



Kings Langley Secondary School

Application Pack: School Family Worker

www.kls.herts.sch.uk

Dear Candidate,

A warm welcome and thank you for taking the time to express your interest in the role of School Family Worker at Kings Langley School.

We are proud to be an inclusive, mixed comprehensive school of some 1100 students, successfully operating as a stand-alone academy whilst valuing collaborative relationships both locally and wider afield. We are seeking to appoint a highly motivated, enthusiastic and innovative individual who shares our values and vision as we strive to be outstanding in all that we do.

The school is determinedly committed to the development of “strong character” in order to provide students with the skills and moral fortitude to “make the right choices”. The extract below is written by Dr Tom Harrison from the University of Birmingham and forms part of his evaluation which awarded the school (the first in the UK) the award of National Character Kitemark Plus in June 2018. We are justifiably proud of our unique ethos and culture which attracts both national and international recognition.

“It was clear it is the core mission of the school to do its part to develop values in its pupils that will help them flourish – and teachers and pupils were both able to link the development of character to moral development and wider societal flourishing.”

–Dr Tom Harrison

The professional and personal development of all staff is a key focus for the senior leadership team as we strive to build a school which aspires to the highest possible standards but not at the expense of personal well-being or happiness. We want a culture where colleagues are confident to take risks and learn from their mistakes, safe in the knowledge that they will be supported through a careful programme of induction and personalised professional development.

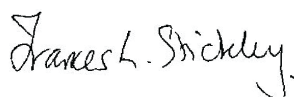
The governors are determined to ensure that our focus on the development of the whole child and strong character is matched with the highest possible academic standards as we look forward with excitement to further success and growth.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards



David Fisher
Headteacher



Frances Stickley
Chair of Governors



School of
CHARACTER



Artsmark
Platinum Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

The Kings Langley School: Job Description

Title of Post	School Family Worker
Contract Type	Variable Hours Contract
Grade	H6 (14) £14.83
Location	Gade Schools Family Support, Oakleaf Primary School, Hemel Hempstead with travel amongst local partnership schools
Reporting to:	Student and Family Services Manager
Date	February 2025
Time/Hours (& Full Time equivalent FTE)	Variable Hours Contract. Term time only

Kings Langley School is a national lead school in the development of Character Education. The formation of strong character is at the heart of our curriculum and is a central foundation of our defined school culture and ethos. Consequently, all colleagues are expected to contribute positively to character formation, understanding that behaviours are both taught and modelled.

The duties outlined in this role description are in accordance with the Schemes of Conditions of Service as determined by the National Joint Council for Local Government Employees.

This role description may be modified by the Headteacher, with your agreement, to reflect or anticipate changes which are commensurate with the salary and role title and improvement and expansion plans of the School.

Personal and Professional Standards

- The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
- Support the aims and ethos of the school as defined in the school prospectus.
- To set a good example in terms of professional dress and appearance, punctuality and attendance.
- As a consequence of the performance review cycle for support staff, take responsibility for personal development making full use of the school's professional development opportunities and training.
- To attend team and staff meetings as appropriate, contributing actively whenever possible.
- To provide courteous, prompt and polite service to all members of the school's community including parents, students, all staff and visitors.
- To actively contribute to the school's mission statement by forming positive relationships within the school community and working collaboratively and in good humour with other colleagues as appropriate or when directed.
- Be aware and comply with all relevant policies and procedures within the school, particularly those relating to child protection, equality, health and safety, bullying and behaviour and confidentiality. It is the duty of all colleagues to report breaches of school policies or procedures to the Headteacher or other senior colleague or governor.

Role Overview

Kings Langley Secondary School is the Lead School responsible for recruiting and managing the School Family Work Service in Dacorum. Kings Langley manages this Service directly through two teams, Gade Schools Family Support and the Kings Langley Partnership of Schools.

There is a requirement for schools to provide access to family support services, including access to support and information for parents, and the promotion of parental engagement with schools and involvement in their children's learning, development and wellbeing. This is being delivered through the family support service that supports a cluster of local schools.

This is a dynamic and varied role whose primary purpose is to work proactively with parents, primarily on a one to one basis, to provide practical support and strategies to help promote the engagement of parents in their children's learning, development and wellbeing, to support parents with their own challenges and to contribute to the effective and efficient delivery of information and support to parents, in order to help tackle pupil underachievement, remove barriers to learning and promote positive outcomes and wellbeing of pupils.

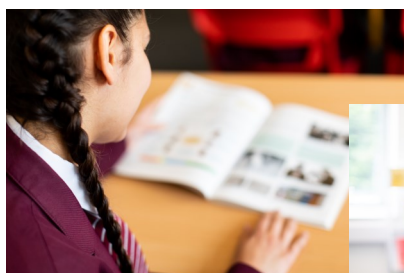
Main Areas of Responsibility

All of these duties would be undertaken in conjunction with the Student and Family Services Manager and the wider team of which this role is a part and the role may include the development of other relevant projects or activities. The main areas of responsibility include:

- To provide one to one support to parents to help address family, personal and practical issues the family may be facing.
- To provide drop-in facilities, advice sessions, transition information sessions and other activities within the schools in the cluster, supporting the engagement of parents in promoting their children's learning, development and wellbeing.
- Develop parent support programmes that will help in the development of strengthening family units.
- Support the team by identifying potential new services and help to ensure that there are easily accessible services within the schools cluster for families needing support.
- To use local information, to co-ordinate targeted support to engage vulnerable groups of parents including those who do not normally access services.
- To support schools in the cluster in providing up-to-date information, resources and advice for parents in an accessible format and environment, and to ensure that parents are signposted to appropriate support.
- Work with the team in promoting the use of early intervention services and supporting schools in undertaking assessments of family's needs.
- Use appropriate local authority guidance in completing appropriate assessments including assessment tools such as the Families First Assessment, Outcome Star assessments and the Graded Care Profile.
- Engage parents in consultation to identify needs and requirements.
- Work with the team to develop marketing materials including providing updates for the Family Support Service website, updates of leaflets, provision of information for schools' newsletters etc.
- Attend supervision, training and development opportunities as directed by line manager in order to develop skills and knowledge and keep up to date with developments in the field of parent and family support.
- The postholder will work closely and in partnership with relevant agencies, professionals and support groups.
- The postholder will undertake tasks commensurate with the post.

Knowledge, Skills and Personal Attributes

- Knowledge and experience of working with families and the Families First principle.
- Some knowledge and understanding of undertaking assessments with families and identifying areas of challenge and need within families.
- Some experience and understanding of different ways to assess a family's needs.
- Knowledge of children and young people's development and needs in relation to early intervention programmes.
- Knowledge and understanding of challenges within families and how to support this with early intervention.
- Some experience and understanding of the education sector and working with and in schools.
- Exhibit high moral standards in dealing with confidential and sensitive situations.
- Operate a strict safeguarding code of conduct including appropriate confidentiality.
- Ability to engage positively with parents and other significant adults in supporting children and young people.
- Knowledge and understanding of the support available to children and families, including some knowledge and experience of delivering parenting support.
- Ability to engage positively and negotiate with other professionals from a range of backgrounds in order to access appropriate support.
- Knowledge and understanding of how to respond to diversity of backgrounds and needs, and a non-judgmental approach to parents from all sections of the community.
- Be a keen team player to ensure the best outcomes for families.
- Be well organised and articulate in both verbal and written form.
- An ability to use relevant technology to an appropriate level.
- Have an excellent telephone manner, being able to adapt responses according to the situation of the caller.
- Present a courteous and friendly manner.
- Have good numeracy and literacy skills, with a focus on good grammar and spelling
- Ability to relate well to children, young people and adults.
- Car driver and owner as travel will be required as part of the role.



What is it like to work at Kings Langley School?

Kings Langley School provides a well resourced, exciting environment for staff. We have well established, detailed schemes of work and a wide range of teaching resources for all courses. All teaching staff are issued with a Laptop and we use Microsoft throughout the school. Our systems provide flexible working and a truly collaborative culture. Our staff testimonials below give a flavour of what it is like to work at a truly inclusive school:

Naomi –

Working at Kings Langley School for the past two years has been incredible. I have been so well supported and encouraged by countless members of staff, both during my NQT year and beyond that. The character and feel of a school are something I think you can pick up on in a first visit; and at Kings Langley School you can instantly feel the warmth, happiness and kindness of the staff and students.

As a science teacher, I am always looking for ways to improve upon or enhance aspects of both my teaching and the science curriculum, and Kings Langley allows me to do just that through a supportive and well-established system as well as a commitment to continuous improvement, for staff and students alike.

I have been very fortunate that I have been given several opportunities to improve both my teaching and learning and my pastoral relationship with students, all of which I feel have shaped me into becoming a better teacher.

James –

When you work in a profession such as teaching, where you really have passion for what you do, choosing a school that you matches your principles and ethos is paramount to being able to make an impact on young people's lives. After 11 years of teaching in south Essex, I joined King Langley School after a long search for the 'perfect' school, a school that had morals and values parallel to my own.

I believe that teaching is not just about academia, it is about how the students, staff and wider communities experience a school; it is about the language that staff use towards students, parents and each other; it is about the curriculum, the resources and how these reflect the interests and needs of each and every student. In every classroom a student and their achievements should be celebrated. You should see who they are, where they come from and where you can take them. A learning environment should empower all students to succeed and for students to be leaders in their own right.

Since joining the school I have developed professionally; being given outstanding opportunities to progress through my career and work directly with the country's leading education academics and professionals. Whilst I take a proactive approach to reading contemporary research in education, being able to work face-to-face with leading specialists in areas such as SEND, curriculum design, and character education, is invaluable to being able to shape the education and experiences that all children and young adults deserve.

I am immensely proud to be a member of the King Langley School community, to work for a Headteacher and senior leadership team who have passion and integrity, to belong to a staff body who put students at the forefront of everything they do and to be among students who have character, who are respectful, and who have confidence.

Further staff perspectives can be found <https://www.kls.herts.sch.uk/about-us/staff-perspective/>

What is it like to be a student at Kings Langley School?

At Kings Langley School, we believe that all students have tremendous potential to make a positive difference, not only to benefit themselves, but also their school and wider communities. The opinions of students are essential to the school's development, and regular focus groups of students take place to gather their views on a range of issues including teaching and learning, transition, behaviour, home-learning and safeguarding, as well as school improvement planning. Our student testimonials below give a flavour of what it is like to learn and develop at our school:

Ellen - I have attended Kings Langley for just over 4 years now and I can confirm that I have thoroughly enjoyed my school years so far. All students have an opportunity to become the best version of themselves at Kings Langley and for an abundance of reasons; in lesson time and extra-curricular time too. In class, teachers are evidently passionate about their subject which is utterly refreshing, encouraging students to want to gain knowledge and do the best that they can. I enjoy lessons as I always feel confident to ask for help and have built strong teacher-student relationships over the years. Outside of the classroom, I have always felt encouraged to get involved. There is an array of opportunity at school and I have enjoyed partaking in hobbies I love and trying new things as well. There are so many sports teams you can become a part of and even if you don't feel completely confident, teachers and students have always been so welcoming and aid you into enhancing your skills which lead you to represent the school. Personally, I love the arts and there have been a variety of opportunities in my time at school. Last year, I played a role in the school's production of Wizard of Oz and absolutely adored it! I worked closely with students of all different years, definitely making friends for life whilst being led by experienced teachers that always encourage students. It is those moments that will remain most memorable for me and have built my character hugely. The school's aim of character development; building self-regulation, empathy and perseverance have always been at the forefront and without doubt, will allow every single student to unlock potential for life.

Bailey - I have been a pupil at Kings Langley School since Year 7 and I am happy to say I have enjoyed every moment of my time here, so much so that I decided to stay an extra 2 years for Sixth Form! The array of opportunities that Kings Langley has to offer has enabled me to educate myself not only academically but outside of the classroom too. A few examples include me being lucky enough to travel across Europe on music tours to perform in cities like Barcelona and Salzburg, to represent KLS in competitive sports across the country and even visit Parliament and compete in a debate competition as part of the KLS debating society. The extra-curricular clubs have something for everyone. Each year at Kings Langley has brought new opportunities and new challenges that has enabled me gain the confidence to try new things, before last year I could barely stand in front of a crowd let alone say anything but thanks to the Music Department, I was given the opportunity to perform in the end of year concerts in front of a hall of people which is something I thought I would never be able to do. Without all these opportunities I definitely would not be the same person I am now.

I am also lucky enough to have had amazing subject and form teachers who, whether I enjoyed the subject or not, always pushed me to do my best and who believed in me. Without their support I would have never discovered my love for history (which I then took for both GCSE and A Level), my enjoyment of class discussions and debates, my ambition to achieve my goals both in school and outside of it too and most of all believe in myself to achieve what I want out of life. The support the school has given both pastorally and academically has always been above and beyond. Throughout my time at Kings Langley, the school's core

Working at Kings Langley School

Well Being and Reasons to Work Here

Curriculum

- Teaching load for main scale teachers of 83% compared to the National suggested rate of 85%
- A culture of typicality is reinforced by non-lesson grading
- More straight forward planning as we teach to the top, with scaffolding required for some students
- All lessons begin with a quick start, with students knowing the protocols. This allows us all to start lessons in a prompt and orderly manner
- Subject area teams are given blocks of time in the summer to re-evaluate and amend their curriculum.



Registration

- A clear planned and resourced registration programme which supports character, numeracy and literacy across the curriculum. This means no planning for tutors and impact is seen in all subjects
- Equipment checks built into registration which enables all staff to run lesson properly as students are fully equipped for learning.

Behaviour

- A very clear behaviour system which is consistently applied enabling teachers to focus on students who want to learn.

Assessment

- A marking policy which includes live marking and green pen self-assessment with no carrying sets of books home unless the teacher chooses to.
- Assessments are encouraged to track progress but are most often marked by the students
- Two co-ordinated examination weeks per year group where students are given information and strategies on how to revise, so are encouraged to revise across all subjects independently
- The number of data entries has been reduced to 2 per year group and there is no longer a requirement to write subject comments on reports.

Working at Kings Langley School

Staff Development

Currently there are 69(66.8 FTE) teaching staff and 51 (35.0 FTE) support staff working at the school. Particular attention is paid to staff development and staff participation. There is a comprehensive in-house training programme for all staff and we also support colleagues in attending numerous external events including Herts for Learning's comprehensive programme of training courses. These include induction conferences for NQTs, to help deal with the challenges of the first years; training for leaders on how to prepare for the new curriculum; and everything in between, including subject-specific training.

Each year all staff have an opportunity to review their work and set objectives at an appraisal meeting. There is a robust system of pay progression in place for teaching and support staff.

Support for newly qualified teachers includes a reduced timetable, planned induction programme starting in July and mentor support. The school has a strong partnership with the University of Hertfordshire. We participate in its ITT programme and as a lead school have appointed teachers through School direct (salaried and non-salaried) routes. The school frequently hosts work experience visits for those interested in a career in teaching.



Facilities

Kings Langley School was re-developed under the Priority School Building Programme and we took delivery of a totally brand new school building in September 2016. The school has excellent teaching facilities with each learning area having its own suite of rooms with state of the art technology to support students' learning and enrichment activities.

