



Warwick Independent Schools *virtual*

Course Developer for

the Online King's High Certificate in Creative Thinking,

delivered by Warwick Independent Schools *virtual*

(a part-time, fixed assignment with the possibility to extend)

An introduction to Warwick Independent Schools virtual

Warwick Independent Schools *virtual* is an innovative new member of the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation, providing an online space for education both for students beyond the UK and for students within the UK who are not educated at Warwick Foundation schools.

Warwick Independent Schools *virtual* aims to establish a gold standard in online courses through delivering the best of the Warwick Foundation schools' expertise in education to online students.

Warwick Independent Schools *virtual* aims to provide exceptionally inspiring and stretching courses, delivered through live lessons in real time, combined with the occasional use of recorded content (in certain contexts).

Warwick Independent Schools *virtual* aims to pair the very best subject content and its technical delivery with top-quality relationships to provide a premium academic experience.

The Online King's High Certificate in Creative Thinking

This course will be a flagship product for Warwick Independent Schools *virtual*, a key component of its launch. The course is a unique offering to the online marketplace, both within the UK and beyond.

The course uses principles from Design Thinking. The highly successful implementation of the course on-site at King's High School, Warwick has featured in national publications including the *Times Educational Supplement* and through Arts Council England's Creativity Exchange.

The Online King's High Certificate in Creative Thinking provides an exciting encounter with essential thinking skills necessary for success at university and in the world of professional careers.

Over ten weekends (indicative length), the King's High Certificate in Creative Thinking teaches students to solve problems in creative ways, honing their intellectual skills to cope

with the unpredictable demands of future careers in which flexibility and versatility will be required in large measure.

This online course provides a unique, certified qualification in creative thinking, helping students to build up a useful and diverse range of experiences to cite in their university applications as well as helping them to develop crucial intellectual skills to make the very most of their studies at school.

The course aims to provide to students with an element of 'future-proof' education: to augment, complement and enrich their school curricular learning, and to lay the foundation for intellectual skills they will need to succeed in the fast-moving world of their future careers.

It is anticipated that this course will be launched in two distinct forms:

For the UK market – taught content will be pre-recorded and made accessible to students at a competitive price. Live tutoring in real time will follow up on learning and evaluate progress and the assessed material.

For the non-UK market – taught seminar content will be delivered live in real time by tutors to small tutorial groups: this will be reflected in the premium cost. As with the UK-style course, tutoring will also follow up on learning and evaluate progress and the assessed material.

The course is aimed at students in years 10, 11 or 12 (or equivalent in schools beyond the UK). It is particularly suited to ambitious students who are aiming to study at selective universities.

Course Developer for the online Creative Thinking course:

The initial brief is:

To develop an existing on-site course in Creative Thinking into two online versions through optimising the existing scheme of work for online delivery.

To build and develop bespoke online resources for the delivery of both courses via the Microsoft 365 Education platform.

To record all teaching resources for the 'UK' version of the course to a high technical standard in filming, using support when necessary from other Warwick Independent Schools Virtual staff.

To liaise with key Foundation school teaching staff, in particular with the Deputy Head Academic at King's High School, Warwick (deviser of the on-site course) in the adaptation and optimisation of the course into the two online versions.

To launch both versions of the course.

To lead teaching of both versions of the course, modelling good practice in terms of the 'non-UK' version of the course, in which live teaching in real time is a defining element and leading a team of tutors for both versions of the course.

To aid and advise the Director of Warwick Independent Schools *virtual* in the recruitment of tutors for both versions of the course, and to assist with QA of their work once appointed.

The Curriculum Development leader will report to the Director of Warwick Independent Schools *virtual*, James Harding.

Specifically, the Course Developer will

- Optimise and adapt for online delivery the existing scheme of work for the King's High Creative Thinking course, producing as a result two complementary schemes of work, one for each online version of the course (UK and 'overseas').
- Lead in the production of all bespoke online resources, to deadline, using technical support creatively and prudently.
- Pilot the teaching of both versions of the course. It is expected that the post-holder would deliver the recorded content for the UK version of the course, and that they would be a pioneering lead tutor for the 'overseas' course.
- Lead in assessing students taking part in the course, setting high standards for the online assessment of the work of online students.
- Work closely with the Director of Warwick Independent Schools *virtual* on review and refinement of courses once implemented and the first round of courses delivered.

Remuneration:

A fixed 'curriculum developer's fee' (equivalent to an Incentive Allowance at the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation schools) will be paid for the initial course optimisation stage of the work;

additional to this will be a pre-agreed hourly rate (amount dependent on experience and qualifications) for recording the academic content sessions.

Any teaching following on from the above work will be paid at an hourly rate in accordance with the Teacher Salary Scales at the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation schools, dependent on experience and qualifications.

Possible further developments:

Looking forward, it is likely that there will be opportunities for teaching work additional to this assignment outlined above. These opportunities might include managing the delivery of both online courses – these would come about with the success of the course and an excellent standard of performance in the advertised role.

Should this continuation become available, further details would be provided, along with information regarding remuneration. It would be hoped that the post-holder would apply for this further work, but this would not be a matter of automatic progression, and any such role(s) might be advertised nationally.

Further information about the role:

We are looking for an ambitious and innovative educator in a related academic subject or subjects, with experience of school teaching at KS4 and KS5, who is seeking to develop their profile and experience by taking on this significant course development role in the establishment of an exciting new space for online learning.

The role could serve the development of a 'fast-track' portfolio career in school education, giving substantial experience of curriculum leadership and development. Alternatively, the role might suit a candidate with a record of research and university teaching who is wishing to explore secondary-school online teaching and who wishes to develop practical experience of it.

Experience of, and a knowledgeable enthusiasm for, online teaching at senior school level is highly desirable (candidates without it will only be considered if they can demonstrate experience of established online activity in a related educational field). Candidates who are currently in university research roles are not expected to have extensive experience of online class teaching at school level, but they must demonstrate an active and experienced interest in online learning, for example evidenced by producing online learning videos.

The role might suit a freelance educator with a portfolio of active professional interests.

Initial work on the project would start immediately following appointment, with a target date for launching the first course no later than January 2022.

In terms of workload for the initial assignment to optimise the course for online delivery, and producing two schemes of work, it is expected that the role might equate to the kind of responsibility associated with marking public examinations. The fee paid reflects those expectations.

As this is online development work, much of it can be done from home. The postholder may be required to attend occasional meetings at the Warwick Foundation campus. Recording the taught content for the 'UK' version of the course is likely to require filming on the Warwick Foundation campus.

All recruitment will be subject to Safer Recruitment in Education procedures for on-site teaching posts.

Detailed requirements – person specification:

A teacher or academic with a degree in a relevant academic subject who has a passion for creative, student-centred learning experiences, and expertise in online learning.

Person Specification		
	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualification	Degree educated, to at least bachelor level, in a related degree-subject (e.g. - but not limited to -	Teaching qualification / degree, e.g. PGCE Second degree / Masters / Ph D

	humanities, especially philosophy, psychology).	Active in academic / educational life, with published papers, textbook(s) or other active involvement.
Experience/ Knowledge	Current / very recent experience of teaching at school KS4, KS5, and / or current / very recent experience of successful teaching at university level (undergraduate, or graduate teaching / supervision). Evidence of high student achievement.	Experience of curriculum and course development, preferably with an effective online dimension.
	Active interest in online learning, with experience of recent participation in it, preferably as a teacher.	Active involvement with the latest ed tech, with experience of optimising on-site courses for online delivery. Experience of developing own online resources, e.g. YouTube channel.
	Experience of teaching international students (with empathy for the inherent pressures of studying in an acquired language).	Experience of teaching international students in their home context, including online work.
Skills / Abilities	Familiarity with / active experience of the Microsoft 365 Education platform / willingness to master it for the purpose of fulfilling this role.	Extensive experience of using the Microsoft 365 Education package and of devising innovative ways of using it.
	Familiarity with / active experience of using a variety of current online education resources.	Experience of writing textbook / learning materials for publication / creating a website or other online resources for learning / YouTube learning resources / similar.
Aptitude	A passion for excellent teaching and a desire to be part of a bold and innovative online learning enterprise	An award for teaching / online teaching.
	A passion for and commitment to online learning	Experience of creating / contributing to an innovative online education initiative.
	Commitment to a global perspective in education; demonstrable empathy for students studying in a second or third language.	Experience of teaching international students, either in class or online; experience of teaching in an international school, either in the UK or outside it.

Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	<p>Understands their role in the context of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.</p> <p>Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people.</p>	
Equal Opportunities	<p>Understanding of the requirements of Equality and Diversity</p>	

Applications should be made as soon as possible by completing our application form and returning to hr@warwickschools.co.uk.

Closing date for applications: Monday 18th October 2021

Interviews will be held online via Teams during the week starting 1st November 2021.

Questions concerning the role:

Please contact James Harding: ja.harding@warwickschools.co.uk / 07423 673853.