

January 2016



Dear Applicant

Headteacher Appointment

Marden High School is currently a Trust School for students aged 11 – 16 in North Tyneside. It has 717 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 September 2016 to take over from Jonathan Morris, who took on the role of Executive Principal in an academy in a neighbouring authority in September 2015. At the same time the deputy headteacher at the school moved to a headship in another North Tyneside school.

During this academic year the school is being led by an acting headteacher, appointed from within the original leadership team and supported by a consultant headteacher from a local outstanding school. The remaining leadership team now consists of two permanent assistant heads, two temporary assistant heads, the Bursar and a seconded Data Manager.

We are now looking for a school leader with the appropriate professional skills and personal qualities, proven track record and experience, to take the school further forward at a time of significant additional challenge because of reducing student numbers and a deficit budget. The future of the school is, however, not in doubt. Student numbers for September 2016 show a healthy increase from the previous year and a new school building will be opening on the site in September 2016. The post, therefore, represents a very exciting opportunity for someone to take on the leadership of 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 or colleges nearby. Our aim is that all students leave Marden equipped for the opportunities and challenges of the fast changing world of further education and work.

If you decide to apply for this post 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. You will have students, who have very positive attitudes to their learning and parents who are very supportive. The governing body is well informed and committed, providing appropriate challenge to the leadership of the school.

Marden High School has an excellent learning environment and a huge range of exciting extra curricular opportunities for all. It 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, as headteacher, can motivate and work with others to create a shared vision and positive school climate.

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

We expect to interview shortlisted candidates on 24th and 25th February 2016.

We look forward to receiving your application.

A Welsh

Anne Welsh
Chair of Governors