



Middle Management



Who are you and what do you do now?

Georgette, Subject Leader of Music

What made you decide to become a subject leader?

It seemed like the natural progression and I wanted to create a much more inclusive ethos than the department had previously had.

What does the role entail?

Planning all SoW for y7-13, organisation of peri staff, running of extracurricular activities, providing music for internal and external events, running in house events, accompanying students, MD of school production, performance management of other department staff, administration of coursework, data analysis, results analysis, liaison with parents.

What was the application process like?

This was very straightforward as I was an internal applicant. Before the role was advertised, I was advised to write a letter to throw my hat into the ring, I then had a interview. No lesson observation as I had been observed throughout my NQT year.

What was your previous experience?

Music PGCE and NQT. I had also taken on all the responsibilities of the role as the outgoing HoD was off sick for months.

What are the positives?

Being able to enable students to be really creative, making music all day, seeing students grow and develop, events are amazing to be a part of, building positive relationships and having a real impact on student wellbeing -music is a powerful tool.

What are the challenges and how do you overcome them?

Trying to balance creativity and subject specific skills with the whole school ethos/initiatives and making them work for the department. Also, data/results analysis can be very stark so you have to develop a thick skin



Where do you see your career progressing? Or what might be the next steps if you need want to?

I would like to head up a performing arts department, in order that my students could have even more opportunities. I am also considering working with younger children (possibly in a prep school setting).

What tips do you have for a classroom teacher thinking about doing the same?

Make sure you have a clear vision for the department and don't promise to do too much at the start. Also, don't compromise extra-curricular or events for anything!