

Huxlow Academy

Finance Assistant

Remuneration: Grade F to G / Pts 6 to 13 – Actual: £19,751 to £22,431 / FTE: £21,968 to £24,948
Contract: 37 hrs per week / 41 weeks pa (Term Time plus Training Days plus 2 weeks in Summer)

Huxlow Academy is a fully inclusive school, located in Irthlingborough, East Northamptonshire. Our students are a vibrant and varied mix that bring an energy that is not found in many other schools. The loyalty the students show for the staff and community, whom they recognise care so deeply about them, is what makes Huxlow a very rewarding and fun place to work. If you want to work with a team committed to making a difference to the lives of the young people in our community, we want to hear from you!

We have an exciting opportunity available for someone to join our finance department.

The successful candidate will:

- Have strong interpersonal skills and be able to relate to a wide range of people.
- Be able to work well as part of a team but also demonstrate the initiative and ability to work alone.
- Have excellent attention to detail.
- Be able to demonstrate that they meet the requirements set out in the person specification.
- Be required to undergo an enhanced DBS disclosure check.

If you believe that you have these qualities, are passionate about being involved in the growth of students and are interested in working as part of our school team, then we look forward to hearing from you.

Training and development opportunities will be offered. All staff are encouraged to study further, and the trust will actively support staff to obtain relevant further qualifications where possible.

Tove Learning Trust is a fast moving and exciting place to work. The trust schools have a shared vision and purpose: to deliver outstanding educational experiences that lead to inspiring outcomes. Each academy has a strong individual identity and tailors their educational provision to serve their local community. Academies within the trust collaborate to share expertise and maximise opportunities and experiences for our students.

The Trustees of Tove Learning Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

How to apply

All documents including the full job description, person specification and application form are available on our website <https://www.huxlow.northants.sch.uk/> Please ensure your application form and covering letter includes examples of your experience and how you meet the criteria outlined in the job description and person specification. Further information requests or completed applications should be sent to Sonya Earby-Martin or Kerry Hughes E: hr@huxlow.northants.sch.uk T:01933 650496

Closing date: 9am Wednesday 1st November 2023

Interview: W/C 6th November 2023

Finance Assistant Job Description

Role:	Finance Assistant
Reports to:	Finance Manager
Location:	Huxlow Academy
Contract:	37 hrs per week / 41 weeks pa (Term Time plus Training Days plus 2 weeks in Summer)
Remuneration:	Grade F to G / Pts 6 to 13 – Actual: £19,751 to £22,431 / FTE: £21,968 to £24,948

Key Responsibilities

- 1) **Financial controls** - To support the Finance Manager with all financial and accounting systems, controls and reporting in line with the compliance of the policies and procedures for Tove Learning Trust (TLT), Huxlow Academy and The East Northants College (TENC).
- 2) **Accounts payable** - Process all finance and admin transactions for the accounts payable functions.
- 3) **Accounts receivable** - Process all finance and admin transactions for the accounts receivable functions.
- 4) **Admin** - To support the Finance Manager with all financial related administration across the school community including TENC, trip administration and catering account management.

Financial controls & systems

- Provide support to the Finance Manager with the compliance of all financial and accounting systems, controls and reporting in line with the policies and procedures for Tove Learning Trust (TLT), Huxlow Academy and The East Northants College (TENC).
- Supplier & Customer management – maintain supplier & customer database using the appropriate authorisation processes for setting up new records.
- Review and maintain the outstanding purchase orders list to ensure appropriate forecasting and compliance with good housekeeping and year end procedures.
- Assist the Finance Manager with the month end processing of Fixed Assets and other month end procedures.
- Assist the Finance Manager with the Academy's Fixed Assets register ensuring that it is maintained and regularly updated, including the physical verification of the asset inventory.
- Contribute to the evaluation and development of financial systems and procedures.
- Report technical faults relating to the school database system/s and equipment to the ICT Technicians in accordance with school reporting procedures.
- Ensure compliance with data protection regulations relating to finance.

Accounts payable

- Responsible for the daily oversight of the purchase ledgers to ensure the effective, accurate and timely processing of orders and invoices.
- Raise/process orders and prepare for authorisation in compliance with the Academy's procedures.
- Review and maintain the Annual Orders diary.
- Provide assistance to staff with placing and following up orders, advising on best value, providing details of alternative suppliers.
- Enter invoices and prepare for authorisation, including checking expenditure against orders and budget plans.

- Prepare the BACS payment and supporting documentation in accordance with procedures for authorisation by the Finance Manager.
- Ensure cheque payments are signed by the relevant signatories.
- Review supplier statements regularly, dealing with and resolving queries as and when required. Liaise with staff and supplier, as necessary.
- Process internet/credit card orders weekly and update charge card spreadsheet.
- Maintain both manual and computerised record and filing systems in line with audit requirements such as the authorised signatories list, invoices, petty cash vouchers, chequebooks.

Accounts receivable

- Ensure the safe receipt, handling and banking of monies and cheques received.
- Process all cash transactions daily in cashbook and record any as necessary on WisePay.
- Responsible for the day-to-day management of the electronic parent pay system Wise Pay. Analyse and reconcile Wise Pay on a regular basis, ensuring payments are allocated accurately and in timely manner.
- Manage the processes for organising the letting of school premises, including dealing with initial enquiries, sending out documentation and contracts, liaising with staff as appropriate and raising invoices for authorisation by the Finance Manager.
- Customer management – maintain customer records, music tuition and external invoices promptly as instructed, retaining supporting documentation in accordance with the Academy's procedures ensuring payment is received in a timely manner.

Finance administration

- Act as first point of general finance queries including liaison with suppliers, customers, contractors, the bank, other schools and organisations, budget holders and attend to queries, providing an effective resolution as and when required.
 - Ensure that all administrative duties, checks, documentation, reports and returns (internal and external) are completed accurately and submitted within required deadlines.
 - Assist the Finance Manager with The East Northants College Day to day finance operational requirements, including but not limited to raising purchase orders, internet orders, sales ledger invoices, trips, queries etc.
 - Input and process income & expenditure journals as and when required.
 - Supply trip leaders/curriculum assistants with updates on trips/shop payments from WisePay.
 - Produce termly trip reconciliation reports.
 - Liaise with parents on overdrawn canteen accounts.
 - Take minutes/notes in meetings as required and circulate associated information.
 - Build and maintain positive and constructive relationships with students, parents, carers, and colleagues to maximise students' development and maintaining the overall ethos of the school.
 - Maintain confidentiality at all times.
 - Attend or undertake training sessions and meetings as required.
 - Provide training/support to staff and parents on various systems (including but not limited to Amazon Business, Access, WisePay).
- Undertake other duties as reasonably requested by senior colleagues commensurate with pay and responsibility of the role.

Tove Learning Trust expects its employees to work flexibly within the framework of the job description. This means the post holder may be expected to carry out work that is not specified in the job description, but which is within the remit of the role, duties, and responsibilities.

Tove Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff & visitors to share this commitment.

It is the post holder's responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people for whom s/he comes into contact with and adhering to and ensuring compliance with the School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy at all times. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the s/he must record the details and take appropriate action, according to the nature of the concern, to safeguard the young person and inform the relevant staff within school, including the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Identity, Prohibition, Qualification, Barred List, Enhanced DBS, Section 128, Overseas, right to work, Reference, Criminal Record and Medical Checks are essential for all applicable posts at the school.

KCSiE 2022 Online Searches - In accordance with paragraph 221 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022 schools are now required, to carry out an online search for shortlisted candidates. If shortlisted for the role an appropriate online search will be undertaken on your name(s). Any information given will be treated as confidential and will only be used in relation to the post for which you have applied.

Finance Assistant Person Specification

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
PRE-EMPLOYMENT CHECKS		
Criminal Records	*	
Enhanced Disclosure and Barring	*	
Proof of identity	*	
Barred List Check	*	
Medical Questionnaire	*	
Satisfactory References	*	
QUALIFICATIONS/TRAINING/EXPERIENCE		
Experience of working in a busy office environment	*	
Previous finance/accounting and administration experience	*	
Finance/Accounting related qualifications		*
Experience of working in a school or similar establishment		*
Experience of undertaking a range of clerical and administrative duties	*	
Demonstrable experience of financial administration	*	
Experience working in school/education financial management		*
Willing to undertake all relevant training as requested	*	
SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE		
Ability to work constructively as part of team	*	
Good verbal and written communication skills	*	
Good standard of numeracy and literacy skills	*	
Strong Ability to build and form good relationships with colleagues and students	*	
Excellent written and oral communication skills	*	
Good ICT skills - Microsoft Office and Excel and other financial software programmes	*	
Ability to maintain accurate records and filing systems	*	
Ability to deal with confidential data/issues appropriately	*	
Familiarity with Access, WisePay, Sims, Iris (Biostore)		*
Ability to comply with written policies, procedures, and verbal instructions	*	
Ability to comply with all Health and Safety Procedures	*	
Is committed to and meets all the requirements for safeguarding children	*	
PERSONAL QUALITIES		
Initiative and ability to prioritise one's own work and that of others to meet deadlines	*	
Excellent attention to detail	*	
Excellent organisation skills and the ability to prioritise	*	
Collaborative, positive, and helpful approach	*	
Flexibility, to meet the needs of the academy	*	
Commitment to the academy's ethos, aims and its whole community	*	
Punctual and reliable	*	

Why Join Huxlow Academy?

Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in the role of Finance Assistant at Huxlow Academy. We trust this application pack provides you with an insight into life at our school and encourages you to apply for the role.

We are incredibly proud of our school, a medium-sized Secondary Academy (11-18), located in Irthlingborough, East Northamptonshire. As a fully inclusive school our students are a vibrant and varied mix that bring an energy that is not found in many other schools. The loyalty the students show for the staff and community, whom they recognise care so deeply about them, is what makes Huxlow a very rewarding and fun place to work. If you want to work with a team committed to making a difference to the lives of the young people in our community, we want to hear from you!

I believe that every student and staff member that walks through the doors of Huxlow is a valuable member of our community, and we work hard to ensure they are welcomed, supported, and challenged to be the best version of themselves that they can be.

We are entering an exciting new phase in the history of Huxlow and are placing a pursuit of excellence at the core of everything we do. I hope that you feel inspired to aim high and come and join us as we strive to make Huxlow even better.

Academic success is hugely important to us as we recognise its power to open doors for young people. We have a rich history of students of all abilities, and from a wide variety of backgrounds, meeting and exceeding their potential. In 2019, Year 11 students achieved some of the best GCSE results in the school's history. 53% of students gained 5 GCSE's including English and Maths at Grade 4 and above. Recent CAGs and TAGs have returned record progress data for the school for KS4 and KS5. We were delighted by these excellent results, which reflect the high level of dedication of both our students and staff. As the Headteacher, I am committed to improving the school even further for our students.

We place an emphasis on respect for each other and working together to ensure that our community is constantly developing. Huxlow students are exceptional, staff go the extra mile, and we are dedicated to Professional Learning and Development.

Please explore our website, the recent Headteacher's letters section and our social media, to gain a flavour of what it means to be part of the Huxlow Academy community. We hope you are as impressed by our school as we are. I look forward to receiving your application should you decide you want to be a part of the Huxlow team.

Please contact the school if you have any questions or require any further information.



Paul Letch
Headteacher

Huxlow Academy Information

The Curriculum

Our ambitious curriculum is designed to deliver our vision of “Thriving Through Excellence.” This means we offer a perfect balance of academic learning, personal development, and enrichment.

All teaching and learning is designed to meet our high expectations and aspirations with a clear focus on sharing knowledge and developing lifelong skills. Every child is pushed to do the very best they can do, whilst taking account of every individual’s needs.



Our Key Stage 4 programme is extended over 3 years to develop deeper understanding and mastery of subjects at GCSE, in order to achieve the highest outcomes and to aspire for every student to reach their potential.

- All students study English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies, Physical Education and French
- At Key Stage 3 (Years 7 & 8) students also study Technology, Geography, History, Music, and Drama
- At Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 & 11) alongside our core subjects students make a number of option choices from the range of other subjects including Psychology, iMedia, Sociology, Photography, Dance and Business Studies.

All of this is supplemented by a rich programme of enrichment, curriculum themes and extra-curricular activities.

Our excellent Key Stage 5 provision is delivered alongside our fellow Tove Learning Trust partner, Rushden Academy, as part of The East Northamptonshire School (TENC). Our joint provision has one of the most comprehensive choice of subjects in the county, consisting of over 20 A Level courses and additional BTEC Level 3 courses. Please visit www.tenconline.co.uk for more details.



Huxlow Academy Information

Extra-Curricular and Enrichment

At Huxlow Academy there is a strong commitment from staff to offer our students an inclusive and enriching educational experience, both within the curriculum and through a wide range of extracurricular opportunities.

An exciting array of clubs, activities and trips provide a springboard for developing key life skills. There really is something for everyone! Inspiration is achieved through our many day and residential trips.



Post Covid we are also once again offering highly popular and enriching residential trips and experiences.

These include:

- Duke of Edinburgh expeditions
- Normandy/ Paris/ Holland – Cultural trips
- Austria Ski Trip
- Uganda - International Youth Conference.

Students have the opportunity to visit places of interest in the UK, including theatres, university campuses, science conventions and careers establishments. They are able to experience visiting speakers, authors, and theatre groups during their time at Huxlow. We are also extremely proud of our sporting achievements. Huxlow students have repeatedly achieved excellent results at District, County and National level. Many team and individual sports are run as clubs and activities by our motivated and competitive Physical Education team.



Huxlow Academy Information

Vision, Mission, and Values

Our Vision and Mission:

At Huxlow Academy we create the opportunities to enable everyone that walks through our doors to ultimately achieve our vision of “Thriving Through Excellence.”

Our mission is to achieve this by building an exceptional learning community of aspirational and responsible citizens.



Huxlow is an inclusive school where every student matters. Students come to Huxlow Academy from a variety of backgrounds and quickly become a part of the Huxlow family. Alongside high-quality teaching, we provide a wide variety of effective support. Our success is achieved by knowing every student as an individual and caring for them personally and academically. Students are prepared to successfully navigate the many opportunities and challenges that are presented by the modern world.



To fulfil our mission we work, study, and collaborate by placing a focus on three core values.

- **AMBITION** - We strive hard to achieve the very best in all that we do, and we celebrate achievement and excellence. We enable our students to fulfil their academic and personal purpose.

- **RESPECT** - We pride ourselves on being a school that fosters relationships in an atmosphere built upon empathy, mutual respect, dignity, equity, diversity, and fairness.

- **PRIDE** - Pride in all we do, both from within school and across the wider community, is at the core of our actions. Our students go on to become successful adults and we enable our students to develop the pride and character we need them to have in the future.

