



The Gifted Education Centre

To Go Beyond the Known

ONE DAY SCHOOL TEACHER JOB DESCRIPTION

Section A: Background

1. About the Centre

Gifted children are often seen as children who are amazingly successful at school. Some are. But many find school instead to be an extremely lonely and unhappy experience, and many also struggle against constant frustration and boredom. Researchers have found that the majority of gifted children actually underachieve at school often to a level that would be unacceptable if found in any other group of children.

The George Parkyn National Centre for Gifted Education was set up in 1995 to provide a professional support service for these children, their families and their schools. It is the only such centre in New Zealand. It has a very wide range of functions including providing advisory support for schools and for parents, providing professional development for teachers, supporting research, and working to improve provision for these children within the education system. It travels throughout New Zealand to provide workshops and works with universities, colleges of education, teacher resource centres, individual schools, early childhood centres and parent groups.

In late 2007, the Centre underwent a change of name, reflecting the changes of programmes offered, and to re-instate our focus for a new generation.

2. About the One Day School

The Centre's largest operation is a programme called the "One Day School", which has been in operation since 1996 and now runs at various venues in both the North and South Islands. This very exciting innovation allows the gifted child aged 6 - 12 to spend one full school day each week with other children of the same age group who are genuinely like themselves and who share similar interests and ways of thinking and learning. For many this is the first time they have experienced such companionship.

Children come to One Day School with the permission of their school principals. The programme they are offered has a high level of challenge and interest. It's designed to encourage them to spread their wings, explore their ideas and grow in confidence so that their exceptional abilities have a chance to emerge and develop properly. We see this as helping the child and ultimately society as a whole.

A very important element of the One Day School is that it functions as a "community of learners" where people at every level from new entrant to director take ownership of their work and where what each person does is recognised as contributing to everyone else's work and so is of value and interest. Put simply, One Day School should be a good place to be for everyone who works there, child and adult.

Section B: About the position

As a One Day School teacher:

- you will belong to a team of people who enjoy working as part of a community of learners, respect each other's strengths, are committed to meeting the special needs of gifted and talented children and are prepared to be involved in meeting this aim;
- taking these student's special needs into account, you will prepare an exciting and challenging programme for your students appropriate to their level of ability, interests and learning styles. While the professional support of the Centre director, Lead Teacher and other team members will always be available to you, you will have considerable flexibility and independence in developing programmes as you see fit;
- you will work with no more than fifteen students on any one day;
- you will receive your own copy of the Centre's comprehensive training manual;
- you will have an allotment of basic equipment and materials which will be replenished as needed; you will also have a modest budget to use at your own discretion for the support of your work, although we ask that you keep receipts and a note of purchases for GST purposes;
- you will have access to photocopying facilities and ancillary help from the main admin office of the Centre or from your local coordinator with administrative tasks;
- you will keep daily anecdotal notes, write a report on each pupil at end of each semester (and also for new students who receive a report at the end of their first term at One Day School), keep a file of your lesson plans, and maintain an attendance register and any other records necessary for efficient and effective management;
- you will have a paid staff meeting/professional development day to attend approximately once a semester, and the Lead teacher and Centre director will provide you with ongoing support;
- you will have free priority access to other professional development programmes run by the Centre;
- you may, from time to time, have an opportunity to be a tutor yourself for such a programme, or for children or parents' workshops. Such work is paid in addition to your normal salary.

Part C: Salaries and conditions

1. Teachers are paid at a daily rate of \$216.82 for a fully registered teacher. Additional days per week are paid at a slightly higher rate. One Day School™ usually operates 38 weeks per year.
2. Further, teachers receive recognition of a full days pay, per class, in order to recognize the class setup at the beginning of the year, report writing, sundry admin/communication times and packing/cleaning the classroom to prepare for the holidays at the end of a year. These are titled 'non-contact' days. If you teach two days per week, you therefore receive four days 'non-contact' payment per year.
3. One Day School teachers have sick leave and statutory holiday leave as stipulated by law and within the Individual Employment Contract.
4. Holiday pay is paid out in full at the conclusion of each calendar year.

Part D: How to apply

First please note

1. You do not have to apply for the total number of days advertised. We are happy to have two or three teachers taking different days.
2. However you must be a fully registered teacher, qualified to teach in New Zealand, OR be involved in a mentoring/support programme through a regular school sufficient to gain your full registration. The Centre is accredited to maintain full registration, but due to the fact that we do not teach the full NZ curriculum, we are unable to assist teachers towards a fully registered status.

What to do now

Please complete the attached form and send to:

The Gifted Education Centre

Po Box 10 - 010

Dominion Rd

Auckland

within one week of receipt, or sooner if possible.

- If you have any queries, please ring the Centre on 09 845 4176 or email head.office@giftededucation.org.nz.
- Short listed applicants will be contacted with a view to arranging interviews and finalising appointments as soon as possible.
- At that time, availability for training will be discussed. It is expected that any new teacher makes time for a maximum of two 5 hour days available for training prior to beginning with One Day School.

All applicants will be advised of the outcome as soon as possible.

We hope you will join us in making a difference for this group of children!