Freelance Evaluator – OAT Debate and Oracy Programme

Background

Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) is looking to contract the services of an experienced project evaluator, working on a freelance basis, to evaluate a 3-year debate and Oracy programme, supporting up to 40 OAT Academies across England.

This three year programme of activity (2019-2022) will be delivered by OAT enrichment team and a newly created post of OAT National Debate Coordinator. The programme team will encourage and support schools, across the network to take part in teacher CPD, oracy and debate networks, pupil oracy workshops, a series of annual debating competitions including; regional heats leading to a national debate championship and exploring the potential to involve other MATS in the third year. The programme will include:

Planning and programme set up November 2019 (head office/enrichment team)

First Year of activity March 2020-August 2020

* Oracy training and CPD for one member of staff per academy (organised by head office)
* Oracy training, delivered by Talk the Talk, to up to 180 pupils across 15 academies (either year 6, 7 or 8, organised by head office)
* Creation of a debate toolkit
* Setting up networks for oracy and debate across the Trust
* Launch the debate programme

Second Year September 2020- July 2021

* Regional debate and oracy networks established
* In school debate clubs established and supported with session lesson plans, PowerPoints/information sharing
* Regional debate competitions
* National debate competition/championship

Third Year September 2021-August 2022

* Regional debate and oracy networks established
* In school debate clubs established and supported with PowerPoints/information sharing
* Regional debate competitions
* National debate competition/championship
* Potential debate competitions with other MATs/Schools

Fee and Schedule

Up to £3000 per year, including travel (total fee available £9000 for 3 years) between 10-15 days per year. Maximum of £250 per day.

Deliverables

We seek to commission a freelance evaluator, with demonstrable experience of evaluating national projects delivered in schools, to develop and deliver an evaluation strategy for the OAT debate and oracy programme. We will need to report back with key information to our funders, Ormiston Trust, both in the form of qualitative and quantitative information, as well as collect information for our own reference, and promotion. Reporting to Jemima Waltho, OAT Enrichment Manager, we would expect the following:

* Develop and deliver an evaluation strategy in agreement with project plan, preferably using TOC model
* To evaluate all aspects of the project; from set up through to delivery and final outcomes
* Regular data monitoring and capture (qualitative and quantitative) to include:
	+ skype and telephone interviews
	+ Online or paper based surveys
	+ Email correspondence
	+ Interviews with children, teachers and delivery staff
	+ On site visits (where possible)
* Capture of impact against a number of milestones (to be agreed), at the beginning, middle and end of the project
* Regular contact with the project lead and schools, due to geographical spread this can be done via emails/phone and skype calls
* Yearly overview of findings, to be included in project reports
* A final written evaluation report

Timeline

Deadline for application Wednesday 4th December 2019

Interviews 10th and 11th December 2019

Appointed 15th December 2019

Programme Activity from March 2020-July 2022

Annual review/reflection

and feedback meetings March/April of 2020 2021, 2022

Final Sharing session July 2022

Final Evaluation report August 2022

Skills and Experience

Essential

* An organised and methodical approach to evaluation, combining attention to detail, excellent administrative skills and an ability to meet deadlines
* Demonstrable experience of evaluating heritage and or arts education projects in schools
* Enthusiastic, confident and articulate, with excellent written and oral communications skills
* A strong self-starter, able to work effectively and proactively without continuous oversight
* Demonstrable experience of managing relationships with a range of stakeholders at varying levels
* Based in the West Midlands
* Recent enhanced DBS check

Desirable

* Knowledge and experience of working in schools
* Knowledge of quantitative and/ or qualitative research and evaluation methods

Email a CV with references and covering letter and brief overview of how you would deliver the evaluation to Jemima Waltho jemima.waltho@ormistonacademies.co.uk or call 07771 594 192. Deadline Wednesday 4th December 2019