

# WILLOWS ACADEMY

1015 Rose Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016

[willowsacademy.org](http://willowsacademy.org)

## Open Position

We are looking for a full-time candidate who is passionate about our mission, her subject, and eager to collaborate as a member of a dynamic team.

### Middle School English Teacher

Willows Academy is seeking a middle English teacher who

- Has knowledge of and experience with middle school English and language arts
- Can contribute to a strong liberal arts English program and department team.
- Meets teacher qualifications and has potential to personify the Portrait of a Willows Teacher and fulfill responsibilities of the position.

### In 22-23 school year, the position will include 6th grade literature and language arts:

- *6th grade literature*: Literature 6 is an introduction to the study of literature. The students will be introduced to various techniques of reading and literary genres in both prose and poetry such as short stories, novels and poetry written by classical and award-winning contemporary authors. In this course, students will be honed to think and to reflect on the materials that they are reading. In doing so, they will strengthen their skills in areas of analysis, discussion, and responding to literature – essential skills to their study of literature throughout middle and high school. This course is also aimed at nurturing, enriching, and educating their imaginations. Developing all these, students will learn to respond thoughtfully and critically as shown in the way they participate in class discussions and in their written responses. Textbooks include: 1) Short Stories and Poetry in Prentice Hall Literature; 2) L'Engle, Madeleine. *A Wrinkle in Time*; (3) Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Hobbit*; (4) Babbitt, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting*.
- *6th grade language arts*: Language Arts 6 is an introduction to grammar and writing using the Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW) Structure and Style Curriculum. Students learn how to construct basic paragraphs and, in turn, learn how to combine these paragraphs into essays of various kinds. Included in this course is an emphasis not only on traditional grammar and syntax, but also on vocabulary, usage, spelling, and punctuation.
- Additional responsibilities as outlined below.

### Application process:

Please submit cover letter expressing interest in a particular position and resume to [employment@willowsacademy.org](mailto:employment@willowsacademy.org)

## Teaching at Willows

### School Context and Mission:

Willows Academy exists for one purpose: to help cooperating parents form the characters of their daughters so that the girls grow up to become competent, responsible professional women, who raise strong families, and live by Christian moral principles as taught by the Catholic Church. Every aspect of the school is devoted to this end.

Willows Academy is an Independent College Prep School for girls inspired by the teachings of the Catholic Church and the spirituality of Opus Dei.

In collaboration with parents, Willows aims to educate the whole person. We weave together an all honors liberal arts curriculum, character development, one on one mentoring, and an ideal of service, to create a vibrant environment that graduates confident young women who will make a difference in the world.

**See Willows in Action:**

[Why I love Willows Video](#)

[Teaching Girls to Soar Video](#)

[Willows on Fox 32 Pep Rally Friday](#)

**Portrait of a Willows Teacher**

A Willows teacher:

- Reflects on teaching practice to make instruction meaningful and engaging for students.
- Partners with parents as students' primary educators.
- Strives to educate the whole person in and out of the classroom.
- Works with optimism and professionalism.
- Contributes to the collegiate, professional learning community.

**Teacher Responsibilities:**

- Use professional expertise to develop unit and lesson plans aligned with the course description and department mission.
- Design formative and summative assessments that show evidence of student understanding and offer feedback for students to grow.
- Establish a classroom culture of respect, rapport, and love of learning.
- Supervise study halls and/or science lab periods.
- Work closely with department head(s) and dean(s) to make curricular decisions and address student needs.
- Participate in school sponsored professional development and mentoring including regular department meetings, grade level meetings, and faculty inservice days. Additional support for outside professional development is available.
- Communicate with parents at Back-to-School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and via email, phone, or in-person meetings.
- Serve as an academic advisor to 3-5 students.
- Collaborate with a teacher team to lead a homeroom.
- Participate in school traditions.
- Teachers are welcome to further support student life as club moderators and sports coaches.
- Support admissions office with school visitors and open houses.
- Uphold school policies and perform other job responsibilities as requested.

**Teacher Qualifications:**

According to its mission and vision, Willows Academy is an all-female teaching and learning environment. The applicant must hold at least a bachelor's degree; master's degree and teaching certification in the subject area is preferred.

Applicants will be chosen based on their in-depth understanding and commitment to the school's vision and mission; on their ability to work closely and communicate successfully with individual students/parents/coworkers; on their degree of subject matter expertise; and on their breadth and flexibility of instructional strategies.

**Benefits:**

Salary commensurate with experience and educational qualifications. Full time employees are eligible for medical, dental, and vision insurance in addition to long-term disability, short-term disability, and life insurance.