



## Applicant Information Pack

# Exams Officer

**37 hours per week, term time (+10 days),  
permanent position**

**Start date : September 2024**

**Salary details : GO5**



INSPIRE | SUPPORT | SUCCEED

# Headteacher's Welcome

I would firstly like to thank you for your interest in the post of Exams Officer at Ysgol Aberconwy. The purpose of this information pack is to help you get to know more about our school and help you to decide if this is the right post for you.

Ysgol Aberconwy is a school that puts learning and individual achievement at the heart of everything it does. We want every pupil to succeed; to achieve their full potential, be prepared for the future and become confident, thoughtful young people so they leave us ready for the challenges of an exciting and increasingly competitive world. This philosophy also extends to the school's staff – we seek to be a learning organisation that focuses on the development of each individual within it through coaching, challenge and support.

Situated in a spectacular location on the Conwy estuary, the school boasts a modern, well maintained and well equipped environment. Whilst the school's ethos is based on traditional values of respect, responsibility and community spirit, students experience the very latest technology and teaching methods in the classroom.

Here at Ysgol Aberconwy we have the highest expectations of all our pupils in all areas of school life. Academic standards are important to us and we expect all pupils to achieve the very best. We also have the highest expectations of our pupils when it comes to behaviour, attendance, punctuality and uniform.

The pastoral system at Ysgol Aberconwy is extensive and innovative. Each year group has a full time non-teaching Guidance Mentor. Working from a key stage base these mentors are available throughout the day to respond to pupils' concerns and to provide a direct contact point for parents. This, along with our specialist resource centre for ALN pupils ensures that all pupils feel secure and supported at school.

We have a flourishing extra-curricular programme. This includes a full range of sporting activities in the school's state of the art facilities as well as music concerts and drama productions. The school owns its own field centre in the hills above Abergwyngregyn and has an extensive outdoor activities programme.

We are also proud of our Welsh tradition and heritage. The school encourages the use of the Welsh language in lessons and beyond, and we are developing the provision of some subjects through the medium of Welsh for those who want it.

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated and highly professional team of teachers and support staff who expect the very highest standards from all our staff and pupils, whilst our strong school systems ensure that everyone learn in a safe and friendly environment where teachers teach and learners learn.


Ysgol Aberconwy is a great place to work. It is focused on teaching and learning and dedicated to the well-being of our learners. We have the highest expectations of all who work here and therefore, we are only looking for the finest staff to work with our pupils. We know that our school can only be as good as the staff within it. If you would like to see for yourself why we believe Ysgol Aberconwy is a great school in which to work, then please contact us for a visit.

## Ian Gerrard



# Additional Information about the school

During their visit to the school in March 2018, ESTYN report that:

- Pupils express their ideas and opinions confidently both inside and out of the classroom with the majority contributing enthusiastically to class or group discussions.
  - Performance of pupils eligible for free school meals over the last three years is generally above that of these pupils in similar schools.
  - Pupils with additional learning needs progress in line with their personal targets.
  - The school's inclusive and supportive ethos based on mutual respect is successful in promoting high levels of pupil wellbeing.
  - Pupils feel safe in school and consider that the school deals well with any instances of bullying.
  - Pupils are courteous and respectful towards their peers, staff and visitors.
  - They behave well in lessons and around the school and have positive attitudes to learning.
  - Many pupils benefit from their participation in the school's valuable programme of cultural and creative activities, including musical and drama productions.
  - Most pupils develop well as ethical and informed citizens. They contribute successfully to raising substantial amounts of money for local and national charities. As a result, these pupils make a valuable contribution to the local wider community.
  - The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that builds appropriately upon pupils' previous learning and meets the needs of nearly all pupils.
  - There is a broad range of sporting, creative and cultural enrichment activities that support pupils' learning and contribute well to their personal development.
  - There is a well co-ordinated approach to developing pupils' knowledge and understanding of Welsh language and culture. The school provides valuable opportunities for Welsh speaking pupils to maintain and develop their language skills.
  - The school promotes successfully an inclusive, supportive and nurturing community that has a significant beneficial impact on pupils' wellbeing and personal development. Recent changes to the school's pastoral arrangements are contributing effectively to promoting pupils' wellbeing.
  - Providing opportunities for pupils to voice their opinions is a strength of the school. Pupils play a valuable role in the life and work of the school.
  - Leadership and management at all levels have brought about improvements in key areas of the school's work. The Headteacher provides clear, supportive and decisive leadership that is contributing well to improving key aspects of the school's work.
  - The Headteacher and senior leadership team work well together and have promoted successfully a clear vision for the school based around the mission - 'inspire, support and succeed'.
  - Support staff are used effectively in the classroom and in specialist areas.
  - The school provides a pleasant and welcoming environment that is well maintained and supports pupils' wellbeing and learning well. Specialist areas, such as science laboratories and technology workshops, are well resourced.
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# Information about the local area

## Conwy Town and Area

Conwy is a town rich in history, with much of it still preserved within the walls and traditional structures of its buildings. In the heart of it is the mighty 13th-century castle, whose walls encapsulate this remarkable medieval town.

Surrounded by the beautiful Welsh countryside and watched over by the mighty mountains of Snowdonia, it's a beautiful place to visit or to live. The Quay is host to a number of amenities and is a particularly stunning place to visit during the warm summer months. Whether you'd prefer to enjoy the hospitality of local restaurants, take an exciting boat tour around the coastal area or hike upon the many surrounding mountains – it's all possible in and around the historical town of Conwy.

Conwy offers a whole host of places to eat and drink. Fine dining restaurants, traditional pubs and snug cafes can be found throughout the town. It's also host to a number of hotels and B&Bs – many of which are incredibly close to the castle itself. With its traditional and quaint appearance, you may be fooled into thinking that this town is hard to access. It's just over an hour's drive from two major airports – Liverpool and Manchester – and easily accessible by train. It's also worth exploring further afield in the rest of Conwy County which includes equally impressive coastal towns.

Llandudno has maintained its traditional and authentic charm. This Victorian seaside resort has much to offer its visiting guests. Take a leisurely walk along its promenade, or travel up to summit of the Great Orme where you'll be rewarded with incredible views of its surrounding mountains and coastal towns.

You'll also find that Conwy is very proud of its culture and history, and is often host to a number of cultural events throughout the year. Each year, you'll find an abundance of festivals, art galleries and local markets, which are primarily hosted in the name of supporting and displaying their local talent and produce.

If you're looking for somewhere to explore that is full of adventure and has also managed to maintain the rich history within its walls and buildings, Conwy offers its guests (and residents) all of this and more.

[\(http://www.conwy.com/\)](http://www.conwy.com/)



# Job Advert

**Exams Officer: Salary Range : G05 : £23,319 - £26,281**

**This is a permanent position of 37 hours per week, term time plus 10 days.**

**Closing date for applications: Friday June 21<sup>st</sup> 2024**

**Start Date: September 2024**

We seek to appoint an enthusiastic and motivated Exams Officer to support the School. They will work independently to administer all activities relating to the examinations cycle, maintain the knowledge and confidence to manage difficult situations and provide effective organisation of examinations (including on line tests) within the school ensuring that Examination Board procedures and policies are adhered to.

In return, we offer you:

- A strong commitment to professional development;
- A school with high aspirations and a genuine opportunity to make a difference;
- An opportunity to help shape teaching and learning and our alternative curriculum;
- A dedicated and supportive team of professional staff and governors;
- Strong links with other local schools for partnership working and support;
- A strong community spirit;
- A vibrant and interesting place to work.

This is an exciting time to join Ysgol Aberconwy, a mixed 11-to-18 comprehensive school of over 900 pupils. Set in its own extensive campus on the banks of the beautiful River Conwy, the school is situated in the medieval town of Conwy on the North Wales coast adjacent to the Snowdonia National Park. As a PFI School, we are exceptionally well resourced and maintained, and we have developed a significant reputation locally for the quality of our pastoral care as well as our academic success. Numbers in the school will have risen by 30% over the last five years in September, and we have developed specialist resource centres to support children with dyslexia, autism and other learning needs.



# Job Description

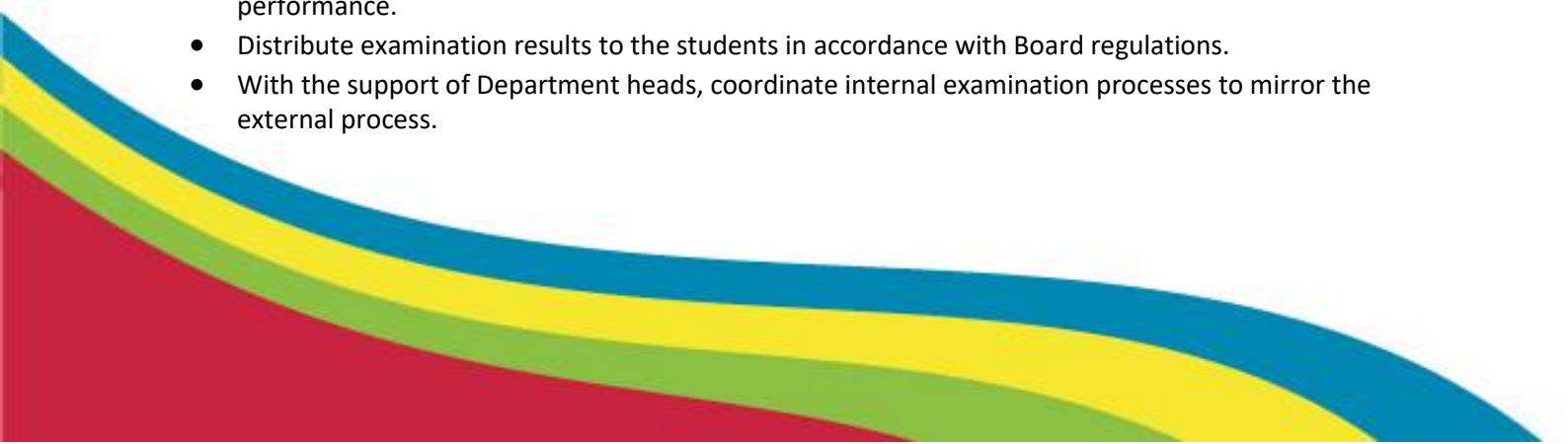
**POST:** Examinations Officer  
**SALARY RANGE:** GO5  
**REPORTING TO:** DHT

## JOB PURPOSE

- To provide effective organisation of examinations (including on line tests) within the school ensuring that Examination Board procedures and policies are adhered to and confidentiality is maintained at all times.
- Administer all activities relating to the examinations cycle whilst maintaining the knowledge and confidence to manage exam related queries and situations.
- Keep abreast of Examination Board policies and procedures, co-ordinating the maintenance and verification of the examinations subject module database.
- Act as invigilator for examinations, supervising and instructing other invigilators as required.
- Provide Finance Officer support to the Business Manager on an ongoing basis

## MAIN DUTIES

### Support for Students

- Produce entry and data marksheets to ensure all data required by external Examination Boards is captured.
  - Administer entry process on SIMs for staff and students to ensure that entries are made within published deadlines.
  - Ensure that examination entries are correctly completed, liaising with staff and students where necessary.
  - Prepare and forward examination entries to the Examination Boards using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) where appropriate, with the assistance of the Data Manager as necessary.
  - Advise students on the school policy on examination fees, remarking of scripts, exam entries and any other procedures pertinent to external assessment.
  - Provide students' examination dates, timetables and regulations in liaison with the school's pastoral teams.
  - Prepare exam room packs ensuring that the correct Examination papers and stationery etc. are available to the invigilators whilst maintaining the confidentiality of the papers.
  - Working with ALN department identify all learners who require reasonable adjustments and prepare exam room packs for alternative venues
  - Ensure timely delivery of examination packs to the allocated venue and be present at the start of the examination to provide advice and guidance to students, staff and invigilators.
  - Organise the return of examination papers from the examination room and ensure that the papers are forwarded to the Examination Board within their time scale identifying any special circumstances that occurred during the examination which may have affected the student's performance.
  - Distribute examination results to the students in accordance with Board regulations.
  - With the support of Department heads, coordinate internal examination processes to mirror the external process.
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### **Support for Teachers**

- Provide Staff with entry information in order to maintain the accuracy of the entries to the Examination Boards on a regular basis.
- Ensure that staff receive examination dates, times and entry totals.
- Make external examination results available to staff.
- Conduct examinations, supervising, and advising invigilators as required, informing them of any special arrangements, emergencies and clashes where necessary.
- Advise the leadership team and Governing body, as necessary, in the formation of policies related to examination and NEA completion.
- Work closely with departments to ensure that NEAs are completed on time, stored correctly and submitted correctly with due regard to exam board regulations throughout.

### **Support for the Curriculum**

- Monitor and arrange stock and supplies, cataloguing as required.
- Demonstrate and assist others in effective use of any necessary equipment/materials.
- Develop and maintains awareness of Examination Board Regulations and Procedures.
- Maintain and verify the examination module database on SIMs.
- Ensure that appropriate syllabuses are registered with the Examination Board in liaison with teaching staff.
- Update the data held on the examination database, using specific syllabus knowledge and ensuring the accuracy of the data held.

### **Support for the Business Manager**


- Process orders for Budget Holders onto the Finance system and deal with related admin tasks
- Process invoices onto the Finance system and deal with related admin tasks
- Journal Income to Cost Centres on the Finance system
- Process Petty Cash reimbursements to the school and journal to Finance system
- Process Credit Card payments and deal with related admin tasks

### **Support for the School**

- Ensure that the school is completing all administration requirements timely and accurately by reading and understanding the Examination Board procedures.
- Keep abreast of any changes and updates to Examination Board policies and procedures. Reading all examination literature, procedures, guidelines etc.
- Be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security and confidentiality, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
- Be aware of and support difference and ensure all pupils have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop.
- Contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school.
- Appreciate and support the role of other professionals.
- Attend and participate in relevant meetings as required.
- Participate in training and other learning activities and performance management as required.
- Assist with the supervision of pupils in and out of lesson times including before and after school, lunchtimes as well as clubs, extra-curricular activities.

### **RIGHT TO VARY**

This job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of duties. Ysgol Aberconwy reserves the right, after appropriate consultation with you, to vary your duties and responsibilities within the parameters of your grade and occupational competence in order to respond to changes in the needs of the school.



# Person Specific

| Factor                     | Requirements   | How Identified | Rank<br>E-Essential<br>A-Advantageous |
|----------------------------|--|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Qualifications             | NVQ Level 3 or equivalent qualification or experience in relevant discipline.  | AF/I/V         | E                                     |
|                            | Good standard of education with 5 GCSE's or Equivalent.  | AF/V           | E                                     |
| Experience                 | Experience of working with children of relevant age.   | AF/I/R         | A                                     |
|                            | Experience of working with adults in a school environment  | AF/I/R         | A                                     |
| Knowledge & Skills         | Knowledge and use of relevant equipment/resources.   | AF/I/R         | E                                     |
|                            | Effective use of ICT.  | AF/I/R         | A                                     |
|                            | Thorough knowledge of Microsoft Office applications and other relevant software packages, including SIMs   | AF/I/R         | E                                     |
|                            | Ability to work under pressure to complete deliverables and adhere to deadlines.   | AF/I/R         | E                                     |
|                            | Excellent organisational skills including an ability to manage own workload and plan activities.   | AF/I/R         | E                                     |
|                            | Excellent communication skills in written and spoken English.  | AF/I/R         | E                                     |
|                            | Fluency in written and spoken Welsh  | AF/I/V         | A                                     |
|                            | Good numeracy and literacy skills  | AF/V           | E                                     |
| Creativity & Innovation    | Full working knowledge of relevant JCQ policies/code of practice and awareness of relevant legislation.  | AF/I/R         | A                                     |
|                            | Excellent personal motivation and enthusiasm for completing assigned tasks.  | AF/I/R         | E                                     |
| Contacts & Relationships   | Ability to identify own training and development needs and co-operate with others to address these.  | AF/I/R         | E                                     |
|                            | Excellent interpersonal skills and an ability to communicate effectively, in both written and verbal form with staff.  | I/R            | E                                     |
| Decisions/ Recommendations | Ability to integrate into and work effectively within a team environment understanding school roles and responsibilities and your own position within these. | I/R            | E                                     |
|                            | Ability to relate well to children.  | I/R            | E                                     |
|                            | Full understanding of the range of exams support services/providers and ability to work with such agencies.  | AF/R           | A                                     |
| Resources                  | Ability to make decisions independently within an agreed objective framework.  | I/R            | E                                     |
| Physical Demands           | Ability to manage resources efficiently  | I/R            | E                                     |
|                            | Ability to carry out daily duties in and around the school environment – including break/lunch duties on the school yard and in the school canteen.          | AF/I           | E                                     |

AF: Application Form

I: Interview

R: Reference

V: Verification



# Safeguarding Procedures

We are committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We are an Equal Opportunities employer. In this light, we would like to draw the following matters to your attention:

1. All appointments are made subject to:
  - a. An enhanced DBS disclosure;
  - b. Checks of professional status (EWC; QTS etc.)
  - c. Confirmation of professional qualifications;
  - d. Receipt of strong references (if not received by the time of interview); and
  - e. Medical clearance
2. We only accept applications completed on the Conwy application form with a covering letter. Please do not send CVs or open testimonials. More detail about the content of applications is provided in this pack below.
3. Please ensure that application form is completed in full. In particular, you must ensure that a full work history is provided and that any gaps in your employment are fully explained.
4. The referees cited in your application form must include your employer from the last occasion in which you worked with children. If your last employment was in a school, we would expect a reference from the Headteacher and/or Deputy/Assistant Headteacher.
5. When seeking references, we will request information about your suitability to work with children.
6. If you are shortlisted, any anomalies in your application will be discussed with you at interview.
7. As a local authority, Conwy is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable groups. All Council employees are expected to be aware of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy and their responsibility to report any concerns in the appropriate manner and timescales.

*We encourage you to pay close attention to these matters so that your application is not excluded unnecessarily.*



# Application Procedures

If you wish to be considered for this vacancy you should complete the application form, giving the names and addresses of two referees.

Please note that section 12 on the form (Additional information to support your application) which can be completed on a separate sheet if you prefer, should include the following information:

- a. A brief outline of what you have achieved in your present post
- b. A statement about why you want this job.
- c. An indication of the strengths and expertise you could offer the school.

All points should address the detail in the person specification and other points made within this information pack.

Candidates are kindly requested not to submit a CV instead of the application form. Additional sheets may be attached to the back of the application form if there is insufficient space.

Completed applications should be returned to Mr Ian Gerrard (Headteacher) c/o Lynn Jones, to arrive **no later than midday on Friday June 21st, 2024**

Please ensure that you put the correct postage on the envelope as this could result in your application not being considered due to late arrival. Please note that we will only consider applications submitted on Conwy's application form.

Interviews will take place during the week commencing **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June**. If you have not heard from us within two weeks of this date, regretfully you must assume that your application has been unsuccessful on this occasion, in which case the Governors would like to thank you for your time and your interest in the school.

Please note that we are happy to arrange informal visits for prospective candidates before short-listing has taken place, also if you wish to have an informal discussion about the post in advance of your application, or if you require any further details, please contact Lynn Jones, the Headteacher's PA.

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