

June, 2015



Marden High School
Media Arts College

Dear Applicant

Headteacher Appointment

Marden High School is currently a Trust School for students aged 11 – 16 in North Tyneside. It has 734 students on roll.

Over the last four years the school, whose motto is Carpe Diem, has seen significant change and improvement under the leadership of the headteacher, Jonathan Morris. The school is now highly successful with examination results well in excess of national standards and among the best in the region. The Ofsted report of December 2013 described a school that was judged good overall but in which behaviour and leadership were judged to be outstanding.

We now wish to appoint a permanent Headteacher from 1st January 2016 to take over from Jonathan Morris who is taking on the role of Executive Principal of an academy in a neighbouring authority. The deputy headteacher is, at the same time, moving to a headship in another North Tyneside school. The remaining leadership team consists of 4 Assistant Headteachers, the Director of Support Services and the Bursar. We are looking for someone with the appropriate track record and experience, professional skills and personal qualities to take the school further forward at a time of significant additional challenge because of reducing student numbers. The future of the school is, however, not in doubt. In fact a new school building will be opening on the site in September 2016. The post therefore represents an exciting opportunity for someone to lead the school at a crucial stage in its development and at a time of considerable challenge and change in education generally.

The school has a number of distinctive features. It is a smaller than the average sized secondary school and this allows it to offer a very inclusive ethos where the contribution of individual students is recognized, valued and celebrated. It has a strong sense of family and a very high level of student support.

The school prides itself on its high expectations, academic excellence and innovative teaching. It has a positive and caring learning environment where high achievement is the norm. The majority of students leaving the school at 16 continue to pursue courses at the local Sixth Form College or in other schools nearby. Our aim is that all students leave school equipped for the opportunities and challenges of the fast changing world of further education and work.

If you decide to apply you will have an exciting opportunity to make your own mark on the school and build on its many strengths and positive developments. You will lead a very committed staff who are proud of the school and enjoy working here. Students show very positive attitudes to their learning, and parents are supportive. Governors are well informed, committed and provide appropriate challenge. We have an excellent learning environment and a huge range of exciting extra curricular opportunities for all.

This is a happy school where children enjoy learning and develop confidence and high self esteem.

To apply you should complete the application form in full and write a letter of no more than two sides of A4 in which you outline for us how you think a headteacher can motivate and work with others to create a shared vision and positive school climate.

Your application may be submitted electronically to a.davidson@mardenhigh.net or in paper form to Chair of Governors, Marden High School, Hartington Road, North Shields NE30 3RZ

We expect to interview shortlisted candidates on 7 and 8 of July 2015. If you have not heard from us by then you may assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Anne Welsh
Chair of Governors