Assistant Headteacher

School: Valley Gardens Middle School

Location: Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear

Salary: Leadership Pay Scale L10 - L14 which is £66,631 - £73,439

Contract Type: Full-time, Permanent

Start Date: Summer Term 2027 (April 2027)

Shape the Future of Leadership at Valley Gardens Middle School
The Governors and Headteacher of Valley Gardens Middle School wish to appoint an outstanding, highly motivated, and ambitious **Assistant Headteacher** to join our Senior Leadership Team.

Valley Gardens is a vibrant, highly regarded 9–13 Middle School situated in Whitley Bay. As an established 'Outstanding' school, we pride ourselves on delivering high academic standards, rich curricular opportunities, and a supportive environment where every pupil thrives across Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3.

We are seeking an exceptional professional who possesses the drive, work ethic, and vision to contribute significantly to our ongoing success and strategic growth.

Key Information & Dates

Overview Field	Details
Post Title	Assistant Headteacher
Pay Range	Leadership Scale - L10 - L14
Contract	Permanent, Full-Time
Closing Date	24/11/26
Shortlisting	25/11/26
Interview tasks	Thursday 3rd December 2026
***Formal Interview**	Friday 4th December 2026

*for candidates invited back for day 2

Who We Are Looking For

This role demands dedication, strategic insight, and an unwavering commitment to educational excellence. We are looking for a candidate who is:

- **Ambitious for Excellence:** Driven to continuously raise standards, inspire staff, and foster a culture of achievement and ambition across the whole school community.
- **Hardworking and Resilient:** Demonstrates an exceptional work ethic, emotional intelligence, and the personal strength required to meet the daily demands of senior leadership in an outstanding school.
- **Committed to Leadership:** Fully invested in the responsibility of whole-school improvement, operational management, and driving high outcomes for all pupils.
- **An Exemplary Practitioner:** Models outstanding classroom practice, robust pedagogical knowledge, and high expectations of pupil engagement and attainment.
- **A Strategic & Collaborative Leader:** Able to analyse data effectively, manage change, mentor colleagues, and contribute dynamically to executive decision-making.

Key Responsibilities

The post is advertised without a specific focus. Whilst the successful candidate will possess areas of particular strength, we are seeking a versatile leader with a rich range of skills and experience, ready to adapt to whichever areas of responsibility are allocated to them as part of a cohesive leadership team.

- **Strategic Direction:** Collaborate with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to shape, implement, and evaluate the strategic vision and School Improvement Plan.
- **Teaching & Learning:** Lead on key operational and pedagogical portfolios to ensure consistently high standards of teaching, assessment, and pupil progress across Years 5 to 8.
- **School Culture:** Maintain and promote high standards of behaviour, personal development, and pastoral care, ensuring an environment where pupils feel safe, valued, and challenged.
- **Staff Management & Development:** Line manage, coach, and support colleagues to cultivate talent, build team capacity, and sustain staff wellbeing.
- **Community Engagement:** Foster strong, positive relationships with parents, carers, governors, local primary schools, and secondary partners across North Tyneside.

What We Offer

- Enthusiastic, courteous, and motivated pupils who take pride in their school community.
- A supportive, experienced, and forward-thinking Senior Leadership Team.
- A dedicated team of teachers and support staff committed to collaboration and mutual growth.
- Tailored professional development opportunities and senior leadership pathways.
- A vibrant educational setting in the beautiful coastal town of Whitley Bay.

Application Process

Visits to the school are warmly welcomed and encouraged. To arrange a tour of the school or an informal discussion regarding the post, please contact Hayley Tate, Admin Manager - hayley.tate@vgms.uk hayley.tate@vgms.uk.

Application packs, including the full Job Description and Person Specification, can be requested directly from the school office - office@vgms.uk or downloaded from the school website.

Completed application forms should be submitted via email to hayley.tate@vgms.uk no later than noon on Tuesday 24th November 2026.

Valley Gardens Middle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check and comprehensive pre-employment checks will be required for the successful applicant.