Teacher of Computer Science

Ark Greenwich Free School

Application details

Position applied for	Teacher of Computer Science
Application date	14/06/2020

Personal details

Full name	Mr Mark Richard Gadsby
Previous name	

Employment details

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

Contact details

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

Professional details

DfE number	1968680
Teachers' Pension Scheme	No

Powered by **tes**

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, Avantage, written in C++. Avantage 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

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

I am currently completing secondary computer science teacher training. I am on-track to achieve qualified teacher status and a post graduate certificate in education this summer.

I feel I am well suited to the role of computer science teacher at Ark Greenwich Free School due to my significant professional experience in industry, passion for my subject, and my desire to enthuse and motivate young people to share my interest.

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 now want to inspire the next generation and really make a difference by working as a computer science teacher.

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 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 become interested in computing education. I share the sentiment expressed in the Ark Greenwich job description that computer science should be a well defined and rigorous academic discipline. 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. Such clubs are an important complement to the structure and systematic approach of the formal curriculum.

CoderDojos and Code Clubs also offer great opportunities for community volunteering from participants

too. Older, more experienced students are quite able to run projects for younger ones, benefiting both groups hugely.

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 was inspired to apply for this post after reading of the approach to a teacher's professionalism that the Ark Greenwich has. I feel my full potential as a teacher can be most quickly realised within a school taking such a holistic approach with a relentless focus on the important thing, the most effective way of assisting pupils on their learning journey, rather than the micromanagement of the teaching role.

I am looking for an opportunity to develop my teaching skills in a vibrant, inclusive and supportive school. 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.

If you have not yet provided a DBS reference number please do so here.

Enhanced Certificate. Certificate Number: 001666894742

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.**