

Teacher of Computer Science

Kingsdale Foundation School



Application details

Position applied for	Teacher of Computer Science
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Application date	23/06/2020
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Personal details

Full name	Mr Mark Richard Gadsby
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Previous name	
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Employment details

National insurance number	NA591695A
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Qualified to work in the UK	Yes
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Applying as a job sharer	No
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Contact details

Mobile/cell phone number	+441273423817
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Home telephone	+441273423817
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Address	55 Worcester Villas Hove BN3 5TA United Kingdom
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Email	Mark.R.Gadsby@GMail.Com
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Professional details

DfE number	1968680
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Teachers' Pension Scheme	No
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QTS	Yes
NPQH	No
Subjects taught	Computing
Other subject(s) taught	
Age ranges taught	11-14, 14-16, 16+
Professional bodies	British Computer Society Scholar
Teacher training	PGCE or PGDE at University of Roehampton (United Kingdom) September 2019 - July 2020
Continuing Professional Development	Managing Behaviour for Learning at Future Learn (Five weeks) Fundamentals of Computer Networks at British Computer Society (Three days)

Current employment

None provided.

Previous employment

Senior Software Engineer, Thermo Fisher Scientific September 1998 - September 2019

East Grinstead, GB

I spent this twenty one year period working on the best-in-class software, Advantage, written in C++. Advantage integrates data acquisition and data processing to provide accurate and reliable instrument control for the electron spectrometers we manufactured. I have specialised in designing and implementing all the software used to control the various sources of energy required, such as x-ray or ion beams. I found this work challenging and rewarding.

Reason for leaving To complete teacher training

Software Developer, Greenstreet Publishing October 1994 - September 1998

Cambridgeshire, GB

During my time at Greenstreet Publishing I worked on their flagship desktop publishing product, writing C and C++ code to run on the newly released Windows 3.1. This product utilised the novel features of the operating system, including TrueType fonts and graphical UI. The product was a critical and commercial success and, from my point of view, an exceptional learning experience.

Reason for leaving Career move



Production Control, Printing Industry September 1986 - May 1991

London, GB

During this five year period I worked as an estimator, assistant production controller and production co-ordinator in two printing companies but mostly in a medium sized workers' co-operative in Clerkenwell, London (Blackrose Press). We produced high quality colour work for campaigning groups, international charities, community groups and art centres. We pioneered the use of recycled paper, which is now hard to imagine being without.

Reason for leaving

To complete an MSc in Software Engineering

Gaps in employment/education history

Has gap(s) in employment/education history

No

Education

Higher education

Degree/Course	University/college	Level	Qualification	Years attended
Software Engineering	Leeds Metropolitan University	Passed	MSc	1992 - 1994

Schools attended

School	Dates attended
Coleg Ceredigion, Aberystwyth	1982 - 1984

A-levels or equivalent (eg, IB, AP)

Subject	Exam	Grade
Business and Finance	National Certificate / Diploma	HND

GCSEs or equivalent

Subject	Exam	Grade
English	O-level	C
Maths	O-level	B



Biology	O-level	B
Art & Design	O-level	C
Economics	O-level	C
Craft and Design - Wood	O-level	C
Geography	O-level	C
History	O-level	B
Statistics	O-level	C



Supporting statement

Following a long and rewarding career working in the software industry, I decided last year to retrain as a computer science teacher. This month I have successfully completed a post graduate certificate in education in secondary computer science at the University of Roehampton and have been awarded qualified teacher status. I am currently looking for an opportunity to further develop my teaching skills in a vibrant, inclusive and supportive school.

I have been attracted to Kingsdale Foundation School as I am specifically looking for a position where my pedagogical skills can be effectively developed. I read in your Ofsted report that staff receive focused and tailored support and I see this as important for my year as a newly qualified teacher. I can envisage my career getting off to the best possible start in a school where the morale of both teachers and students is high and that the standards of teaching, learning and assessment are as positive as they are at Kingsdale.

My enthusiasm for computer science was sparked in the 1980's when I worked in the printing industry, was further developed through post graduate study for an MSc in software engineering, and then fully realised over a long career working in the field. I maintain an undiminished passion for computer science and want to inspire the next generation to share my interest.

During my teacher training I have spent two terms on placement. My first placement was in the computer science department of Oxted School, which is large coeducational school for children aged 11 to 18. Here I gained experience of a busy department and took some responsibility for lesson planning and assessment. I started a successful after-school code club.

My second placement was at Brighton Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College, where I took charge of two 'A' level classes as they covered the topic of object-orientation. Here I saw first-hand the motivational impetus generated by interesting practical projects in the classroom. Also, how keeping track of an individual's progress can inform future planning and feed into catch-up strategies.

It is only when the subject of computer science was added to the curriculum, a few years ago, that I became interested in computing education. I share the desire, expressed on your website, to embrace the government's drive to introduce computing into schools at all levels. I am enthused by the subject because it now has computer programming at its heart, which can then be used as a tool for developing an understanding of ideas and principles, rather than training people to use particular software.

I have been energised by the grass-roots coding and digital making movement. I have been an active volunteer at Brighton CoderDojo for the last two and half years. It is an informal setting where young people aged 6 to 17 come to explore projects in the fields of robotics, android apps, game development and general programming, in a variety of computer languages. I feel that such extra-curricular activities can really help



children build up motivation and identify their interests. I believe that this type of approach is very much in keeping with the culture and ethos developed at Kingsdale Foundation School. CoderDojos and Code Clubs are an important complement to the structure and systematic approach of the formal curriculum.

I take my own professional development seriously and take advantage of the wonderful training resources available from bodies like STEM Learning, National Centre for Computing Education and British Computer Society (BCS). I am currently enrolled on the Managing Behaviour for Learning course from STEM Learning and the BCS course, Fundamentals of Computer Networks.

I am confident that I can use my secure subject knowledge to plan interesting lessons to engage and challenge pupils to learn and remember more. My personal mission is to equip young people to be active participants in the increasingly digital world they inhabit; not just passive users of technology but empowered by knowledge to see it as a configurable space for the expression of creativity and enjoyment.

Additional skills

My desire to teach was sparked by some volunteering I did instructing scouts in orienteering and camp craft, the satisfaction I felt as they successfully acquired their new skills was very rewarding.

Full current driving licence Yes



Referees

Current or most recent employer

May be contacted prior to interview ☒ Yes

Title	Dr
Name	Bryan Barnard
Position held	Chief Scientist
Organisation	Thermo Fisher Scientific
Capacity	Employer
Address	Fairview, Tylers Lane, Nutley TN22 3EJ
Email address	barnyb2013@gmail.com
Telephone	+447873230727

Second referee

May be contacted prior to interview ☒ Yes

Title	Mr
Name	Miles Berry
Position held	Principal Lecturer
Organisation	University of Roehampton
Capacity	Educational
Address	045 Lulham, Froebel, Roehampton Lane, London SW15 5PU
Email address	m.berry@roehampton.ac.uk
Telephone	+442083923241



Declarations

Any convictions, cautions, reprimands or final warnings, whether in the United Kingdom or in another country? These should exclude those defined as “protected” by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013).

No

Included in any list of people barred from working with children by the DBS, the TRA (Teaching Regulation Agency) or any other organisations

No

Been subject to any disciplinary action in your current or previous positions or had any allegations made

No

DBS Update Service registration number

C7134205547

DBS Update Service registration date

29/07/2019

Restrictions on being resident or being employed in the UK?

No

Lived outside the UK for more than three months in the past five years

No

Questions from the school

Details of relations to any current employees, pupils or governors

Not answered.

Confirmed data to be accurate

☒ I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief the information given in this application is true and accurate. I understand that if the information is false or misleading it will disqualify me from my appointment or after appointment could lead to a disciplinary action or dismissal. I acknowledge that where this form is submitted electronically and without a signature, electronic receipt of this form by the employer will be deemed equivalent to submission of a signed version and will constitute confirmation of the declaration.