JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	Business Application Support Manager		
Reports to	Head of Application Development and Support		
Department	Technology		
Job Family	Business Services	Level	4

About the School

At London Business School, we strive to have a profound impact on the way the world does business and the way business impacts the world. Our departments work hard to ensure that we are continually delivering a world-class service, academic excellence and that our course offering maintains our place as a leading business school.

With thought-leading faculty and dynamic learning solutions, we empower both businesses and individuals by offering a transformational learning experience that will broaden their professional knowledge and global mindset. As well as offering postgraduate courses for the business leaders of the future, we run open and customised executive courses for professionals and corporate clients that help leaders identify the future focus and strategic direction of their businesses.

With London in our hearts, we draw from its status as a financial, entrepreneurial and cultural hub to attract a diverse range of students and faculty, creating an abundance of opportunities to network with industry experts and alumni worldwide.

About the Department

The LBS Technology department is responsible for delivering and supporting all digital technology solutions required for the effective running of London Business School.

We provide specialist capability in Technology Service Delivery, Software Development, Digital Solutions Delivery, Teaching and Learning Technology, Platform integration, Data Management, Cyber Security, project delivery, business change and enterprise architecture.

Job Purpose

- To lead and direct the overall strategy, planning, delivery, quality assurance, continuous improvement and resource allocation of the Business Application team and their outputs and provide guidance on any issues escalated.
- To lead, manage, motivate, guide, support and get the best out of all business application staff and to ensure that we deliver excellent customer service
- To ensure their team use best practice tools, techniques and frameworks to deliver high quality business application management and to work closely with business stakeholders to achieve this where application management is devolved
- To support the Head of Application Development and Support in prioritising demand and resource availability (technology & business), quantifying impact (budget and resource) and ensure priorities are clearly understood across the team / impacted stakeholders
- To work closely with the Directors across Technology and the autonomous teams to deliver business application support services in support of delivering School/Technology/Digital strategy
- To ensure the School maximises the return on investments in systems/applications by working with business units to ensure opportunities for system/process improvement are proactively identified and exploited.
- Working closely with Technology Central Services to ensure that appropriate contract, vendor and account management processes and procedures are in place
- Where agreed, to lead on 3rd party supplier engagement, to understand application roadmaps, opportunities for business exploitation and act as point for service escalations and supplier performance management
- To oversee, promote and manage the effective use, support, administration, configuration, security and management of business applications and ensure that all system upgrades are planned, co-ordinated and delivered to an agreed schedule
- To work very closely with the autonomous teams and the service transition function to ensure a smooth transition from project/continuous delivery to service support/operations
- To provide a 2nd/3rd line business application support service to the highest standards and in co-ordination with colleagues across the school and 3rd party application suppliers

Key Areas of accountability and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Key areas of accountability:

Strategy and Planning

- Contribute to the development of strategy for the area, ensuring that plans are aligned to wider departmental strategy and overall School goals.

- Contribute to the development of broader operational plans, manage operational plans in own area and enable successful implementation by prioritising and aligning planned activities.
- Contribute to the development of Key Performance Indicators to support the assessment of the quality and efficiency of service delivery.

Partnering and Service Delivery

- Partner with relevant area to understand their business goals and provide them with professional or technical advice, sharing expertise and information to support effective decision-making.
- Use specialist knowledge and information to diagnose and resolve technical issues within agreed parameters, escalating the most complex where appropriate.
- Manage the delivery of activities within a specialist area, in line with relevant policies and procedures, to ensure performance meets set targets/key performance indicators to support the School in the delivery of a first-class service.

Analysis and Reporting

- Process complex data and apply technical knowledge when conducting root cause analysis to identify solutions to complex issues/unique requests from students, colleagues or stakeholders from across the School.
- Extract data from multiple sources, check its integrity and produce reports for use by management.
- Liaise across the team to prepare complex reports to inform review, planning and decision-making.

Compliance

- Provide advice to colleagues and stakeholders on the interpretation of policies and procedures for an area of specialism, and support monitoring, to ensure compliance across the School.

Supplier/Contractor Management

- Monitor the quality of work delivered by third-party suppliers and agencies against service level agreements to ensure it is to the required standard, and provide feedback on performance to management. Take action as necessary based on feedback and escalate issue resolution when required.

Collaboration

- Partner, and build strong relationships with relevant areas to ensure good understanding of their business goals and that advice/service delivered meets and exceeds their needs.
- Develop and enhance relationships with stakeholders across the School to facilitate improved communication, support implementation of change programmes, and to monitor the level of satisfaction with service delivery.

- Represent the team to colleagues, stakeholders and cross-School groups, enabling cross-department working, spotting and initiating opportunities to collaborate for best business solutions.

Project Management

- Lead on the delivery of a portfolio of projects in own area of specialism, or act as an expert resource to or manage a work stream in a large/complex project, managing external suppliers/ contractors to ensure successful delivery within budget and to quality standards and targets.

Financial Management

- May oversee the co-ordination of financial planning and reporting, providing guidance as required to support colleagues to fulfil financial management responsibilities.
- May carry responsibility for a specific budget, fulfilling financial management requirements and ensuring the effective use of financial resources within budget.

Process Improvement

- Research best practice in own area of expertise, and review and analyse detailed business models to support senior management in developing and improving policies, processes and systems relevant to a specialist area.

People Management

- Please read the people management accountabilities section at the start of this Job Family document, and refer to the most appropriate level based on team size or level.

Change Management

- Champion change by role modelling the behaviour expected from all colleagues, and consider the impact of change on all processes, systems and people to ensure appropriate steps are taken for successful implementation.
- Consult with and advise the business on change programmes and initiatives, influencing stakeholders so they become advocates for the change and support its successful implementation.

KPIs:

- Delivery of high-quality service in area of specialism.
- Development of solutions and improvements to complex issues within own area of specialism.
- Production of high-quality reports, with complex analysis to support management decision-making.
- Contribution to cross-School compliance with regulations and legislation.
- High-quality work delivered by third-party contractors and agencies.
- Projects delivered on time, on budget and to quality standards.

- Strong cross-team working relationships with key stakeholders.
- Positive feedback from students, colleagues and stakeholders.
- Improvements in commercial performance for the team or department.
- Contribution to the development of policies, processes and systems.

Knowledge/Qualifications/Skills/Experience required

- Professional qualification or equivalent experience.
- Excellent communication skills with the ability to engage a variety of audiences.
- Significant experience of software related to own area of specialism, with the ability to build basic models or tools.
- Sound working knowledge of policies, regulations and legislation in area of specialism.
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skills.
- Ability to manage multiple internal and external stakeholders.
- Ability to prioritise and focus on material issues.
- Knowledge of business education/specialist area.
- Experience of leading projects.
- Experience in effectively managing external suppliers/contractors.
- Financial management experience and commercial acumen.

Resources including team management

Line manage a team of 3.

Staff	
Budgets	
Date Updated	November 2022