



The Totteridge Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Candidate Briefing Pack

Job title: Head of D&T

Closing date: 27 February 2026



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Welcome from our Principal/Headteacher

Dear candidate,

Thank you very much for your interest in joining The Totteridge Academy. I am delighted to introduce you to our academy, and I hope that this application pack provides you with an overview.

The Totteridge Academy (TTA) is a fantastic secondary school in North London and is continuing to grow and develop with over 1000 students currently on roll. The school provides a high-quality education in a safe, caring, and focused environment teaching skills and knowledge, enabling students to become responsible, well-rounded citizens, equipped with the tools to make effective choices for their futures. The school philosophy of kaizen (continuous improvement) enables students and staff to always aim high so that every individual can attain their best. Improving through practice; calm, focused classrooms led by knowledgeable, passionate teachers

Our school is part of United Learning, which means our teachers benefit from the best pay in the sector, three extra INSET days protected for your own planning, guaranteed paid personal days, great training for your career, and more.

If you are aligned with our mission and values, we very much look forward to hearing from you.

Good luck with your application and thank you again for considering The Totteridge Academy for the next stage in your career. If you have any questions regarding this role, please contact Jo Wiles on joanne.wiles@tta.org.uk

Best wishes,

Chris Fairbairn

Principal

The Totteridge Academy



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Job Description

Job title: Head of D&T

Location: The Totteridge Academy

Contract type: Full Time / Permanent

Salary: United Learning Teaching Pay Scales + TLR

Responsible to: Assistant Principal

The Role

About the Role

The Head of Design and Technology will lead the development and delivery of a high-quality curriculum that enables students to make strong progress and enjoy their learning. You will model excellent teaching, support colleagues to improve their practice, and ensure consistency across the department.

The role involves overseeing curriculum planning, assessment, and subject development, as well as contributing to whole-school priorities. You will teach across key stages, promote a positive learning environment, and help raise standards across the subject.

This is an exciting opportunity for someone who is committed to teamwork, professional development, and helping students achieve their potential within a supportive school community.

Key Responsibilities

Teaching & Learning

- Deliver high-quality Design and Technology lessons across all year groups and model excellent classroom practice.
- Create a positive, purposeful learning environment that supports strong progress and high expectations.
- Contribute to maintaining effective behaviour for learning across the school.

Leadership of Design & Technology

- Lead the development of a coherent, well-sequenced curriculum and high-quality Schemes of Work.
- Keep subject knowledge and curriculum understanding up to date and share relevant developments with colleagues.
- Use the classroom as a place to trial and evaluate new approaches that can improve practice across the department.

Supporting Colleagues

- Provide guidance and support with planning to ensure consistently strong teaching across the team.
- Teach demonstration lessons and share effective strategies to support professional development.



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- Observe lessons, provide constructive feedback, and contribute to whole-school CPD.
- Support colleagues in delivering targeted intervention and ensure assessments are completed accurately and on time

Monitoring & Assessment

- Analyse assessment data to track progress, identify gaps, and plan appropriate subject-level actions.
- Monitor students' work, planning, and classroom practice to ensure consistency with departmental expectations.
- Moderate and standardise assessments and report on departmental progress, attainment, and development.

Subject Enrichment & Promotion

- Promote Design and Technology across the school, including events, displays, workshops, and guest speakers.
- Engage parents and the wider community to support understanding of the subject and student learning.
- Evaluate the impact of departmental initiatives using data, feedback, and monitoring.

Other Responsibilities

- Contribute to whole-school priorities and uphold school policies and procedures.
- Undertake professional duties as a teacher, including form tutor responsibilities where required.
- Participate in appraisal, self-evaluation, and relevant training and development.
- Carry out any additional duties reasonably requested by the Principal or Vice Principal.

Please note we reserve the right to close any vacancies from further applications when we have received a minimum amount of applications from which to make a shortlist. Please ensure you apply without delay if you wish to be considered for this role.



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Person Specification

Education and Qualifications

	Essential	Desirable
Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)	Y	
Degree or equivalent in relevant subject	Y	
A willingness to undertake CPD relevant to the role	Y	
Evidence of recent professional development		Y

Experience

Experience teaching the relevant subject	Y	
Experience teaching to at least GCSE Level	Y	
Commitment to improving and evaluating teaching and learning	Y	
Ability to use assessment to inform planning and raise attainment	Y	
Experience in delivering extra-curricular or enrichment activities	Y	

Skills and Knowledge

Understanding of effective teaching and how children learn	Y	
Strong subject knowledge and awareness of curriculum developments	Y	
Ability to use a range of teaching approaches to engage learners	Y	
Knowledge of safeguarding principles and procedures	Y	
Ability to use ICT to support teaching and learning	Y	

Teamwork

Works collaboratively and positively within a team	Y	
Supports and cooperates with colleagues	Y	
Willingness to contribute to departmental and whole-school initiatives	Y	



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Personal Attributes and Abilities

High levels of professionalism; acts as a role model	Y	
Commitment to the safeguarding of children	Y	
Good written and verbal communication skills	Y	
High expectations of self/ self motivated	Y	
The ability to establish effective working relationships with individuals, groups and organisations	Y	
A commitment to supporting the school's aims, vision and ethos	Y	
Enthusiastic for their subject and passionate about teaching	Y	
Commitment to extra-curricular involvement		Y

Other

Commitment to Equal Opportunities	Y	
Enhance DBS Check	Y	
Right to work in the UK	Y	



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How to Apply

To join our dedicated and talented team, click apply here.

https://ce0374li.webitrent.com/ce0374li_webrecruitment/wrd/run/ETREC179GF.open?WVID=2322409C2D&VACANCY_ID=945543LqGI

The closing date for this post is 27 February 2026.

For more information about this role, please contact:

Name / title: Jo Wiles, HR Manager

Telephone number: 02084459205

Email address: joanne.wiles@tta.org.uk



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Rewards and Benefits

Our pledge, to all our academy teachers, is that by working for us you will benefit from **more pay, more time, and more support**. For more information, visit www.unitedlearning.org.uk/careers/rewards-and-benefits

More pay...	more time...	and more support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We pay an average of 5% above national scales – the best rates of pay in the sector Cash towards medical treatment Generous staff discount scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three extra INSET days for planning At least one personal day a year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great training for your career Exceptional curriculum resources Expert subject advice Support for your wellbeing

Flexible Working

We value the dedication, professionalism and hard work of our teachers, support staff and school leaders, and strongly believe that everyone should be able to do their job without sacrificing a family life or compromising their well-being. We are committed to encouraging and enabling flexible working opportunities throughout our schools wherever possible and will support employees seeking to work more flexibly.



Important information

United Learning is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All positions are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and shortlisted candidates will be subject to an online check. We also kindly request permission to seek references ahead of the interview process.



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About United Learning

United Learning is a Group of schools which aims to provide excellent education to children and young people across the country. We seek to improve the life chances of all the children and young people we serve and make it our mission to bring out ‘the best in everyone’ – pupils, staff, parents and the wider community. We uniquely comprise schools in both the state and independent sectors.

As a Group, we can offer more to both staff and young people than any single school could offer alone. The growing range of outstanding group-wide activities that we can provide will mean that more young people will have truly exceptional and inspiring experiences.

We believe that our Group contains the most developed relationships and practical interaction between independent and state schools in the country, creating benefits for all the schools involved.

United Learning comprises both United Church Schools Trust, which operates our fee-paying independent schools, and United Learning Trust, which operates our state-funded academies.

To find out more about United Learning, please visit the website www.unitedlearning.org.uk.



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