

## Head of Department - Food and Nutrition

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Company: Leigh Academies Trust

Location: Tonbridge

Category: educational-instruction-and-library

Are you passionate about food and dedicated to inspiring the next generation of culinary enthusiasts? Leigh Academy Tonbridge is seeking a dynamic and experienced individual to lead our growing Department as **Head of Department - Food and Nutrition**.

Leigh Academy Tonbridge is a vibrant and inclusive secondary school committed to providing an exceptional education for all our students. Our Food Department plays a crucial role in fostering creativity, culinary skills, and a deep understanding of food technology among our students.

As the Head of Department (Food), you will lead a team of passionate educators to deliver engaging and innovative lessons that ignite curiosity and foster a love for food technology. You will oversee the development and implementation of the curriculum, ensuring it aligns with national standards while also incorporating exciting practical elements to enhance student learning experiences. We are seeking a dynamic teacher who encourages a love for the subject through their teaching and who has both the ability and commitment to inspire and develop the practice of colleagues in the D&T department.

### **At Leigh Academy Tonbridge you can expect;**

Impeccable student behaviour in classrooms and around the academy.

High levels of focus in students.

A supportive academy with visible leadership that support teachers to develop.

Students who are committed to their learning and want to do their very best.

Students who work well together and show the highest level of respect towards each other and towards members of staff.

The opportunity to be part of a team that highly values your wellbeing.

**We'd like to hear from you if you are:**

Collaborative, building strong professional relationships.

Able to motivate and inspire students to achieve their full potential.

Energetic with a 'can do' attitude.

This is a full time, permanent position offering Main Pay Scale/ Upper Pay Scale commensurate with experience + TLR available for the right candidate for pastoral responsibility. The successful candidate will join us from September 2024.

**'Behaviour and attitudes are exceptional' Ofsted, 2022.**

**'Staff are proud to work at the school. There is a strong culture of collaboration and sharing.'**

**The school's small size means that all pupils are known, valued and nurtured.'**

**'Senior Leaders have a passionate and ambitious vision about providing high-quality education for all pupils at the school...senior leaders are relentless about raising standards and maintaining high expectations by keeping a high profile around the school.'**

**Joining us at Leigh Academy Tonbridge:**Building on the strengths of our legacy school, Hayesbrook Academy, Leigh Academy Tonbridge will open our doors to the first cohort of year 7 students, including boys and girls, for September 2023.

Hayesbrook Academy first opened in 1964. Having always been an all-boys school, our history before then is closely linked to the old Sussex Road Boys School, where records go back to the early 1900's, and so we have a strong tradition of education provision in Tonbridge. The modern day academy has always been an 11-18 comprehensive school with a mixed sixth form, serving the local community.

Since being the first school in West Kent to gain Academy Status in 2010, the academy led the way in achieving excellent standards and in creating a multi-academy Trust. We were graded 'Excellent' by Ofsted in 2005, 2008 and 2009. The academic success and high standards have continued and inspections in 2013, 2017 and most recently in December

2022, found the school to be 'good' overall but recognised students' behaviour and attitudes as 'exceptional' (graded as 'outstanding'). Furthermore, the inspection recognised strengths in reading and literacy; careers provision; teachers' subject knowledge; the support provided by the trust and the governing body; as well as identifying the 'meticulous' arrangements for safeguarding. The report also recognised "Senior leaders are relentless about raising standards and maintaining high expectations...".. Our press release and the full Ofsted report can be accessed

The Academy grows, adapts and thrives with each new cohort of students that are welcomed here every September and our recent move to Leigh Academies Trust has strengthened the academy's ability to deliver the very best for our pupils.

**Being part of Leigh Academies Trust:** As of 1st April 2024, our Trust comprises 32 geographically organised academies (16 secondaries, 14 primaries and 2 special) educating more than 20,000 students and employing 3,000 talented staff. Nearly 40% of our academies are judged outstanding overall by Ofsted, versus 15% nationally. The Trust is establishing four 'clusters' of academies: North Kent; Central Kent; South East London; Medway. In addition, the Trust is responsible for one of the region's biggest initial teaching training organisations, a large teaching school hub and is an accredited apprenticeship provider. .

As part of Leigh Academies Trust, you will have ample opportunity to collaborate with your peers both within the academy and across the whole Trust. This is an important part of our vision as we know through experience that we perform better when we work together. You are supported to undertake regular self-development to continue your professional development and hopefully progress further within the organisation.

**Our commitment to safeguarding:** Leigh Academies Trust and all of our academies are committed to ensuring the highest levels of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils, and we expect all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We adopt a fair, robust and consistent recruitment process across all academies and business units which is inline with Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance. This includes online checks for shortlisted candidates - you can read more about this in our Recruitment Guidance. All offers of employment are subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references, and where applicable, a prohibition from teaching check.

**Our commitment to equality and diversity:** As a Trust, we are passionate about diversity and recognise that as individuals, we all bring something unique to the role

regardless of any protected characteristics which is why we treat all of our people equally, without compromise. We are committed to providing equality and fairness throughout our recruitment and employment practices and not discriminating on any grounds.

**Based on the quality and quantity of applications received, Leigh Academies Trust reserves the right to close this vacancy sooner than the specified closing date. Applicants will be notified of this where possible. Therefore, early applications are encouraged.**

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