



## Job Description

Lower School Lead Teacher - Kindergarten/1st Grade

2023-24 School Year

### JOB DESCRIPTION

As a Lead Teacher in Wild Oak's Lower School, you will be the primary guide for a mixed-age class of 10-12 students in Kindergarten through 1st grade. Wild Oak Independent School has mixed-grade, intentionally small classes ranging from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 12 or 14 depending on the grade level.

Our teaching model requires a collaborative approach; our faculty have different backgrounds, areas of expertise, and subject interests so as to both complement each other and to be able to specialize in an area for students across all grades.

### Core Responsibilities - All Elementary Teachers

Transdisciplinary and Interdisciplinary teaching. Wild Oak's curriculum is integrated across subject areas. While certain subjects are led by teachers with particular expertise, all must be comfortable teaching across content areas including the sciences, arts, and humanities.

Focusing on project-based learning based in real world inquiry.

Creating lesson plans and activities that use multi-sensory materials and engage different learning styles and "intelligences" (i.e. bodily-kinesthetic, logical-mathematical, spatial).

Adjusting individual student's lessons, assignments, and assessments to their particular cognitive level and ability, making alternative student groupings by interests and across ages when appropriate.

Preparing the classroom environment and materials in advance to visually reflect the lessons for the week and encourage curiosity, exploration, and discovery.

Encourage student's care for and comfort in the natural world by incorporating Wild Oak's 46-acre campus daily for academic and other learning experiences.

Collaborating with other faculty to implement on and off-site "Fridays in the Field," Wild Oak's weekly project-based learning days that are designed to address real-life 21st century community/ social and environmental subject matter and/ or issues.

Developing authentic relationships with students, in groups and one-on-one.

Actively fostering a community of trust and belonging within the classroom based on Wild Oak's philosophical tenets around restorative practices, non-violent communication, trauma-sensitive assignments and spaces, and positive discipline. (Professional development and training are offered to assist with this.)

Communicating regularly with student families according to a schedule to increase transparency, encourage participation and engagement, and strengthen community.

Documenting student progress through portfolio collection, keeping detailed records and narrative of student work, interactions, and other indicators.

## Qualifications

- Required: BA or BS degree
- Required: Minimum of 2 years of direct teaching experience, preferably in Kindergarten or 1st grade.
- Preferred: Experience and/ or demonstrated interest in the natural world and/ or outdoor education/ recreation.
- Preferred: Experience with the following:
  - differentiated teaching methods
  - formative and portfolio-based assessments
  - Orton-Gillingham or other multisensory reading/ math approaches
  - academically and intellectually gifted (AIG) learners
- A plus: NC Teaching License for Elementary Education
- A plus: Experience in or demonstrated interest in integrated subject/ interdisciplinary teaching

## ABOUT WILD OAK

Wild Oak Independent School is a nonprofit organization that currently serves children in preschool to 6th grade during the 2023/24 school year. Visit our website at [www.wildoakschool.org](http://www.wildoakschool.org) to learn more.

## Wild Oak Schedule & Benefits

### Schedule

- The school year begins Monday, August 29, 2022 (Monday, August 22 for faculty) and ends Friday, June 2, 2023 (Friday, June 9 for faculty).
- On-campus hours 7:45-3:15 (school day 8:15-2:15), with a 40-hour work week expected and 30 minutes for lunch during the school day.

### Professional Development and Supervision

- Wild Oak values professional growth and development. We have ½ and full days scheduled for professional development, planning, and team collaboration opportunities. The expectation is that all WOIS employees participate in the required training and pursue individual opportunities to enhance their personal and professional growth and development.
- Wild Oak employees are overseen by the Director who works collaboratively with the faculty and staff and the Board of Directors to create a dynamic team able to meet the growing needs of the school. Professional development consists of honest reflection, feedback, supervision, goal-setting, and professional development plans for all employees to be their best.
- Wild Oak works with employees on an individual basis to compensate for training pursued that supports their position at Wild Oak.

### Paid Time Off

- 30 paid school holidays and breaks during the school calendar
- 5 additional paid days to use, at will, in 4 or 8 hour increments. Other PTO, such as for bereavement, to be discussed further in process.

### Tuition Benefits

Staff contracted for 20+ hours per week are eligible for 50% off of tuition, if applicable.

## Salary

The salary for the Lower School Lead Teacher position is between \$28,560 and 36,069 (assuming a 42-week year) depending on years of equivalent experience, education level, and certifications.

## How to Apply

Interested candidates should send a *Resume* and a *Cover Letter* to **[lindsay@wildoakschool.org](mailto:lindsay@wildoakschool.org)**

Within your cover letter please address, at a minimum:

- What attracts you to this role at Wild Oak
- Why you believe that you're a good fit
- Your knowledge of and/ or experience with the following:
  - Nature and/ or outdoor education
  - Project-based learning
  - Individualized goal planning and mastery-focused assessments
  - Working with and tailoring teaching to learners of different cognitive, social, and emotional abilities, and those with different learning styles.

## Application Process

Wild Oak has a three-part application process.

1. Submission of Resume and Cover Letter
2. If selected to continue, candidates will receive a phone call and a questionnaire to elaborate their skills and interests prior to an in-person interview with a 2-3 person panel..
3. Candidate *may* be asked to demonstrate a 15-20-minute lesson plan.