



Stanborough Secondary School

School Business Manager: Job Description

August 2025

As a school, we take the safeguarding and promoting of children and any other vulnerable groups seriously. As a result, the school encourages you to take the responsibility to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children or adults at risk in your care seriously. Please refer to the child protection policy on the school website.

Situation:

STANBOROUGH SCHOOL is located on Stanborough Park, Watford. (Entrance via Cedar Wood Drive)

With its student population made up of many countries, Stanborough School is rightly described by many as a 'mini-United Nations.' This gives the school a rich cultural flavour and makes it a unique place to gain a holistic, well-balanced education. To assist the community in developing a single understanding of Stanborough School's ethos, the School Business Manager should maintain international awareness.

Main purpose

The School Business Manager (SBM) is responsible for managing the strategy and operation of the business functions of our school, including financial management, health and safety, human resources, compliance and administration.

They will advise on and implement the day-to-day support that enables the school to operate effectively and efficiently, and that allows other members of the leadership team to focus on teaching and learning.

Duties and responsibilities

Leadership and strategy

- Be responsible for line-managing support staff, including carrying out long-term resource planning and managing recruitment, appraisal and professional development
- Under the direction of the headteacher, lead on all financial matters in school, to ensure the school's successful financial performance and to ensure financial decisions are clearly linked to the school's strategic goals

- Implement school-wide changes and allocate resources in line with the school improvement plan, putting policies and procedures in place and communicating them to staff
- Take all decisions in line with the vision and values of the school, and encourage others to do the same
- Implement a marketing plan for the school, which utilises the school website, signage, the prospectus, and communications with current and prospective parents
- As a member of the senior leadership team, attend all leadership team meetings and report to governors where appropriate

Financial management and fundraising

- In partnership with the headteacher, manage the school's budget and ensure it is balanced, realistic, and represents an effective use of public funds
- Submit the budget to the governing board
- Monitor the budget all year round, advising the headteacher where revisions or changes are needed
- Forecast future years' budgets, based on the school's estimated funding and trends in expenditure, to enable the headteacher to make strategic, long-term decisions
- Comply with financial reporting requirements and submit statutory returns
- Oversee school bank accounts on a day-to-day basis, ensuring money is banked, invoices are paid promptly, money owed is collected, and clear records are kept
- Develop and implement the school's fundraising and income generation strategy, choosing fundraising priorities in line with the school improvement plan
- Find and apply for grants
- Lead on procurement processes, managing tenders where appropriate, conducting due diligence, benchmarking and evaluating suppliers, negotiating deals and ensuring value for money
- Manage the school's lettings offer
- Ensure the effective and efficient operation of the finance department, delegating tasks to the cashier where appropriate

Human resources

- Manage the school's payroll provision with the payroll provider
- Ensure that recruitment, appraisal, disciplinary and grievance policies are administered in accordance with employment law
- Advise on HR issues within school and liaise with the external HR provider
- Conduct reviews of the school's staffing structure to ensure effective deployment of staff and financial efficiency

Health and safety

- With the headteacher and premises team, supervise the maintenance of the school site
- Manage the school's compliance with health and safety regulations, and put in place processes and procedures to ensure the safety of all in the school
- Organise health and safety training for staff

Compliance

- Manage the school's compliance with statutory obligations, and advise others on the relevant legal, regulatory and ethical requirements
- Track all school policies and ensure they are updated in accordance with the policy review schedule
- Monitor and update the risk register

Administration

- Keep records in accordance with the school's record retention schedule and data protection law, ensuring information security and confidentiality at all times
- Provide administrative support for the headteacher and governing body

The School Business Manager will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and follow school policies and the staff code of conduct.

Please note that this list of duties is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the School Business Manager will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the headteacher.

Person specification

CRITERIA	QUALITIES
Qualifications and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A degree or other relevant qualification - ideally in accountancy, business management or a related discipline • A school business management qualification • Management AAT Level 4 • ACCA
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful leadership and management experience in a school, or in a relevant field outside education • Involvement in school self-evaluation and improvement planning • Line management experience • Contributing to staff development • Working with children or young people
Skills and knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert knowledge of financial management • Excellent attention to detail • Effective communication and interpersonal skills • Ability to communicate a vision and inspire others • Ability to build effective working relationships with staff and other stakeholders • Understanding of data protection and confidentiality • Experience using Sunplus Accounting System will be preferable although training will be provided • Excellent organizational skills • Must be proficient in all Microsoft packages especially Microsoft Excel • Must be able to liaise with parents and external agencies in a professional and expeditious manner

Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to promoting the ethos and values of the school and getting the best outcomes for all pupils • Commitment to acting with integrity, honesty, loyalty and fairness to safeguard the assets, financial probity and reputation of the school • Ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively • Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times • Commitment to safeguarding and equality • Embraces change well • Deals with difficult situations effectively
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Notes:

This job description may be amended at any time in consultation with the postholder.