



**Yardleys
School**

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

HEADTEACHER: Mr. G.S. Basra
Reddings Lane, Tyseley, Birmingham B11 3EY
T: 0121 464 6821
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Head of Year INFORMATION PACK



 Resilience



 Positivity



 Empathy



 Reflection



 Integrity



 Curiosity



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19th March 2026

Dear prospective candidate

Re: Head of Year

I am really pleased that you are considering applying for a post at Yardleys School. We are incredibly passionate about our school. We care about one another and ensure that our teaching and support staff well-being and workload is kept high on our agenda. We work as a team to support one another and care deeply about providing the very best opportunities for our students to succeed, both academically and pastorally.

We believe that our staff are our most valuable resource and work extremely hard to ensure they are valued and developed. We are extremely proud of our students and the diverse, multi-cultural community they represent. They are also proud to be part of the Yardleys community and our Ofsted report cited exemplary student behaviour and caring relationships between staff and students, rooted in mutual respect.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our school. We have the highest expectations from our staff as our young people deserve no less.

Best Wishes

Gurpreet Basra
Headteacher

Yardleys School
Reddings Lane
Tyseley
Birmingham
B11 3EY



Head of Year

Salary: L8 – L12 (£61,533 - £67,897)

Full time

Required for September 2026

“Yardleys School is a unique and special place.” *

Yardleys is a thriving, vibrant and heavily oversubscribed 11-16 multi-ethnic stand-alone academy in Birmingham, with 930 students on roll. The diversity of the school population reflects the rich, cultural mix of the local area.

The school is highly focused on raising standards of pupil achievement through a broad and balanced curriculum and students make excellent progress.

The school motto “Working together for a better future” is far more than just words. The collaborative ethos which permeates the school is at the heart of our success. Excellent student behaviour and an extremely well organised school provide the foundation for teachers to focus on delivering outstanding lessons and continuously improving their practice. The school has a strong pastoral team, with well-established and effective systems.

We wish to appoint an enthusiastic and dynamic teacher who believes they can make a significant difference to the lives of our students in the role of Head of Year. You will need to show a passion for pastoral work, demonstrate the skills needed to meet the needs of the whole child and be able to exhibit excellent behaviour management skills.

The successful candidate will lead the incoming Year 7 in September 2026 and be responsible for the pastoral development and academic journey of the students in their year group. You will need the presence to deliver quality assemblies, manage a team of tutors, meet with parents and professionals whilst also leading and liaising with other Heads of Year on whole school strategies. Heads of Year receive substantial non-timetabled, protected time to carry out their duties.

When joining Yardleys, you will benefit from:

- A keen eye on **staff workload** with a generous Planning, Preparation & Assessment (**PPA**) **allocation**.
- **Well-behaved students** who are keen to learn.
- A **Competitive Pension Scheme** (Teachers’ Pension Scheme & Local Government Pension Scheme).
- **Discretionary healthcare membership** to Benenden Health with access to a 24/7 GP helpline, mental health helpline, medical diagnostics & treatment and mobile app with wellbeing classes.
- A designated **wellbeing day** for all staff.
- Generous PPA time during internal assessment weeks, which take place two times per year, including designated marking days.
- **Well-established and effective pastoral systems** to support with student behaviour and welfare.
- High rate of staff retention.
- A progressive, dynamic and research informed **CPD programme**, providing teachers with a genuine opportunity to develop their subject pedagogy and practice.

- A commitment to **professional development opportunities** with 100+ hours of professional development time that can be accessed throughout the year - including coaching support, sharing good practice with each other through a variety of teacher takeaway approaches, a half termly teaching and learning newsletter, regular hotspots, opportunities to work across partner schools in a joint practice development programme and a regular professional reading group.
- The opportunity to undertake and be supported with a **National Professional Qualification (NPQ)**.
- **Effective business management** with well-organised and effective systems which enable teaching staff to focus on their core business of educating children.
- A **collaborative approach** with supportive managers and regular weekly meetings where subject specific training is provided through subject mastery sessions.
- An **excellent induction programme** tailored to your job role.
- **State of the art facilities** in a modern PFI building including a staff work room and staff room, that are well-resourced with computers, a vending and drinks machine.

“Leaders care deeply about staff. They are mindful of well-being and workload, and staff feel valued and appreciated.” *

*Ofsted March 2023

There will be dedicated timeslots for informal visits to the school. To join one of these, please contact Haseena Waseem on:

T: 0121 675 1761

E: Recruitment@yardleys.bham.sch.uk

Or please also visit our website: www.yardleys-vle.com

Closing date: 9:00 am on Friday 17th April 2026

Please note – We reserve the right to interview and offer the post prior to the closing date. It is strongly recommended that candidates submit their application as soon as possible

Yardleys School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment.

All applicants will be required to provide two suitable references and all shortlisted will be subject to an online search. The successful candidate will be subject to all necessary pre-employment checks, including: an enhanced DBS; Prohibition check; Childcare Disqualification (where applicable); qualifications (where applicable); medical fitness; identity and right to work. The successful candidate will be required to provide a copy of their birth certificate.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975, 2013 and 2020. Which means that when applying for certain jobs and activities certain spent convictions and cautions are ‘protected’, so they do not need to be disclosed to employers, and if they are disclosed, employers cannot take them into account. Further information about filtering offences can be found in the DBS filtering guide.

HEAD OF YEAR (TEACHING)

JOB DESCRIPTION

Teamwork is central to our philosophy and post holders are expected to be prepared to act flexibly in response to the day-to-day needs of our school.

Postholder:

Job title:	Head of Year (Teaching)
Responsible to:	Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)
Salary Scale:	L8-L12
Hours of work:	Full-time
Responsible for:	Tutorial team and other specified staff working with the pastoral team

Job Purpose:

In addition to meeting the national standards for teachers Heads of House are senior members of staff and as such as expected to contribute to the overall development of the school by actively contributing to and supporting the policies and aspirations of the School.

Under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher, carry out the professional duties of a member of staff as set out in the current pay and conditions documents.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- To raise standards of student attainment and achievement within the year group of students and monitor and support their progress.
- To be accountable for the safeguarding, attainment, attendance, attitudes and achievement of the students in the year group.
- To develop and enhance the provision for students from all other staff within the school and where appropriate to engage with outside agencies and support services to improve student progress.
- To champion inclusion across the whole school and within the year group, working proactively with and supporting a range of inclusive student groups (e.g. SEND cohorts, EAL learners, young carers, students with social, emotional and mental health needs, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds) to ensure equitable access, participation and outcomes.
- To hold a designated whole school leadership responsibility, leading on an identified strategic area (e.g. attendance, safeguarding, behaviour and culture, enrichment) and driving improvement through collaboration, data informed practice, and effective line management.
- To ensure the provision of an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated experience of moral, social, spiritual and cultural issues for all students in the year group through leading assemblies and delivery of the tutor Programme.
- To be accountable for leading, managing, monitoring and developing the provision for the students in the year group.
- To liaise with staff in order to directly involve parents/carers in assuring the achievement of all students in the year group.

Teaching

- To undertake an appropriate programme of teaching in accordance with the duties of a standard scale teacher.

Duties:

- To lead the development of appropriate resources to ensure the delivery of a tutor programme.
- To be responsible for the day to day management, control and operation of all aspect of provision for students in the year group during non-lesson times.
- To monitor actively and follow up student progress.
- To implement school policies and procedures.
- To work with colleagues to formulate aims, objectives and strategic plans for the year group, ensuring that these have coherence and are relevant to the needs of students in line with the aims, objectives and strategic plans of the school.
- To link with the relevant colleagues as and when appropriate to ensure that the provision for the students in the year group ensures that they have a complete educational experience and are able to achieve in all aspects of school life.
- To work with line manager to ensure that own and tutorial teams training and development needs are identified and that appropriate programmes are designed to meet identified needs.
- To oversee arrangements for students when students are absent from school to ensure registration is completed, the tutorial programme is delivered and welfare arrangements are made.
- To be responsible for the day-to-day management of staff working with the year group of students at unstructured times and also in tutorial periods.
- To organise and support cross curricular themes and events.

General:

- This job description allocates duties and responsibilities, but does not direct the particular amount of time to be spent on carrying them out.
- To supervise and monitor learners' behaviour and conduct both within and outside lessons as part of the school duty of care, pastoral and welfare support.
- A job description can never be fully descriptive. It is school policy that in the interests of continued professional development senior staff roles and responsibilities are reviewed and subject to change on a regular basis. It is expected that staff will, within reason, respond to unforeseen circumstances and emergencies as they arise, commensurate with their qualifications, experience and the situation.
- To uphold the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies at all times.
- To uphold the school's Equal Opportunities policy at all times.
- To perform any other duties commensurate with the role as required by the Headteacher.
- This allocation of duties is subject to regular review.

Job description issued on:

Signature of Headteacher:

Copy received by:

Date:

HEAD OF YEAR (TEACHING)

PERSON SPECIFICATION

SPECIFICATION	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	HOW ASSESSED
Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualified Teacher Status 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Checked by original documentation
Experience and Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of pastoral care with 11-16 pupils Experience of liaising with a range of stakeholders including parents. Proven track record of raising standards and pupil attainment Evidence of personal commitment to CPD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience and understanding of inner city/multi-cultural issues Experience of managing a budget Experience of line management of staff Experience of liaising with community, outside agencies, support services and Governors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Lesson observation Interview process References
Skills and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good or outstanding teaching Ability to identify and actively resolve behaviour and attendance issues. Ability to identify under-performance and experience of dealing with it Ability to apply positive behaviour management techniques Ability to plan, monitor, evaluate, review and lead by example Ability to lead and work as part of effective teams High level of written and oral communication skills Good reasoning powers and good judgement in a variety of situations Good ICT skills Ability to work under pressure Ability to lead whole school assemblies Ability to organise school events e.g. parents' evenings Excellent organisational skills (self and others) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Interview process References

Attributes and Attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility • Creativity • Energy and enthusiasm • Excellent attendance and punctuality • Good sense of humour • Enhanced DBS clearance • A commitment to safeguarding the welfare of children • A commitment to equal opportunities 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Interview process • References
Contra Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal convictions involving offences against children • Poor attendance record 		

“Yardleys School is a unique and special place” *

Context and basic information

Yardleys School is a highly successful mixed 11-16 comprehensive and stand-alone academy serving an area of high socio-economic deprivation. Yardleys is a multi-cultural school which reflects the diversity of the local community. 97% of the students are from minority ethnic backgrounds. The percentage of students with English not as a first language currently stands at 79%. The school also has more boys than girls (56% to 44%) on its roll. The school has a much higher than the national average number of students who are eligible for Pupil Premium (57%).

Overall standards and reputation

The school has an excellent reputation both locally and across the city. This is reflected in the school being significantly over-subscribed with a further increase in demand in recent years.

The school is highly focused on raising standards of student achievement and is successful at doing so. Yardleys is consistently in the top 20% of schools nationally and from the most recent examination results (2025) 46% of students achieved Grade 5+ in English and Maths and 68% achieved Grade 4+ in English and Maths.

There are well-established and effective leadership roles and pastoral systems. This has resulted in a very well-ordered school and where indicators such as attendance and exclusions are all better than national averages.

Other indicators of high standards include:

- Positive feedback from staff, students and parents
- High staff retention
- A well organised school
- Excellent standards of financial management and regulatory compliance

Vision and values

The school has two mottos; firstly the traditional words of ‘*Keep Troth*’ (*keep faith*) – which can be seen on the school badge – signifies the school’s longstanding determination to foster belief and resilience in our young people. The second - ‘*Working together for a better future*’ - again identifies the ethos of collaboration but also the very clear ambition to continually improve the school, the life chances of our students and the wider community.

As well as the overall mission the school has three key aims which informs its work:

- i. To achieve academic excellence
- ii. To educate the whole child
- iii. To work collaboratively and ethically to deliver the highest standards of education

Our ethos of students, staff, parents, carers and the local community are summarised by the Yardleys Way. Our expectations of both students and staff are encapsulated by the Yardleys Charter, this includes our three school rules of being 'Ready, Respectful and Responsible' and our values of Positivity, Integrity, Empathy, Curiosity, Resilience and Reflection, which are at the heart of everything we do.

What is the Yardleys Way?

Treating everyone equally.

At Yardleys School we always value people
the same irrespective of;

Age
Disability
Gender reassignment
Marriage or Civil Partnership
Pregnancy or maternity
Race
Religion or belief
Sex
Sexual Orientation

It is against the law to discriminate against someone
because of these protected characteristics.



Yardleys School Charter



Staff & Students believe everyone at Yardleys School should:



Be Ready

- show **positivity** and enthusiasm;
- be motivated & have high expectations of ourselves & others;
- be **curious** and ready to learn new things;
- be fully prepared for all activities with everything you need;
- communicate with others regularly and effectively;
- have excellent attendance and punctuality;
- be well presented and smartly dressed;
- show **resilience** when faced with challenges



Be Respectful

- recognise that we are all equal individuals;
- have regard for each other's personal space and privacy;
- take care of the building, equipment and the environment;
- be polite, considerate and kind to everyone;
- communicate in a calm and polite manner;
- actively listen to others;
- appreciate others' beliefs, opinions & cultures;
- show **empathy** and maturity when dealing with sensitive issues



Be Responsible

- be safe and look after each other;
- complete work on time and to a high standard;
- behave well with **integrity**: even when no-one is watching;
- be a positive role model and representative of the school;
- recognise that we are responsible for our own actions;
- be fair in your treatment of others;
- give our full effort to everything you do;
- **reflect** on all that we do and learn from our mistakes

Leading to Academic Excellence and Personal Development

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE



Positivity



Integrity



Curiosity



Resilience



Empathy



Reflection

School leadership and governance

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) currently comprises seven members: Headteacher, Senior Deputy Headteacher, two Deputy Headteachers, three Assistant Headteachers and an Academy Business Manager. SLT members are highly visible around the school and proactively support children and adults alike. The senior team recognise the vital importance of both being organised and communicating regularly with staff. To this end they hold a daily briefing with all staff where notices, reminders and public 'thank yous' are shared every morning. School leadership and management is viewed very positively by staff.

“Leaders care deeply about staff. They are mindful of well-being and workload, and staff feel valued and appreciated.” *

There is also a wealth of experienced and effective middle leaders including Heads of Department/Subject, Heads of Faculty and Heads of Year. The school has moved towards more distributed leadership with some of these middle leaders having whole school responsibilities.

The school is a stand-alone academy, having chosen to convert in 2013. The trustees recognise the important distinction between governance and management and work tirelessly to ensure the success of the school. Trustees also regularly visit the school to see first-hand different aspects of the school in action.

“Trustees and senior leaders possess a wealth of insight and expertise, coupled with creativity and flair.” *

School leaders and trustees have identified several key priorities for the future development of the school including:

To achieve academic excellence:

- Ensure that the curriculum is consistently implemented in engaging students to know more, remember more, do more.
- Embed disciplinary literacy across the school to ensure that students are able to read, write and speak accurately, critically and with confidence within the context of different subjects.

To educate the “whole child” so they are ready for life:

- Enhance strategies to improve students’ behaviour and attendance.
- Ensure we continue to educate the whole child through an inclusive provision, further enhancing students’ understanding of protected characteristics.
- Develop a culture of praise and recognition.

To work collaboratively and ethically to provide education of the highest standard:

- Enhance processes for robust quality assurance across all areas to ensure a shared understanding of strengths and areas for development.
- Continue to exercise financial prudence through efficient use of existing and new resources and source external funding opportunities.
- Trustees and SLT to explore opportunities both internally and externally for future proofing within the current educational climate.

Staffing

One of the main factors in the sustained educational excellence at Yardleys can be attributed to the expertise, commitment and hard work of all staff. There are currently 105 members of staff including 63 teachers.

“All staff share a strong moral purpose and live by the “Yardleys Charter.” *

There is a distinct and highly valued ethos of collaboration and mutual support which makes Yardleys a special place to work. Another key feature at Yardleys is how all staff are respected and treated by both children and colleagues regardless of their role or position. Teachers understand the important role that support staff play in organising and managing issues away from the classroom, which allows them to focus on their classroom teaching and how this significantly reduces their workload.

The School places high importance on the training and professional development of all staff, particularly those new to the School. This includes an induction, mentoring, weekly training sessions and subject collaborative planning. Performance management is far more focused on improvements in teaching practice rather than just exam results.

The academic curriculum

The curriculum shares the same aims as the school, which means a focus on working collaboratively to provide an excellent academic education for all that educates the whole child.

Academically there is a broad and balanced curriculum in place. Subjects such as History, Media Studies and RE are popular and successful choices for many students. All students study the three separate sciences rather than a combined course at GCSE.

At the core of the curriculum are the individual subjects and departments that sit within faculties. These are highly effective and well-led with subject teams who are well qualified and experts in their fields. Consequently, there are very good standards of teaching and learning across the curriculum. Across all subjects we place high emphasis on knowing more, remembering more and doing more. Acquiring substantive and disciplinary knowledge is a central tenet of learning and intelligence including the acquisition or development of skills. It also provides cultural capital to our students which again helps them in later life.

There is a school-wide focus on reading and literacy. All students receive at least two 30-minute guided reading sessions per week led by form tutors in which they will read three full texts across the year. We offer additional literacy interventions for students to improve their reading and writing where necessary and have been part of many national programmes such as the current 'Fresh Start' and 'Switch on Reading' programmes. Many subjects across the school continue to have reading as a core element in their lessons.

Other features of the curriculum include: a strong enrichment programme with additional trips and visits to help deepen students' understanding of the work studied; 'Do Nows' are a strong feature across the school; individual and whole class feedback is used effectively to support students and online systems are used to support homework tasks and quizzes. Students are explicitly taught how to study and revise and are provided with a range of online resources to support them. Learning is checked regularly with Deliberate Independent Practice tasks being used to support the ongoing formative assessment taking place and all students sit internal exams during two whole school assessment weeks in December and July.

At the heart of the school's CPD programme are subject mastery sessions where departments come together each week to further and deepen their subject knowledge, improve planning and develop their pedagogical skills and assessment practice. There are also many other opportunities for teachers and support staff to develop themselves professionally with 100+ hours of professional development sessions provided throughout the year. Some of the forms of professional development include access to the school CPD library, regular action research taking place throughout the school, coaching support provided, sharing good practice with each other through a variety of teacher takeaway approaches, a half-termly teaching and learning newsletter, regular hotspots, opportunities

to work across partner schools in a joint practice development programme and a regular professional reading group.

In recent years school leaders have understood that whilst there needs to be monitoring and accountability of teaching and academic standards, this needs to be balanced with professional trust, autonomy and workload. This 'intelligent accountability' (or what the educational commentator Mary Myatt calls 'high challenge and low threat') has seen the school adopt approaches such as collaborative peer partnerships and subject reviews and a performance management system that values and rewards commitment to professional improvement and engagement with research rather than a judgment based purely on attainment data.

Educating the 'whole child'

At Yardleys, we prize the education of the 'whole child' as much as academic success. There is an emphasis on traditional values, high standards and expectations in all aspects of school life. Yardleys has outstanding pastoral care including safety, behaviour and personal development. The school operates a year group system. The Heads of Year receive substantial non-timetabled, protected time to carry out their duties to a very high standard and are supported by assistant heads of year. As a result, teachers frequently comment that they are able to focus on teaching in this well-ordered school environment. Yardleys enjoys an excellent local and city-wide reputation in this area and regularly attracts other practitioners who seek to learn from our outstanding pastoral team.

"Leaders and staff insist that pupils behave and attend exceptionally well. Pupils rise to this challenge." *

Students are very hard working and enjoy coming to the school (reflected in the school's excellent attendance statistics). Behaviour is very good with students responding to the regular routines and consistent expectations. Students respond positively and demonstrate good leadership qualities when asked to become involved in school life such as organising charity events, participating in school council discussions or becoming prefects. The many displays of students' work reflect the vibrant and creative nature of the school. The school offers a range of enrichment activities including the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, educational visits, extra-curricular and sporting opportunities. The school also has a dedicated enrichment period, during which students can experience such activities as chess, knitting, origami, dance and jewellery-making alongside a range of sporting and other outdoor pursuits.

All teaching staff can expect to be form tutors. There are form periods every day, which are focussed on reading, pastoral issues, homework completion, study skills and personal development.

In terms of personal development, the school has introduced a taught course, which covers both statutory aspects (sex and relationships) as well as other important issues such as physical and mental health, careers education and personal finance. Students develop strong values of mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths, beliefs and characteristics.

Academy business management

Highly effective business management has, for years, provided the bedrock to the school's high standards and successes. Consequently, the school is extremely well-organised, with well-established and highly effective systems which enable teaching staff to focus on their core business of educating children. This also impacts positively on staff workload and is a major factor in the school's extremely high rate of staff retention and successful recruitment. As a result, all staff are valued equally because students and colleagues can clearly see the important role that everyone plays in the school. There is excellent financial management and compliance which means the school has been able to set balanced budgets, and has an impressive track record of audit reports.

Partnerships

A significant strength of the school in recent years has been its work to engage with a range of external partners locally, nationally and regionally. Yardleys School is part of collegiates of local schools which offer a range of further support and opportunities for staff. The school has strong working ties with local schools, post-16 providers and the wider local community. The school also works with four ITT providers – the University of Birmingham, Birmingham City University, the King Edward Consortium and Teach First.

Premises and facilities

The school is fortunate to enjoy excellent facilities on a modern, single site which was built under a PFI arrangement. The building is organised into faculty areas with extensive modern facilities for, in particular, ICT, Science, Mathematics, Sports and Performing Arts. The majority of teachers teach in the same location throughout the week. Other features include interactive whiteboards and visualisers. We work hard to continually maintain and update our facilities. The school has extensive playing fields and a sensory roof garden.

Thank you for your interest in our school. More information on many of the points in this document are available on the VLE – www.yardleys-vle.com

We look forward very much to receiving your application.