
EDUCATIONAL CONTENT LEAD

The Economist Educational Foundation

Reports to: Head of Content

Hours: Full time with flexible hours. Core hours are 10am to 4pm

Location: Hybrid. Central London two days per week and remote working

Salary: £35,000

Closing date: May 29th, 8pm

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply

1. Complete [this](#) application form (also found here: bit.ly/teefECL24)
2. Complete and return the equality and diversity monitoring form to manthuramohamed@economist.com - subject line "monitoring form"

If you have any questions about the role, please contact our Programme Director, Olivia, at oliviaplattman@economist.com

Please note: we will contact applicants after the closing date.

ABOUT US

We're a small, creative and fast-growing charity that was established from inside *The Economist* in 2012. We support children, aged 10 to 16, from under-served backgrounds to develop essential skills for the modern world. We do this by enabling them to join inspiring discussions about the news, which teach them to think critically, communicate effectively and understand global issues.

Our activities: Our programme, Topical Talk, brings about these discussions in three ways:

- We create world-class teaching resources for classroom discussions about global news stories
- We run *Topical Talk Festival*: the only news festival for young people. Children from countries all over the world join discussions with each other and global experts; and they work towards publishing their opinions in writing, audio and film for the chance to win awards
- We train and support teachers to bring high-quality news discussions into their classrooms; including through intensive, in-person community partnerships in the UK, US and India

Our impact: Children who take part in Topical Talk can make three times more progress compared to their peers in skills that are linked with better outcomes at school, in employment and as citizens. They learn to creatively solve problems, listen with an open mind and speak with confidence. Our programme has received international recognition – by HundrED as one of the top 100 educational initiatives of 2020 and 2021; and as first-prize winner of the UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy Awards 2022.

Our ambitions: We are at an exciting point in our trajectory. We have demonstrated huge growth potential, going from a small UK pilot in 2013 to working with thousands of teachers globally today, including on-the-ground work in the UK and US. There is still an enormous unmet need, so we have bold plans to reach one million children in 2026, with 100,000 engaging on a weekly basis.

THE ROLE

We're looking for a creative and collaborative teacher whose passion is bringing young people into discussions about current affairs.

You'll be responsible, alongside our Head of Content, for producing our world-class lessons, with help from a supportive, collaborative team and a wealth of journalistic expertise from across The Economist Group.

You will be a creative teacher, or ex-teacher, who is excited to turn the biggest issues in the news into engaging lessons for 10- to 16-year olds. You'll research global topics and consider the best angles and innovative activities to produce a lesson every week. These lessons will build children's essential skills and knowledge about the news through discussion-based activities.

The activities will be inventive and varied and beyond your "usual" lesson planning. For example, they might involve students using QR codes to engage with unique multimedia content, a class debate in the style of a courtroom, or a bespoke game with prizes and challenges.

OPPORTUNITIES WE CAN OFFER YOU

- **Real impact:** the educational content you create will be used by thousands of teachers globally, reaching hundreds of thousands of young people
- **Growth and development:** grow your skills and responsibility as the organisation grows and takes on bigger challenges. We invest in training and development and will support you to build the skills and experience as you need, for example, working with you to find expert mentors within The Economist Group
- **A friendly, driven and highly-effective team:** we are deeply committed to being an inspiring, happy place to work, where we learn and achieve things that matter together. We work collaboratively and supportively, with the freedom to use our own judgement and be creative
- **Flexible working:** our core hours are from 10am to 4pm with a minimum of two days spent in the office each week
- **Other benefits:** Economist Group benefits include a great central-London office (The Adelphi Building near Charing Cross), private medical insurance, a cycle to work scheme and more

RESPONSIBILITIES

Create Topical Talk classroom resources for children (60%)

- Research and pitch lesson plans that cover the most important facts, arguments, perspectives and questions
- Write, edit and proofread teaching resources. Your core responsibility will be to create a [weekly, 1-hour "Headlines" lesson](#)
- Collaborate with journalists at *The Economist* to ensure all work is of the highest quality
- Work with our Graphic Designer on the look and feel of the content
- Manage diaries, build rapport and communicate effectively to ensure deadlines are met
- Seek out and conduct interviews with topic experts
- Work with the Head of Content to monitor and evaluate the success of lessons

Design resources for one-off current affairs workshops/events for children (20%)

- Create one-off student workshops and events, from the idea-generation stage to writing, proofreading, delivery and evaluation
- Create lesson and website content for the annual [Topical Talk Festival](#), where students join online discussions about the news

Teach lessons, facilitate student discussions and train teachers (20%)

- Facilitate online discussions during Topical Talk Festivals between young people on the [Topical Talk Student Hub](#)
- Visit schools to observe, and occasionally teach, Topical Talk lessons
- Deliver inspiring workshops to young people aged 10 to 18
- Occasionally deliver training to teachers to help support the use of resources

This role will involve some travel. It also involves working with young people, so you will need to have an enhanced DBS check (which The Foundation will organise).

REQUIRED ATTRIBUTES AND EXPERIENCE

You are...

- Passionate about current affairs – you want to help young people to understand the news
- An excellent writer and communicator – you can communicate complex ideas to beginners in a clear and engaging way
- Creative – you can plan innovative lessons which effectively develop students' critical-thinking and communication skills through discussions about the news
- Meticulous in your work – you have exceptional attention to detail and time management
- Collaborative – you are happy to work as part of a team to ensure the best results
- A great problem-solver – you can manage the needs of different audiences and stakeholders
- Driven and action-oriented – you are able to work in a self-directed way and take practical steps to achieve your goals

You have...

- Qualified Teacher Status (or equivalent) – you have at least two years of experience teaching primary or secondary students and an up-to-date knowledge of educational research and developments
- Experience of creating inspiring classroom resources, both collaboratively and independently
- Experience of building relationships and managing colleagues to secure what's needed from them

You might have...

- Experience of creating and editing video and/or other multi-media content
- Experience of educational content creation outside of the classroom

We're particularly keen for you to apply if you are from a community under-represented in the charity sector or have lived experience of facing extra barriers because of your background.

If you require any adjustments for your interview, just let us know.