2015-16 Placements: PhD Tutors

The Brilliant Club has now opened recruitment for its 2015-16 summer placements, which offer doctoral and post-doctoral researchers a flexible, meaningful and competitively-paid teaching opportunity.

What is The Brilliant Club?
The Brilliant Club is an award winning charity that recruits, trains and places doctoral and post-doctoral researchers in low participation schools to deliver programmes of university-style tutorials to small groups of high performing pupils. Over the course of the academic year 2014-2015 we placed over 450 researchers to work in schools across London, the South East, the Midlands, the North East and North West of England, where they worked with over 6000 high performing pupils.

What can a successful candidate expect?
We will place successful candidates in a non-selective state school, where they will work with small groups of high-performing pupils, delivering a series of tutorials that takes them beyond the curriculum and helps them to develop the knowledge, skills and ambition necessary to secure places at top universities. Successful candidates working with pupils at KS2 and KS3 can choose from a range of pre-designed courses on a variety of subjects: Philosophy, English Literature, History, Biology, Engineering and Maths. Those candidates working with pupils at KS4 and KS5 typically design a course based on their own research, and recent programmes have included ‘Fighting Cancer with Sound Bullets’, ‘Free Will, Luck and Moral Responsibility’, ‘Neuroscience: brain anatomy and function’ and ‘Music in Nineteenth Century India.’ Typically during the spring placement a PhD Tutor will design a deliver a programme based on their own research to KS4 pupils.

What will a successful candidate learn?
Brilliant Club placements offer tutors the chance to complete meaningful and well-paid work, whilst communicating their research to a non-specialist audience (increasingly a requirement for research council funding). As well as gaining teaching experience, tutors will deepen their knowledge of the UK education system, helping them understand the backgrounds of the undergraduates studying at their institutions. Our training programme is delivered by qualified teachers and focuses on learning theory and teaching technique, as well as providing practical support for tutors who choose to design their own course. All tutors also take part in a professional induction, including an Enhanced Disclosure DBS Check.

What will a placement look like?
After completing a training weekend run by qualified and experienced teachers, PhD tutors will deliver a programme of six tutorials. The first tutorials take place on a Launch Trip, and the remaining tutorials in school during the school day. Pupils complete an extended assignment which tutors mark before delivering a final feedback tutorial. For our placements with KS2, KS3 and KS4 pupils, the tutorials are with groups of six pupils and last for one hour. For our placements, with KS5 pupils, the tutorials are held with just four pupils and last for 75 minutes. Tutors are paid £450 for a single placement, and can apply now for autumn placements.

Spring Placement Overview
Training weekend: Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th May
Launch Trip: w/c 6th, 13th or 20th June
Tutorials: w/c 13th, 20th, 27th June, 4th, 11th July
Marking Deadline: 15th August
Feedback Tutorial: w/c 12th September

Like to find out more?
Thursday 18th March
University Place 3.213, The University of Manchester
14:00 pm

Alternatively, visit our website and complete the application form at www.thebrilliantclub.org/online-application-form/