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Interim Finance Director – Education

Description

Location: West Midlands (On-site with some flexibility)

Contract: Interim (6–9 months, potential extension)

Start Date: ASAP

About the Role

We are seeking an experienced **Interim Finance Director (FD)** to join a leading private independent school in the West Midlands. This is a pivotal leadership role, providing immediate financial oversight, strategic guidance, and operational stability during a period of transition.

The successful candidate will work closely with the Headteacher, Governors, and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to ensure robust financial management, regulatory compliance, and support for long-term strategic planning.

Responsibilities

Key Responsibilities

- **Strategic Finance & Leadership**
 - Lead the school's financial strategy, ensuring sustainability and long-term planning.
 - Advise Governors and the SLT on financial performance, risk, and opportunities.
 - Support and challenge decision-making with clear, evidence-based financial insight.
- **Financial Management & Reporting**
 - Oversee preparation of annual budgets, forecasts, and management accounts.
 - Deliver accurate monthly financial reporting and analysis to the Board of Governors.
 - Ensure compliance with accounting standards, Charity Commission requirements, and relevant education sector regulations.
 - Manage financial risk, including oversight of investments, reserves, and cash flow.
- **Operational Oversight**
 - Lead and develop the Finance Team to ensure strong day-to-day financial operations.
 - Oversee payroll, fee collection, and supplier payments to maintain financial efficiency.
 - Review and improve financial processes, systems, and controls.
- **Governance & Compliance**
 - Act as the principal financial adviser to the Board of Governors and relevant committees.
 - Ensure compliance with audit requirements and oversee external audit processes.

Hiring organization

FD Capital

Employment Type

Temporary

Beginning of employment

1st September 2025

Duration of employment

6-9 Months

Industry

Education

Job Location

West Midlands, United Kingdom

Working Hours

9-5

Base Salary

£ 600 - £ 650

Date posted

August 16, 2025

Valid through

31.08.2025

- Provide guidance on statutory and regulatory reporting.
- Support the school's compliance with safeguarding, risk management, and data protection policies from a financial perspective.
- **Stakeholder Engagement**
 - Build strong relationships with parents, governors, auditors, banks, and regulators.
 - Support development initiatives, capital projects, and long-term investment planning.

Qualifications

Person Specification

Essential

- Qualified accountant (ACA, ACCA, CIMA or equivalent).
- Significant experience as a Finance Director or equivalent senior finance role.
- Strong understanding of financial governance in the charity, not-for-profit, or education sector.
- Proven ability to lead through transition, providing clarity and stability.
- Excellent communication and influencing skills, with the ability to engage both financial and non-financial stakeholders.
- Commercially astute, with experience managing budgets, cash flow, and reserves.

Desirable

- Previous experience in the independent schools or wider education sector.
- Familiarity with charity accounting (SORP) and regulatory frameworks.
- Experience in estates, capital projects, or fundraising initiatives.

Contract & Remuneration

- Interim role, expected duration **6–9 months** (with potential extension).
- Competitive daily rate, commensurate with experience.
- Based in the **West Midlands** – primarily on-site, with some flexibility for remote working.

Job Benefits

Competitive Salary

Contacts

FD Capital are a leading recruiter for Education Finance Directors.