

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Executive Officer

Permanent, 52 week contract, 36 Hours per week

Closing date:

Monday 21 July 2025, 1pm

PLEASE NOTE: The Board of Governors reserves the right to extend or reduce the closing date of this advertised job vacancy to ensure a viable field of candidates. Please check the website for details.

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JOB DESCRIPTION

**FAXED, EMAILED OR LATE
APPLICATION FORMS WILL
NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Executive Officer

Permanent, Full-Time 52 Week Contract

Required: 1st September 2025

Remuneration:

Pt 17-20, £30,060-£31,586

(Salary to begin at the point closest to current salary)

1. Job Purpose

Ulidia Integrated College wishes to recruit an Executive Officer to manage the day-to-day work of the College office and provide confidential, general, personal, administrative, and secretarial support to the Senior Leadership of the College

Accountable to:

To the Principal, SLT, Senior Executive Officer, Finance and Administration manager and the Governors of Ulidia Integrated College.

Job Summary:

As the Executive Officer for the College, you will be the first point of contact for students, parents, staff, and visitors. You will play a key role in creating a welcoming and professional environment while supporting the smooth day to-day running of the school office.

2. Duties and Responsibilities

- To always present a positive and professional personal image, contributing to a professional office environment.
- To take the lead role in the College office including responsibility for all General Administration and clerical duties required of the office team.
- Provide the primary administrative support to the Vice Principals and Senior Leadership Team and staff.
- To oversee the processes for dealing with mail and correspondence, ensuring items are circulated, and prioritised in terms of importance and urgency for the SLT.
- To oversee, line manage and quality assure the work of the office staff.
- Provide hospitality to individual guests and liaise with the Canteen Manager for larger school events.
- To support the Finance and Administration Manager in various aspects of the financial management of the College.
- To deputise for the Finance and Administration Manager if required
- To undertake administrative and financial work of a confidential nature for the Finance and Administration Manager and Principal, including general support for the Finance and Administration Manager as required (such as checking off orders as they arrive, putting invoices on the system, ordering and delivery notes etc.)
- General office Administration including the Input and upkeep of pupil records on SIMS, School Gateway, School cloud apps etc. and the upkeep of Pupil filing. (Training will be provided on maintaining these apps)
- Administration of EMA in collaboration with Head of Sixth Form
- Maintenance and recording of Petty Cash account
- Support the Co-ordination and setup of Parent/Teacher Afternoons.

- Provide administrative support to the Principal, Vice Principals and Senior Leadership Team.
- To attend meetings, document actions arising from meetings attended by Principal, SLT as required.
- Support the Senior Executive Officer in taking up references and setting up interviews, preparing all pre-interview paperwork and packs for those involved with the interviews.
- To have an overview and manage visitors and book meeting spaces where relevant.
- Responsible for the day-to-day operation of safeguarding processes for internal and external visitors, including induction to the school facilities and processes, along with the Admin Team.
- To cover receptionist/administrator absences and annual leave, and work cohesively together with administrative staff to ensure the smooth running of the College Office for our pupils and all those involved.
- To undertake first aid training and assist with first aid for pupils along with the other office staff.
- In association with the SEO and SLT to coordinate and support the organisation of events e.g., Awards ceremonies.
- To establish constructive relationships and communication with other agencies/professionals.
- Work in partnership and deputise, if required, for the Senior Executive Officer
- To be flexible and work according to college needs, which may involve assisting other areas which are commensurate with the grading of the post.
- To attend and support College festivals, open mornings, prize giving, parents' evenings, events, recruitment processes if requested.

- Any other duties as may reasonably be expected in connection with this post as requested by Line Management

NB. This job description will be reviewed annually and may be subject to amendment or modification at any time after consultation with the post holder. It is not a comprehensive statement of procedures and tasks but sets out the main expectations of the College in relation to the post holder's professional responsibilities and duties.

The postholder will also be required to demonstrate flexibility with hours to complete administration/governance matters if required.

Please note that time off in lieu will be given for additional hours worked above core hours. These can be taken only outside term time and not during last two weeks in August.

All holidays must be to be booked out of term time

3. Criteria

The Board of Governors reserves the right to review this post on an annual basis, in consultation with the post holder, to ensure that all the roles and responsibilities comply with the needs of the College.

Essential Criteria	<p>EC 1. A clear written statement of your personal commitment to upholding and supporting the Integrated Ethos of Ulidia Integrated College as defined on your application form</p> <p>EC 2. A minimum of 5 GCSEs (Grades A*-C)</p> <p>EC 3. Professional, warm and friendly demeanour</p> <p>EC 4. Exemplary levels of attendance and punctuality in the last two years</p> <p>EC 5. Evidence of high levels of proficiency in the use of computer packages to include use of Microsoft Office (Excel, Word etc.)</p> <p>EC 6. Exceptional attention to detail</p> <p>EC 7. Strong English Language oral and written communication skills as evidenced on your form</p> <p>EC 8. Experience of, or willingness to train in, basic financial management and accounting procedures (e.g., book-keeping, payroll, procurement etc.)</p>
Desirable Criteria	<p>DC 1. A minimum of 5 GCSEs (Grades A*-C) including English Language and Mathematics, or equivalent</p> <p>DC 2. A minimum of 2 years' recent experience in a significant administrative/clerical role in a busy office environment</p> <p>DC 3. A relevant professional qualification</p> <p>DC 4. At least RSA Stage II Word Processing or equivalent</p>

Essential Knowledge and Skills

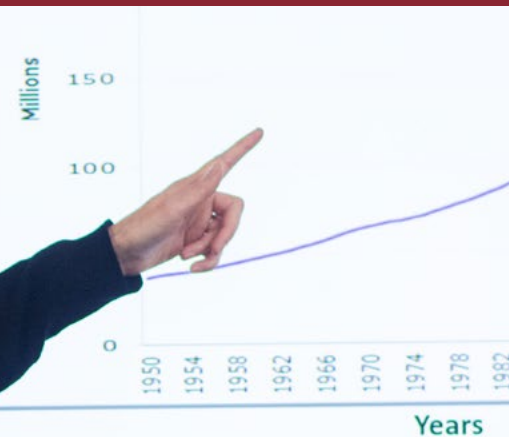
- Strong leadership skills
- Excellent literacy and communication skills
- Ability to motivate staff
- Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills
- Evidence of excellent organisation skills and ability to work in a pressurised environment to meet tight deadlines
- Ability to work on own initiative with good judgement
- Ability to exercise integrity and confidentiality Strong interpersonal skills

Essential Personal Qualities

- Enthusiasm
- A caring child centred approach
- Positive 'can do' attitude and sense of humour
- Confidence and discretion
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Willingness to learn
- Willingness to develop
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines

The successful candidate will be required to carry out any other duties, commensurate with the post, which, from time to time, may be necessary for the good order of the College, as directed by the principal.

WHY JOIN STAFF AT ULIDIA?



Trend: The population of Bangladesh has increased over the years.
Example: For example, in 1950 the population was 50 million. By 1982, it had increased to 130 million. Therefore, an overall increase of 80 million.
Anomaly: An anomaly is from the years 1962 to 1966, where the population growth rate was slower than in previous years.

DYNAMIC

Ulidia is a growing and dynamic educational community; we bring children and staff from Catholic and Protestant traditions, as well as those of other faiths or none, together in one school.

Ulidia's Ethos is not secular but Christian in character and welcomes all faiths and none.

Through our Admissions Criteria we try to enrol approximately equal numbers of Catholic and Protestant children, as well as those from other religious and cultural backgrounds.

GROWING COMMUNITY

GRAMMAR & ALL ABILITY PATHWAYS

The emphasis at Ulidia Integrated College is on meeting the needs of all abilities to the highest academic standards.

We are passionate about learning and want our students to share our enthusiasm. Our aim is to challenge pupils to develop new approaches to learning, to be encouraged to excel and to experience success in all areas of the curriculum.

We cater for all learning styles, paces and potentials. In order to provide for all of our pupils, we are offering two distinct but intertwined learning pathways.

All Ability Pathway

An 'All Ability' Pathway for young people who prefer a blend of academic and vocational studies.

Grammar Pathway

A 'Grammar Pathway' for young people who thrive in a more demanding academic setting.

Both Pathways are combined for pastoral and enrichment classes where all pupils work together

By offering both Pathways in one College, pupils have the opportunity to move between Pathways as they develop, mature and identify potential careers. This ensures their curriculum always reflects their ability, is appropriately challenging and engages their interest throughout their College life.

GCSE and A Level examination options are open to all students regardless of their learning Pathway if they demonstrate appropriate ability in that subject area. This means that we offer a learning environment that challenges pupils to meet their potential combined with the flexibility to tailor educational qualifications to each individual's ability and aspirations.

We believe that every family should be able to access Integrated education for children of all abilities, from the academically gifted to those who require specific support.

We aim to provide all children with a caring and enhanced educational experience. Empowering them as individuals is a priority for our dedicated staff, so that as they grow and mature they will be able to affect positive change in the shared society we live in. We value and respect each other's cultures and diversity; we cherish equality for all. We go beyond the traditional 'child centred education' and seek to understand and enhance the centre of each child.

We acknowledge that no one knows a child better than their own family, and so we depend on our partnership with parents and carers to ensure each young person thrives.



Integrated Education brings children and staff from Catholic and Protestant traditions, as well as those of other faiths, or none, together in one school. For the past 30 years, in a deeply divided society, Integrated schools have been an alternative to an educational system in which most children attend largely religiously separated schools.

Integrated Schools differ from other schools in Northern Ireland by ensuring that children from diverse backgrounds are educated together every day in the same classrooms. Through their Admissions Criteria they enrol approximately equal numbers of Catholic and Protestant children, as well as children from other religious and cultural backgrounds.

Integrated Education aims to provide children with a caring and enhanced educational experience. Empowering them as individuals is a priority for staff so that as they grow and mature, they'll be able to affect positive change in the shared society we live in.



ULIDIA is over-subscribed yearly by over 100%

i.e. over 100% more students apply than we have places to offer.

Under the Education Reform Order (NI), 1989, a school wishing to obtain Grant Maintained Integrated status must convince the Department of Education that it can draw a minimum of 30% of its population from the minority tradition of the area it wishes to serve.

AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL

ENCOURAGING RESILIENCE

In Ulidia we are committed to the development of character, resilience and a growth mindset. We believe that this is an inherent part of the success of the College, both in terms of examination results and in the confidence of our young people.

We promote many aspects of resilience in our pupils: academic, physical, emotional, cultural and spiritual. Our aim is for students to develop the empathy and emotional intelligence which will support their achievement in all curriculum areas and make them dynamic members of our society and workforce.

Our 'Attitude To Learning' and 'Behaviour For Learning' systems are the foundation of all we do. We teach our young people how to behave enabling them to achieve our high expectations.

'Attitude To Learning' has created a positive learning climate, by setting out clear high expectations and consistently recognising and encouraging those pupils who meet and exceed it.

We have a tiered approach to rewards that sees members of staff telephoning home to recognise the progress pupils are making at the College. The culture of 'earning through effort' within the College develops positive relationships with all pupils and their families, all culminating in the annual rewards trips at the end of the year.



HISTORY OF ULIDIA

Area Background

East Antrim is the only area of Northern Ireland in which the separate communities of that area have become more polarised since the 'troubles' began. The area contains approximately 8% Roman Catholic population.

An Integrated School

Under the Education Reform Order (NI), 1989 a school wishing to obtain Grant Maintained Integrated status must convince the Department of Education that it can draw a minimum of 30% of its population from the minority tradition of the area it wishes to serve.

The history of the college begins with the failed attempt to open an integrated college in Carrickfergus, in 1995. Castle Integrated College failed because of massive opposition from interested parties in the East Antrim area. However, the steering group behind Castle Integrated College refused to give up and started planning again for an integrated college in East Antrim.

A proposal for a new college was lodged again with the Department of Education in early 1997. This proposal was for the opening of a brand new integrated college in Whitehead, a few miles north of Carrickfergus. The Department of Education refused the request and financial assistance. Under the guidance of Tom Pennycook, a parent, the steering committee steadfastly refused to give up hope and decided to open the proposed new integrated college, independently, without financial assistance from the Department of Education.

The Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (NICIE) was approached in February 1997 for support. NICIE acted for the steering group. Their sister organisation, the Integrated Education Fund (IEF), obtained funding for the college for a period of three months only, with the promise that the IEF would fund-raise for the college to help maintain it throughout its first year.

The steering group, having secured guaranteed funding for three months went about enlisting the necessary 60 students (with a 30% balance from the minority religion), and the recruitment of Principal and Staff.

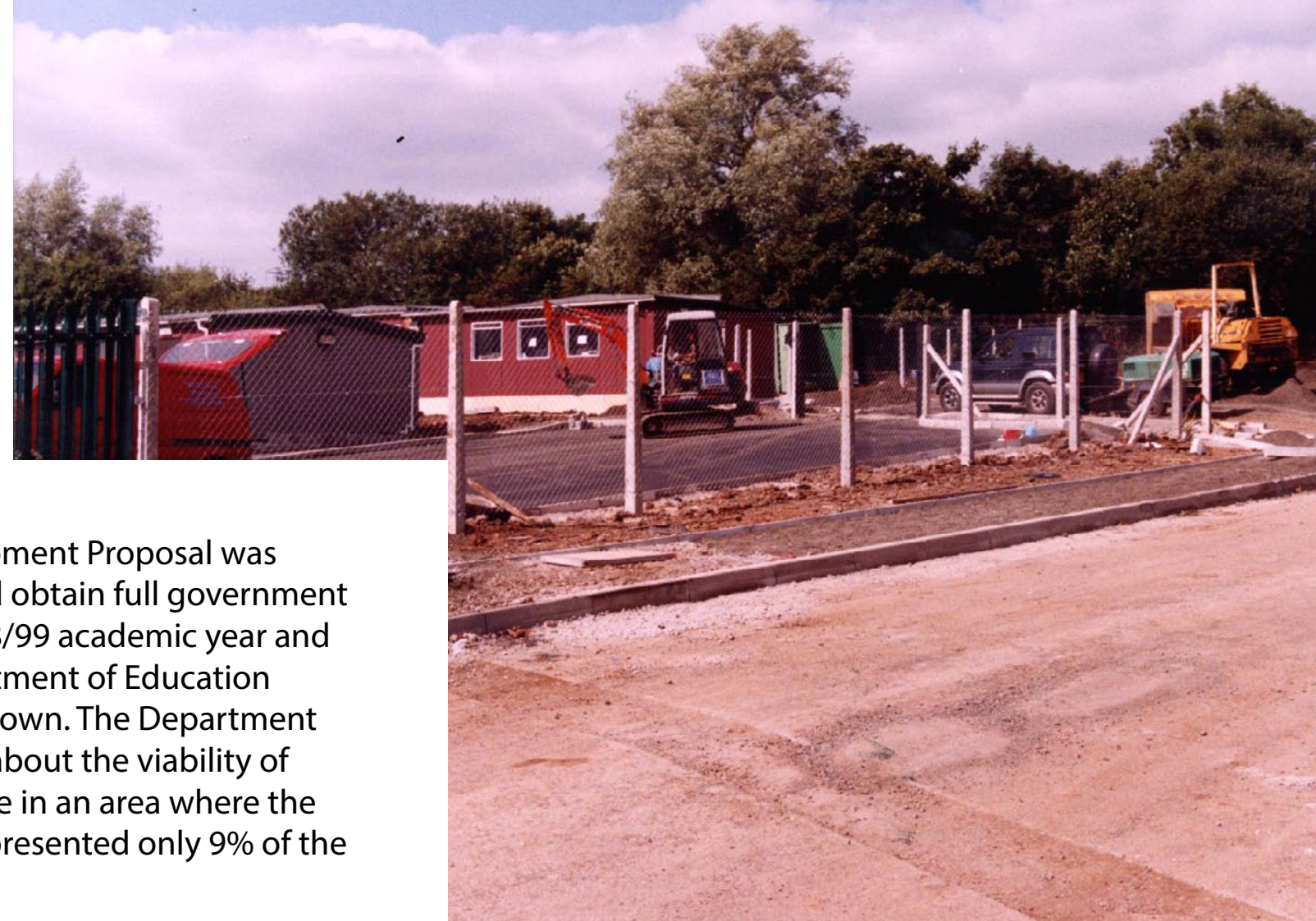
The college eventually opened on a disused hockey pitch, in Whitehead, on the 1 September 1997, under the leadership of Mr Eugene Martin, an experienced teacher and manager from Northern Ireland's first integrated school, Lagan College. Ulidia consisted then of six teachers, second-hand temporary accommodation, second-hand furniture and equipment, but first class, quality teachers. It also had its most valuable asset - 63 wonderful students - and religious balance!

A further development proposal was submitted to the Department of Education, but again this was rejected. The Department did not feel that such a school in such an area was viable. The college had to survive on its own finances for another year before a new Development Proposal could be submitted.

With additional financial assistance from the IEF, Ulidia Integrated College did survive. Interest in this new integrated college from parents in the area was overwhelming.

Yet another Development Proposal was submitted to try and obtain full government funding for the 1998/99 academic year and yet again the Department of Education turned the college down. The Department was 'not convinced about the viability of an integrated college in an area where the minority religion represented only 9% of the population'.

Once again, the college approached the IEF for financial assistance for 1998/99 and once again our friends at both NICIE and the IEF pledged their support. Of course, money had to be found from somewhere! The college continued independently in 1998/99 with over 130 students and ten staff and, of course, more mobile accommodation. The religious balance was perfect and completely in line with government recommendations - yet the government of the day "was not convinced." The IEF continued to fund the college from their meagre resources and the high quality education that was promised to the students was delivered by the staff.



The College opened on a disused hockey pitch in Whitehead



The then new Secretary of State, Dr Mo Molum visits Ulidia at the opening in Whitehead

The now customary Development Proposal was again presented to the Department of Education for the academic year 1999/2000. Given that the College had over 130 students with over 600 students on its waiting lists for the incoming years, everyone at the school was confident that this would be its year.

To everyone's complete astonishment, the College was, for the seventh time, refused funding for the year 1999/2000. Not dismayed, and with morale high, the college again sought help from the IEF and its sponsors and, true to the sincere and genuine nature of that organisation, the college was assured that the IEF would 'go to the wall' before it would cease funding the college. With the help of the American Ireland Fund and the European Peace Project, finance was found to allow it to continue in existence for yet another year. It was in this year that the college moved to its present site in Carrickfergus, necessitated by the fact that suitable land could not be found in Whitehead to allow for the college's rapid expansion.

In 1999/2000 we had 17 staff and 240 students enrolled, with religious balance, and more temporary accommodation. But the end of the terrible difficulties surrounding Ulidia's insecure future was in sight and with its eighth Development Proposal, submitted to the then new Secretary of State, Dr Mo Molum, in December 1999, the Department of Education finally capitulated and granted Ulidia Integrated College full funding, effective from September 2000.

The initial journey was over and Ulidia Integrated College finally joined the ranks as Northern Ireland's 44th fully-funded integrated college.

During its time in the wilderness as an independently funded college Ulidia had to suffer three petrol bomb attacks and numerous sectarian incidents directed toward the students. It also experienced two arson attacks, once of which destroyed our library.



Building of the current 'core' block at Ulidia in Carrickfergus



However, today the College sits proudly on a hill overlooking the beautiful Belfast Lough. Ulidia can justifiably be proud of its achievements. It proved that we were right in suffering the three long years of hardship, and that the need for an integrated college in such a troubled area was not only needed but essential.

The College is over-subscribed every year with enrolment passing 650 in 2018 and currently around 750.

The College was awarded a state of the art new build in 2015 which opened in 2024.

The future of the College is now secure and genuine thanks are due to those who stood by the College in its times of need especially the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education and the Integrated Education Fund.

For generations to come, the story of the origins of Ulidia Integrated College and its hardships in the face of adverse difficulties, will inspire and enthuse the children of the college and all those who look for a better future for Northern Ireland.



HOW TO GET TO ULIDIA

Ulidia Integrated College

112 Victoria Road

Carrickfergus

Co. Antrim

BT38 7JL

Tel: 028 9335 8500



ALL PUPILS ACHIEVING AMBITIONS



“Educating together, Catholics and Protestants, and those of other religions, or none, in an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, to the highest possible academic standards.”

