



Thornhill
Academy

BUILD YOUR DREAM CAREER

Join our Team!

RECRUITMENT PACK

Head of Year

Thornhill Academy, Sunderland

EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY WITH INTEGRITY

WELCOME FROM THE CEO



Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the position of Head of Year at Consilium Academies.

At Consilium, we are on a mission to being an excellent trust with excellent schools – we would love you to join us in that mission.

We are a values driven trust and bring this to life every day though our commitment to excellence, equity and integrity.

We recognise the unique value of everyone, whether they are staff or students and are dedicated to ensuring that every member of our Trust reaches their full potential. To achieve this, we collaborate with stakeholders and external organisations to build relationships that enhance opportunities for all members across the Trust.

We have a commitment to ensure each and every staff member is supported to achieve their goals within their career and have the skills and development to flourish. This commitment is reflected in our Centre for Professional Learning, where colleagues have access to tailored training opportunities and resources to meet their specific needs.

We firmly believe that every student, regardless of their background deserves an excellent education and an equal opportunity to fulfil their potential. This vision guides us in creating an environment where every pupil can thrive.

As part of our Trust, our academies align with collective aims, including prioritising holistic development of pupils academically, socially and emotionally. We aim to instil a passion for lifelong learning and continual improvement among our academies, staff and students, empowering them to pursue their aspirations and ambitions. Our goal is to create a family of academies that is inclusive and embraces diversity, fostering a supportive community where all members feel inspired and empowered to succeed.

We look forward to your application, thank you for your interest in joining the Consilium family.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M McCarthy'.

Mr Michael McCarthy
Chief Executive Officer of Consilium Academies.



WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Principal welcome

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for the interest in working at Thornhill Academy. I am immensely proud to be the Principal of this academy. All our staff at Thornhill are committed to giving our students high-quality education; an education that will help them become the best they can be. As well as aiming to prepare our students for success in studying at the Academy, we aim to prepare them for success in their life beyond Thornhill too. This role is pivotal in supporting a small number of young people who struggle to engage in school life.

At Thornhill Academy, we aim to work collectively with our local community to provide the highest-quality education in an environment which is welcoming and inclusive. Our mission is simple- to enable children to access the best university or alternative fulfilling career. This means that, in time, they will contribute positively to their community. Every member of our Academy is clear on what we want to deliver to current and future students, through equal opportunities, for every pupil to succeed. There are no excuses for under achievement at Thornhill.

Thornhill Academy is proud to be part of Consilium Academies Trust. As part of Consilium, we are dedicated to working towards the Consilium vision of 'Excellence and Equality with Integrity.' However, we also operate from three school values of effort- *we work hard*, fairness and kindness.

Our Ofsted recent inspection in May 2024 which graded the school as 'good' highlights the rapid improvement journey our school is on. We are not stopping there and have a lot more to achieve- this is a really exciting time to join us! Our school is also due to be rebuilt- with construction work commencing in April of 2026.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. L. Clark.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL



Thornhill Academy is an 11 to 16 secondary academy, with over six hundred students which occupies a large site in close proximity to Sunderland City Centre. Thornhill Academy is a unique school in its area, this uniqueness comes from the diversity of our student population. Across the school, students come from 14 different ethnicities, with 35 different languages. We are proud to be this vibrant and diverse community and have developed a culture that has moved far beyond tolerance and one in which we celebrate, learn from, and embrace our differences. The diversity of our community offers students and staff rewarding and deeply engaging experiences and supports staff on their journey to become inspirational and reflective practitioners, improving life chances for all in our community.

At Thornhill we take pride in developing each individual pupil to achieve their potential and make a positive contribution to society. We provide a safe, happy and nurturing environment in which we challenge all to strive for personal accomplishment and excellence.

Students, parents, staff and governors are proud of recent achievements here and, as well as helping students achieve the results they need to follow chosen career paths, has a huge and varied programme of activities and extra-curricular opportunities on offer.

Our Aims are to create an environment in which all take responsibility for their actions, behaviour and learning; relishing and learning from challenges. We want to create a safe, supportive and happy working environment in which diversity is celebrated and pupils and staff thrive. We have high expectations of all students in terms of behaviour and commitment to learning and of our parents in working with us as partners to support individual progress.

Thornhill Academy is a fantastic school and I believe it is our job to develop a lifelong passion for learning through high quality teaching which fosters curiosity and promotes independence. We are committed to recognising and developing the whole child: physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually, creating active and responsible citizens who lead a successful and fulfilling life.

Our young people tell us they are very happy here and we work closely with parents and carers to ensure a successful experience for all.

In December 2022, we were delighted to be named on the Department of Education's list of schools as part of the School Rebuilding Programme (SRP), being named in July 2023 as one of the fifty initial schools for development. We are now beginning the exciting journey to bring a state-of-the-art school to our community.

ABOUT THE TRUST



Consilium Academies is a Multi-Academy Trust dedicated to Excellence and Equity with Integrity. Consisting of eight schools across three hubs in Salford, South Yorkshire, and the North East of England, our culture is built on support, guidance, capacity building, and fostering a collaborative approach to school improvement.

Our Trust is committed to the highest standards of curriculum, teaching, and learning, leading to excellent outcomes for our pupils. This commitment extends to our staff, with a focus on high-quality learning, professional development, and an uncompromising approach to support and growth.

Schools within the Trust are encouraged to engage in rigorous self-evaluation and take swift action to address any areas of underperformance, guided by our School Improvement Framework.

Our Key Areas of Focus:

- **Expert Knowledge:** We prioritise school-to-school support, fostering expert knowledge, and providing effective assistance to our schools.
- **Ambitious Curriculum:** Our schools share a common language for curriculum development, with a focus on Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions, and embedding Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion throughout.
- **Effective Pedagogy:** Our research-focused approach seeks impactful teaching methods, a shared language for pedagogy, and developing partnerships with external experts.
- **Purposeful Practice:** We respect each school's identity while promoting a shared understanding of high-quality practice and staff development.
- **Rigorous Assessment & Intervention:** We implement evidence-based benchmarking and targeted support through Rapid Action Plans, maintaining a relentless focus on achieving strong outcomes for all students.
- **Rich Culture:** Guided by Excellence, Equity, and Integrity, we aim to identify, attract, develop, and retain expertise at all levels, ensuring our schools contribute to the Trust's success over time.

Led by our Chief Executive Officer, Michael McCarthy, our Central Team provides direct services, accountability, leadership, and management to our schools. We operate a strong partnership model, where our partner schools play a crucial role in the Trust's continual growth and development.

Our collaborative approach respects each school's individual identity, empowering them to focus on student achievement and success while being part of a supportive network committed to excellence.

BENEFITS



As a Trust, we want our staff to feel supported and valued. Whether you are a teacher or member of the support team, we want your work to have a positive impact on your health and wellbeing.



A CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SCHEME, MEANING WE'LL SAVE TOGETHER

34 DAYS ANNUAL LEAVE + BANK HOLIDAYS FOR SUPPORT STAFF (PRO-RATED FOR PART-TIME) & 36 HOUR WORKING WEEK FOR FULL-TIME SUPPORT STAFF



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH ACCESS TO COUNSELLING AND CBT 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK

A CPD OFFER FOR EVERY MEMBER OF STAFF; TO HELP YOU PERFORM AS WELL AS YOU CAN IN YOUR ROLE, TO HELP YOU REACH YOUR CAREER ASPIRATION



FREE MEMBERSHIP TO VIVUP. WITH HUNDREDS OF EXCLUSIVE OFFERS AND DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ONLINE AND IN STORE.

ACCESS TO THE LEADING HOME ELECTRONICS LEASE SCHEME, EXCLUSIVE TO PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES



ENHANCED CONTRACTUAL SICK PAY IN LINE WITH THE BURGUNDY BOOK AND GREEN BOOK, PROTECTING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

AUTOMATIC PAY PROGRESSION FOR ALL STAFF IN LINE WITH THEIR CURRENT GRADING STRUCTURE



JOB DESCRIPTION



JOB TITLE:	Head of Year
CONTRACT:	Permanent
WORKING PATTERN:	36 hours, Term Time plus 5 days
GRADE:	7 SCP 19 - 23
ACTUAL SALARY:	£28,731.58 - £30,859.05

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

The main areas of responsibility of the post-holder will include:

- To develop and maintain a positive ethos within the year group that encourages pupils to have high expectations of themselves and others and promotes effective learning
- To have responsibility for ensuring effective pastoral care and promote academic success for all pupils within the year group, liaising with external agencies where necessary in order to provide the appropriate interventions

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES & TASKS

Leading and Managing People

- Lead a team of Form Tutors in encouraging pupil's academic, emotional and social well-being
- Liaise with SLT link to ensure appropriate materials and activities are available in Form time
- Oversee the work of Form Tutors, including recognising and celebrating achievement
- Work with Form Tutors in monitoring and improving pupil's attendance, punctuality and behaviour.
- Leading Year Team meetings, discussing all matters relating to pupil management and progress, setting agenda items and circulating minutes
- Support the professional development of Form Tutors

Pupil Support and Guidance

- To develop and maintain an ethos within the year group that sets high expectations for all pupils in all aspects of their work through assemblies and whole school initiatives, including preparing and holding year assemblies
- To monitor the academic and personal progress of all pupils within the year group, encouraging high aspirations and achievement including the provision of support and guidance
- To monitor and promote pupil's attendance and punctuality in accordance with school policies and procedures
- To ensure the very best standards of behaviour, acting as a role model for Form Tutors and pupils to promote positive relationships
- To coordinate pupil progress reports to parents
- To liaise with staff / parents / other agencies to ensure appropriate support for pupils at all stages including behaviour management
- To assist with the organisation of Parents' Evenings
- To ensure parental concerns are dealt with promptly and that communication between home / school is maintained to a high standard in order to promote a positive partnership
- To provide reports for Local Academy Board (LAB) meetings and ensure the SIMS database is maintained with all relevant information pertaining to each pupil within the year group

Policy and Planning

- To prepare the agenda for and hold weekly year team meetings, including production and distribution of minutes
- To liaise with Line Manager to ensure consistency of implementation of school policies and procedures
- Ensure staff are well informed of all matters relating to the year group in order to promote good communication
- Encourage the practice of working as a team
- Show commitment to the extra-curricular activities of the school, including providing for opportunities for cooperation and competition within the year group

- To provide regular reports on the progress / development of the year group

Whole School

- To ensure that school policies and procedures are communicated to Form Tutors and pupils within the year group and implemented accordingly
- To maintain knowledge and understanding of the school ethos and be instrumental in its realisation
- To attend all relevant meetings and cascade information to Form Tutors
- Liaise with and inform parents on all aspects relating to their child's education / achievement / behaviour / relationships with peers
- To lead on an identified whole school responsibility.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
- To pursue and promote the achievement and integration of diversity and equality of opportunity throughout the Trust.
- To plan, monitor and review health and safety within areas of personal control.
- To participate in the Trust's Professional Development Review process and engage in continuous professional development and networking to ensure that professional skills and knowledge are up to date.
- To maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, conduct and positive, courteous relations with students, parents, and colleagues

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- The job purpose and key statements remain indicative and by no means exclusive. Given the evolving needs of the Trust, flexibility among staff is very important. All staff may be required to undertake other such reasonable duties as may be required from time to time in line with the grade of their post.
- An Enhanced DBS Check will be requested on successful application to a position at the Trust.

PERSON SPECIFICATION



Qualifications and Training	Essential	Desirable
5 GCSEs, or equivalent, at grade C/4 or above (including English and Maths)	Yes	
Educated to degree level		Yes
Clean Driving License	Yes	
Skills and Knowledge		
Supportive of the ethos and values of the school	Yes	
Excellent interpersonal skills	Yes	
Self-motivated and organised	Yes	
The ability to encourage and motivate students	Yes	
Competent use of ICT	Yes	
Excellent Literacy and Numeracy skills	Yes	
Excellent verbal and written communication skills	Yes	
Flexible approach to working	Yes	
Willingness to take a full role in the life of the school	Yes	
Qualities to be a positive role model to all students	Yes	
Experience of event organisation		Yes
Excellent health and attendance records	Yes	
Experience of working with young people and families	Yes	
Experience of working with outside agencies	Yes	
Experience of delivering assemblies / speaking to large groups		Yes
Experience of supporting students in lessons, particularly those vulnerable to underachievement	Yes	
Knowledge of Safeguarding Policies and Procedures	Yes	
Experience of using SIMS		Yes
Experience of using CPOMS		Yes