricular activities.

## Knowledge

- Up to date knowledge in the curriculum area
- Understanding of the strategies needed to establish consistently high aspirations and standards of results and behaviour.

## Behaviours

### Leadership

- Effective team worker and leader
- High expectations for accountability and consistency
- Vision aligned with Ark's high aspirations, high expectations of self and others
- Genuine passion and a belief in the potential of every student
- Motivation to continually improve standards and achieve excellence
- Effective listening skills that lead to a strong understanding of others
- Commitment to the safeguarding and welfare of all pupils.

### Teaching and Learning

- Excellent teacher with the ability to reflect on lessons and continually improve their own practice
- Effective and systematic behaviour management, with clear boundaries, sanctions, praise and rewards
- Thinks strategically about classroom practice and tailoring lessons to students' needs
- Understands and interprets complex student data to drive lesson planning and student attainment
- Good communication, planning and organisational skills
- Demonstrates resilience, motivation and commitment to driving up standards of achievement
- Acts as a role model to staff and students
- Commitment to regular and on-going professional development and training to establish outstanding classroom practice.

### Other

- Commitment to equality of opportunity and the safeguarding and welfare of all pupils
- Willingness to undertake training
- This post is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

*This post is covered by Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent English is an essential requirement for the role.*

*Ark is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in our academies. In order to meet this responsibility, we follow a rigorous selection process. This process is outlined [here](#), but can be provided in more detail if requested. All successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.*

## **ARK ACADEMY MISSION STATEMENT**

*Ark Academy has at its core the pursuit of highest standards possible in education. We believe in high aspirations, high motivation and high achievement for all. Through our extended curriculum and community life we seek to meet the needs of the whole person. Civitas – Citizenship – is at our core. We will build a community of civic pride and social justice in which all members are equally valued. We are committed to the service of young people and to helping them play their full part in society.*

*In light of this we aim to:*

- *Provide every student with the knowledge, skills, self-belief and motivation to be successful in their learning and lives*
- *Welcome, value and respect all who come to the school*
- *Build a community based on justice and a sense of personal responsibility*
- *Provide opportunities for all to experience CIVITAS whilst developing a spirit of tolerance and understanding for all cultures, traditions and faiths*
- *Promote dialogue and co-operation with the wider community*

### ***Our Driving Principles are:***

- ***Excellence***
- ***Citizenship***
- ***Participation***
- ***Persistence***

### ***Our goal***

*Our goal is that all students should be able to access higher education and participate fully in our democratic society.*

## ARK Safe Recruitment Procedure

ARK is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its academies. In order to meet this responsibility, its academies follow a rigorous selection process to discourage and screen out unsuitable applicants.

**Disclosures** This post is classified as having substantial access to children, and appointment is subject to an enhanced police check of previous criminal convictions (DBS). Applicants are required, before appointment, to disclose any conviction, caution or binding over including 'spent convictions' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975. Non-disclosure may lead to termination of employment. However, disclosure of a criminal background will not necessarily debar individuals from employment – this will depend upon the nature of the offence(s) and when they occurred.

**Reference Checking** References from the previous and current employer will be taken up for shortlisted candidates, and where necessary employers may be contacted to gather further information

**Probation** All new staff will be subject to a probation period of six months (which may, in certain circumstances, be extended by up to 10 weeks). The probation period is a trial period, to enable the assessment of an employee's suitability for the job for which they have been employed. It provides the academy with the opportunity to monitor and review the performance of new staff in relation to various areas, but also in terms of their commitment to safeguarding and relationships with pupils.

## WHERE TO FIND US



**Wembley Park (Jubilee/Metropolitan Line)**



**Chiltern Railways**



**Buses: 206, 245, 297, 83, 182**

**By Car: A479**

Postcode for satnav: HA9 9JP:

A406 North Circular Road (15 minutes away)

**Ark Academy** Bridge Road London HA9 9JP

Tel: +44 (0)20 8385 4370

Email: [admin@arkacademy.org](mailto:admin@arkacademy.org) Website: [www.arkacademy.org](http://www.arkacademy.org)

