



Grandpont Nursery School

Deputy Head Teacher

Closing date: 15th October 2026

Interviews on: 23rd October 2026

Role starting: 1st January 2027

The successful applicant will:

- Be an excellent teacher, with strengths in working with children across the full early years age range, and who is able to lead and inspire our children and staff and teach in the nursery school.
- Be an ambitious leader, who will continue to develop our school on the next stage of its journey with the executive head teacher.
- Bring experience of and passion about working in a diverse community
- Have a strong, clear vision of the importance of high-quality nursery education • Be dedicated to the progress and well-being of all children and families
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We can offer the appointee:

- The exciting opportunity to lead a vibrant, friendly and effective school committed to growing and to making a lasting difference to children and families
- A well-resourced and stimulating learning environment
- A dedicated and hard-working staff team
- Coaching and mentoring from an experienced executive head teacher and support from a wider team of highly-experienced senior leaders
- A beautiful working environment, in an easily accessible location with excellent transport links
- Opportunities for professional development and career progression.

Working closely with the federation executive head teacher and governors, you will be responsible for the strategic direction and day-to-day running of the nursery school. You will have proven experience of senior leadership and be looking for the next step in your career.

Visits are encouraged, by prior arrangement. Please contact Rachel Duncalfe, Grandpont Business Manager, by phone (01865) or email rachel.duncalfe@grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk to arrange a visit or if you would like to arrange an informal conversation about this post.

To apply, please complete the application form, which can be found here: [Deputy Head Teacher vacancy](#)

Application forms must be emailed to rachel.duncalfe@grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk by noon on 14th October 2026. If a suitable candidate applies we reserve the right to interview and appoint before the closing date.



Safeguarding:

Due to our commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, the successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced criminal record check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Please note that it is an offence to apply for this role if the applicant is barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.

Our child protection policy can be found here [Grandpont Nursery School & Childcare - Home](#)

Our selection process will assess rigorously all candidates' suitability and their commitment to safeguarding children. This will include:

- Identifying gaps and anomalies in career histories.
- Asking referees specific questions about:
- Reasons to doubt candidates' honesty, trustworthiness or reliability
- Whether candidates are currently the subject of any form of disciplinary or competency inquiry or warning
- Any disciplinary offences relating to children including any in which the penalty is "time expired"
- Any child protection concerns.
- Testing candidates' understanding and commitment to safeguarding children.
- Examining original certificates of professional qualifications and proof of identity.

We reserve the right to contact referees to check any concerns arising from the application, reference or interview. Please ensure one of your referees is your current or most recent employer. As part of our shortlisting process, we will also carry out an online search as part of our due diligence on the shortlisted candidates, in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025).



Job description

JOB TITLE: Deputy Head teacher 0.6

GRADE: Leadership 1-3

TERMS: According to School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document

MANAGED BY: Executive Head teacher

ACCOUNTABLE TO: The Governing Body

RESPONSIBLE FOR: All staff employed within the nursery*.

*Within this job description references to 'the nursery' mean Grandpont Nursery School and Childcare.

PURPOSE OF JOB: To provide leadership, educational services and management of Grandpont Nursery School.

This will include:

- Ensuring the delivery of high-quality provision for children from birth to 5, in order to improve outcomes for all.
- Promote the development of early intervention services for use by the wider community.
- Provide day to day leadership of the nursery school in partnership with the executive head teacher and contribute to the strategic leadership.
- Supporting the quality of teaching and learning through modelling, training and monitoring.
- Taking responsibility for the setting of a balanced budget.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES:

- To fulfil the duties of a deputy head teacher of a nursery school as laid down in the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, and to develop the full integration of all services and settings within the setting.
- To work with the Executive Head teacher and other senior leaders within the Shotover Nursery Schools Federation in the pursuit of excellence, and in ensuring the highest level of outcomes for all children.
- To be responsible for the management of the nursery and day nursery
- To work with the Executive Head teacher to develop the strategic vision for the nursery.
- To lead the nursery senior team in implementing the vision, and in providing robust and incisive leadership of the nursery and the day nursery.
- To be accountable to the governing board of the school to enable them to fulfil their role in the leadership of the school.



KEY JOB OUTCOMES

In addition to the expectations of a deputy head teacher of a nursery school

1. Lead the education and care of children by:

- Developing outstanding education and day nursery provision for each child according to their age and needs.
- Ensuring an inclusive environment in the nursery in which all children's personal and educational needs are valued and respected.
- Ensuring that rigorous and robust safeguarding procedures are followed, to keep children safe and to protect them from radicalisation, and that there is excellent liaison with other agencies and early intervention services.
- Leading staff teams throughout the nursery in the development of a high-quality early year's curriculum and provision.
- Work with the Executive Head teacher in drawing up and implementing appropriate improvement plans, and in the strategic development of Early Years provision.

2. Lead staff by:

- Being responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff, in consultation with the Executive Head teacher, and working with Governors and other stakeholders as appropriate.
- Providing a clear framework of roles and responsibilities for senior leaders within the nursery and enabling all staff to be supported and developed.
- Ensuring that highly effective systems for the performance management of nursery staff are implemented, and that staff within the nursery receive excellent continuing professional development.
- Working with senior leaders across the Federation in ensuring provision of training opportunities and in supporting initial teacher training.

3 Lead the nursery by:

- Promoting the role of the nursery as a centre of excellence, developing links with other local services, enabling the dissemination of good practice, the sharing of resources and working in partnership with parents, carers, users and other schools and settings working in the area.
- Ensuring that the core purpose of the nursery is to meet the needs of children and families to achieve better outcomes for both.
- Ensuring on a day-to-day basis that the nursery is a healthy and safe environment for children and adults. Working with the Executive Head teacher and other senior leaders to ensure the effective and safe management of the building and resources for the maximum benefit of children, parents and the wider community.
- Working in partnership with Governors to enable them to fulfil their role in the strategic leadership of the school.
- Ensuring effective leadership and management of the nursery throughout the year (including ensuring that appropriate day-to-day leadership is in place during holiday periods or during the planned absence of the deputy head teacher).
- Supporting the local authority to ensure an appropriate level of local early years provision and admissions protocols.

GENERAL

- So far as reasonably practicable, the post-holder must ensure that safe working practices are adopted by employees, and in premises/work areas for which the post-holder is responsible, to maintain a safe working environment for employees and service users. These are defined in the nursery, and Federation's policies and codes of practice.
- Work in compliance with the codes of conduct, regulations and policies of Oxfordshire County Council, and its commitment to equal opportunities.
- Ensure that output and quality of work is of a high standard and complies with current legislation/standards/ risk management principles.
- Carry out any duties that are relevant to the post of a Deputy Head teacher and/or requested by the Director for Children, Young People and Families or on his/her behalf, and the Governing Body.
- This list of duties is not meant to be exhaustive. The post-holder will be expected to adopt flexible attitudes to their duties which may have to be varied subject to the needs of the service and in keeping with the general profile of the post.

Person Specification	Essential	Desirable	Application	Interview
Qualifications and experience				
Qualified Teacher Status	x		x	
NPQH or equivalent		x	x	
Evidence of continuing professional development	x		x	
Further qualifications in Education, such as a master's degree in education or a related area		x	x	
Recent relevant experience within a senior management role	x		x	
Recent successful teaching experience	x		x	x
Experience across the Early Years spectrum (birth to five years)	x		x	x
Experience and understanding of working in accordance with safeguarding procedures	x		x	x
Experience of leading staff and promoting their professional and personal development.	x		x	x
Knowledge of school financial arrangements and audit system.		x		x



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Experience of working with stakeholders (e.g. staff, governors, partner settings/schools, involving parents and the community) to achieve agreed objectives.	x			x
Track-record of successful grant applications.		x	x	
Experience of strategic leadership and improvement leading to high quality outcomes for all learners.	x		x	
Experience of delivering inset and staff training.		x	x	x
Experience of leading staff appraisal		x	x	
Experience of developing a high-quality relevant curriculum for all learners.	x		x	
Successful experience in formulating and delivering an Improvement Plan.		x	x	x
Experience of promoting and developing inclusive practice and policies including for children with special educational needs.	x		x	
Successful experience of carrying out effective self-evaluation of school management		x		x
Experience of working in a multi-agency context including work with statutory and voluntary agencies, community organisations, groups and individuals.	x		x	
Successful experience of project management.		x		x
Experience of effective management of people.	x		x	
Experience of developing and implementing inclusive services, including those which meet the needs of vulnerable families and minority groups		x		x
Leadership				
Experience of making decisions under pressure.	x			x
Ability to articulate and deliver a vision for high- quality integrated provision.	x			x
Ability to organise and manage a range of services to be provided including day care, out- of- school activities and services provided within a fee structure.	x			x



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The skills and abilities required to form effective professional relationships with staff, children, families and the community.	x			x
Knowledge and attributes				
Commitment to understanding the importance of and adhering to key policies and current legislation such as health and safety.	x		x	
Commitment to equal opportunities.	x		x	x
Knowledge of statutory guidance on Early Years	x		x	
Skills and abilities				
Good communication skills, both written and oral, to a variety of audiences.	x			x
Inputting and analysing data to improve outcomes for children and families	x			x