



Bowden House School

Assistant Headteacher

Bowden House School is a specialist residential SEMH provision for boys, built on a simple but powerful belief: that every young person deserves the opportunity to feel safe, to belong, and to succeed.

Our work sits at the intersection of education, care and trauma-informed practice. We support young people with significant and complex social, emotional and mental health needs (many of whom have experienced disruption, adversity or exclusion) to rebuild trust in adults, in learning and in themselves. Relationships are not an added extra here; they are the foundation of everything we do.

This culture is recognised in recent Ofsted inspections, which describe a school where staff create a “*calm and purposeful environment*” and work “*consistently*” to support pupils to re-engage with learning. Inspectors highlight the relational strength of the school, noting that adults respond “*calmly and consistently*” to pupils’ needs, enabling them to make progress and experience success.

We are seeking to appoint an Assistant Headteacher to join our Senior Leadership Team. This is an opportunity for a values-driven leader—whether an exceptional middle leader ready for the next step, or an experienced senior leader seeking deeper purpose, to help shape the future of a school where the impact is both immediate and lasting.

Our aim is not only academic success, but transformation: to provide a challenging, dynamic and relevant education that enables every student to grow in confidence, develop socially and emotionally, and prepare to thrive in a rapidly changing world. As reflected in inspection findings, pupils here are supported to engage positively with education because of the *consistency, care and commitment* of the whole staff team.

The successful candidate will be an outstanding classroom practitioner who understands that great teaching in an SEMH setting begins with connection. They will inspire and motivate pupils, rekindling a love of learning where it may have been lost. They will bring experience of leading others with clarity and integrity, improving outcomes while holding firmly to a child-centred ethos.

They will be a thoughtful and reflective leader—someone who balances high expectations with empathy and understanding, who is both strategic and hands-on and who is committed to continual growth, both personally and across the school.

Above all, we are looking for someone who shares our values: resilience in the face of challenge, compassion in every interaction, and an unwavering belief in the potential of every young person.

This is a school where, as recognised by Ofsted, external professionals and other school settings, consistent practice, strong relationships and a shared moral purpose enable pupils not only to learn, but to rebuild confidence and thrive.

This is demanding work—but it is also profoundly rewarding, offering the chance to make a genuine and lasting difference to the lives of young people who need it most.

Remuneration Package:

The successful candidate will be paid on the leadership scale, **L09-13**

Please contact Craig Sorrell admin@bowdenhouse.towerhamlets.sch.uk should you require any further information.

Closing date –14 May2026

Interviews w/c 18 May 2026

The school is committed to the Safeguarding and Protection of Children. We appoint staff in positions of trust and it is our duty under Safer Recruitment to ensure that they are fit to work with vulnerable young people. References and an enhanced DBS that are satisfactory to us, will be a condition of the appointment. It is an offence to apply for this role if you have been barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.

We shall ensure fairness and equal opportunity throughout our workforce and in service delivery. We welcome applications from suitably skilled candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, disability, sexuality, religion or age.

Online searches may be carried out as part of due diligence checks for shortlisted candidates.