

**Teacher – Outdoor Education**

# Job Description

St David’s College is an independent boarding and day school near Llandudno. St David’s College was founded on Christian principles and continues to promote them today. Many teachers live on site and the supportive residential community makes St David’s College a very special place to live, learn and work. We consistently achieve strong academic results, whilst also having an excellent reputation for our outdoor education provision, sports and activities, and supporting pupils with dyslexia and other learning needs. The school is located on a beautiful historic campus nestled between Eryri (Snowdonia) and the Irish Sea.

We are seeking to appoint an ambitious, motivated, and enthusiastic Teacher of Outdoor Education who has vision, can take initiative, and can contribute to the provision of curriculum based and extra-curricular outdoor education through the school’s outdoor education department.

The provision of outdoor education is part of the founding ethos of St David’s College, with an aim to allow pupils to develop social and life skills through the medium of outdoor adventure. It provides forward thinking, current and innovative outdoor learning. The department is recognised nationally and internationally as being ground-breaking in its approach to outdoor learning within schools. It is currently staffed by qualified teachers with high level outdoor leadership and coaching awards across various outdoor and adventurous activities. Their skills and passion maximise the impact our outdoor learning can have on the holistic education of our pupils and ensure the best possible personal and social learning. Our teachers ensure that the pupils stay safe whilst also having the opportunity to learn in a variety of environments relevant to the group, from classroom-based skills through to more challenging locations.

Outdoor Education teachers are required to work weekends during term time, with Monday and Tuesdays as usual ‘days off’. There is also an expectation to plan and lead several camps and expeditions (both UK based and overseas) during the school year.

The duties outlined in this job description are in addition to those specified in the Teacher’s contract of employment. They are not meant to be exhaustive, and it is expected that the role will be undertaken in a spirit of cooperation and a willingness to be flexible to meet the needs of the pupils and St David’s College.

**Purpose:** To provide outstanding outdoor education experiences and inspire students to reach the highest levels of achievement possible.

**Responsible to:**  Head of Outdoor Education

**All members of the teaching staff agree to:**

* Promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons for who you are responsible and with whom you come into contact.

**Teaching and learning**

* Demonstrate current good practice in all activities and teaching areas of responsibility.
* Carry out teaching duties in accordance with the school's schemes of work and the School Development Plan.
* Liaise with colleagues to deliver units of work in a collaborative way.
* Use a variety of teaching styles and media; including those that are interactive, to meet the individual needs of the pupils.
* Work with the ALNCO, Cadogan Centre staff and take note of and evaluate the ALN requirements of pupils.
* To plan and lead at least one Year 10 expedition per year.
* Teach and assist a group through the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award scheme.

**Assessing and reporting (BTEC Outdoor Education or similar)**

* Record students' work.
* Mark and return work within agreed time span, providing feedback and targets.
* Internally verify units of work
* Provide assessment reports to monitor student progress which adhere to school deadlines.
* Liaise with parents as necessary and attend Parents’ Meetings.
* Keep up to date with current syllabus
* Complete a class attendance register for every lesson and report any absentees immediately to the main school office.

**The pupils**

* Be responsible for the development, work, and behaviour of pupils.
* Ensure that pupils’ efforts are properly rewarded, and that praise is used generously.
* Be aware of those pupils who are struggling, disruptive, experiencing special difficulties etc. and make sure that staff are aware of special circumstances affecting pupils, such as dyslexia, physical disabilities, home background etc.

**The subject**

* Operate within the school and outdoor education safety policy.
* Keep up to date with all aspects of activity/qualification development and CPD.
* Foster by example, a spirit of adventure and academic enquiry through personal activity, reading/sharing books, articles etc. and undertaking relevant expeditions/research.
* Manage and maintain an area of equipment including PPE.

**Looking outwards**

* Oversee planning and leadership of expeditions, visits, and exchanges.
* Maintain links with other appropriate organisations and educational establishments.
* Participate in weekend expeditions when necessary.

# Person Specification

**Essential Requirements:**

* PGCE and/or Outdoor Education Degree (or similar qualification) and/or APIOL.
* Experienced practitioner of Outdoor Education in a wide variety of activities.
* Mountain Leader (Summer).
* Driving License (Minibus D1+E) Trailer Endorsement
* Valid First Aid Qualification (16 hours)

***Plus a minimum of 2 of the following qualifications:***

* Dinghy Sailing Instructor (DI) or Senior Instructor (SI)
* Mine or Cave Leader (or above)
* Rock Climbing Instructor (or above)
* Ability and qualification to teach and lead Paddlesports groups in sheltered water environments or above.

**Desirable Requirements:**

* Be able to work well in a team and contribute to driving the department forward.
* Higher level qualification in an outdoor discipline (Eg: Sea Kayak leader/SI/MCI/CIC).
* Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Assessor (and experience of teaching, supervising & assessing).
* Power Boat Level 2 Handling Certificate.
* Overseas expedition leadership experience.
* Evidence of commitment to personal involvement of outdoor activities that further personal and professional development.

**Experience:**

* A proven track record of successful outdoor education experience with secondary aged pupils in a previous post.
* A willingness to ‘enhance’ the subject through extra-curricular activities, clubs etc.
* Experience of participation in, and commitment to, a team approach towards teaching, including the development of equipment stores and teaching resources.

**Skills and Abilities:**

* Energy and enthusiasm for the subject and environment.
* Vision and initiative which maintains motivation for the pupils.
* Ability to plan effectively and be adaptable to changes in circumstances.
* Good inter-personal skills including the ability to lead and to be a member of a team.
* The ability to use ICT in all aspects of teaching and learning as well as report writing and expedition paperwork and accounts.
* The ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in written form to a variety of audiences, including parents.
* Ability to give individual attention and differentiate pupils needs within a group setting.

This job description may be modified by the Headmaster, with your agreement, to reflect or anticipate significant changes in the job, commensurate with the salary and job title.

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. The successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references.