

## Research Fellow in Citizenship Education and the Rule of Law (Part-time 0.6)

### Background

1. The Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law was founded in 2010 in honour of the late Lord Bingham of Cornhill, one of the greatest judges of his generation. It is part of the British Institute for International and Comparative Law (BIICL), the foremost independent research and discussion body of its kind in the UK. The Centre's activities have expanded rapidly since its foundation and it is now engaged in a wide range of research projects, events, publications and training and has a significant impact on policy developments.
2. The broad areas of research within the Centre include: the rule of law in business and finance (for example, in relation to the obligations of companies, the functions and operation of regulators, and the rule of law requirements for economic development and growth); the rule of law and democracy (including work on constitutional development and administrative justice outside the United Kingdom, and, in the United Kingdom on government proposals that have an impact on the rule of law including those concerning judicial review and legal aid); the rule of law and human rights (including work on post-2015 sustainable development goals, and the monitoring of human rights); access to justice and particularly the independence of the judiciary (such as work on judicial appointment procedures in the Commonwealth); the international rule of law (such as work on African regional and sub-regional courts and on the content of international initiatives on the rule of law).
3. The focus of this post is the Centre's Schools Project. Over the last two years the Centre has very successfully developed and piloted a project that introduces rule of law concepts in schools by exploring topical debates relevant to the citizenship curriculum through the rule of law. The project provides schools with resources (print-based and audio visual) including lesson plans with case studies, curriculum-relevant issues where democracy, justice and rights arise in different contexts such as immigration, criminal justice, cultural and religious diversity, rights to a fair trial, equality before the law, the abuse of power and human rights.
4. A resources pack for Key Stage 3 was piloted in 2015, with outstanding results: an independent evaluation found that 97% of students in the pilot felt the course had given them a better understanding of the justice system, 90% of students surveyed felt that the course should continue to be run in their schools, and 85% of students could see the relevance of the course to their daily lives. In 2015-16 this project has been scaled and further developed, with Key Stage 3 resources now in 180 schools and Key Stage 4 resources in production.

### Job Description

5. The Centre is seeking to appoint a strong candidate as a Research Fellow to lead our work with schools. The person appointed will also be expected to make a contribution to the research, training, outreach and administrative activities of the Centre as need be.

6. The Centre wishes to appoint someone for one year, part-time (0.6) in the first instance. Secondments will also be considered. Depending on funding and the Centre's needs, the post may be extended. A salary package in the range of £27,000 - £30,000 pa (pro-rata) is expected, depending on qualifications and experience. It is hoped that the person appointed will commence as soon as possible.
7. This is a research and outreach post. There are no general student teaching duties. (While there may on occasion be the opportunity or need to deliver some material to students, the focus of the programme is to reach teachers, rather than to deliver teaching to students.) The post will also enable the Fellow to work directly with a broad network of scholars, practitioners, judges, government officials, education professionals and civil society organisations.
8. The Research Fellow may be asked to undertake tasks along the following lines in consultation with the Centre Director:
  - Drafting and putting together correspondence and publicity materials for recruitment of schools;
  - Direct approach to schools and scoping for new schools through schools liaison officers in local authorities, teaching associations, etc;
  - Responding to queries from potential new participants;
  - Maintenance of school contact lists and school participation timetables;
  - Maintain Bingham Centre schools website with resource samples/videos;
  - Provide substantive content for the website including updates to the law discussed in the materials, new case studies, and to liaise with and coordinate contributions from external practitioners and academics;
  - Responses to legal questions posed by teachers;
  - Arranging and coordinating delivery of rule of law training to teachers, including running sessions;
  - Compile and send termly newsletter to project contacts
  - Use social media (eg, Twitter, LinkedIn)
  - Collect feedback from schools that have used the materials and analyse the feedback and statistics on school profiles to meet our project aims
  - Managing and/or conducting monitoring and evaluation of the project;
  - Write reports on evaluation outcomes;
  - Assist with funding applications and contribute to substantive content;
  - Assist with supervision of interns;
  - General day-to-day administration of the project.

## Person Specification

9. It is expected that the successful applicant will provide evidence of all of the following attributes and achievements:

- A qualification in law is essential (experience working in a legal environment may be an advantage);
  - A postgraduate qualification and/or experience working in or with schools may also be an advantage;
  - Experience in running or assisting with projects, including liaising with partners and stakeholders and managing several processes concurrently (experience on projects with some education dimension may be an advantage, particularly involvement with schools and/or developing educational materials);
  - The ability to work with evaluation data and to analyse a set of data to identify trends and basic statistics that are relevant to project aims, (familiarity with using Google forms and Google statistical analysis tools may be an advantage);
  - Excellent writing skills, and the ability to present material in an engaging and accessible manner (experience of preparing materials or reports for external audiences may be an advantage);
  - Good IT capability with the ability to update information on the project website;
  - Excellent organisational and administrative skills and the ability to work to deadlines;
  - A willingness and ability to interact appropriately with teachers, lawyers, NGOs and others working in rule of law and in education;
  - An ability and willingness to work collaboratively and collegially with colleagues;
10. Informal enquiries may be addressed to the Centre's Director, Professor Christina Murray at [c.murray@binghamcentre.biicl.org](mailto:c.murray@binghamcentre.biicl.org) or Deputy Director, Dr Lawrence McNamara at [l.mcnamara@binghamcentre.biicl.org](mailto:l.mcnamara@binghamcentre.biicl.org).
11. Applicants should send the following by 7 September 2016 by email to [schoolsRF2016@biicl.org](mailto:schoolsRF2016@biicl.org):
- A full curriculum vitae, including a list of publications and the names and addresses including email addresses of three referees, at least two of whom may be contacted prior to interview; and
  - A covering letter setting out their reasons for applying and how they consider that they meet the person specification for this post;
  - A completed copy of BIICL's application cover form (available at: <http://www.biicl.org/vacancies>).
12. It is expected that interviews will take place in September 2016.
13. In order to be considered for this role, all applicants must currently have the right to work in the UK or will have the right to work in the UK by the date of commencement of employment.
14. Applicants are encouraged to find out more about the Centre, its members of staff and activities at <http://binghamcentre.biicl.org/>. More information about the schools projects can be found at [www.binghamcentre.biicl.org/schools](http://www.binghamcentre.biicl.org/schools).