

Henlow V.C. Middle School

Information to support Deputy Headteacher applications

An introduction to our School

Henlow is a highly popular and successful, purpose-built middle school located in an attractive rural setting in the middle of Bedfordshire. The School has an increasing roll, has experienced successful OFSTED inspections, and has achieved Sportsmark, F.A. Charter Standard, National Healthy Schools' status and Arts Mark (Gold). Pupils are well behaved and very positive about their learning, and parents are extremely supportive.

Henlow Middle is a Voluntary Controlled Church of England School which was established in 1976, and officially opened by Lord Robert Runcie, then Bishop of St. Albans, in May 1977. The School is approached by a fine drive and stands in parkland which was once part of Henlow Grange. The purpose-built accommodation for pupils aged 9 to 13 includes a Library, Science Laboratories, Music Room, ICT Room, Hall, Gymnasium, Design Centre and nineteen classrooms. Outside, the School is well provided for with two hard surface play areas, an extensive playing field and two Multi Use Games Areas.

The School is scheduled to convert to Academy status on 1st April, 2012 and will become known as Henlow Church of England Academy. The Governing Body decided that this was the correct move for our School, enabling us to have far more autonomy and flexibility in areas of management and the curriculum; as well as assisting us in our never ending drive to raise standards further.

The School's Mission Statement is: "Aiming for Excellence"

Henlow is part of a learning community containing twenty two schools: one upper school, three middle schools, seventeen lower schools and one nursery. We all work closely together, especially within our three clusters, and several of these schools are joined with us as part of the Bedfordshire East Schools' Trust (BEST). Our two local middle schools and the upper school have converted to academies and have legally joined in partnership to form the Bedfordshire East Multi Academy Trust (BEMAT). We work closely with all of these schools in order to promote the most successful learning journey possible for the six thousand youngsters in our learning community.

Special features of our School

We believe our School is a very special place to be for both children and staff, and we have an ethos that forms the foundation for enjoyment and successful learning for all.

We believe in providing an environment in which every child, no matter what their ability, can feel safe and happy, can be successful and can achieve their potential.

We focus significantly on the development of the whole child.

We work tirelessly to support children's progress in order for them to be successful in their further learning and in their adult lives.

We believe that our School provides:

- A caring, safe, happy environment in which children's learning is creatively nurtured.
- High quality teaching.
- Success and achievement for children of all abilities.
- A well ordered community based on the Christian ethos and strong moral values.

The Teaching Vacancy

The current Deputy Headteacher, Mr. Alan Walker, has made the decision to retire at the end of the current academic year. Alan has been the Deputy since April 1996, and his sixteen years of energy, enthusiasm and dedicated hard work has assisted significantly in leading Henlow to its current position as a very popular and successful school.

Consequently, for 1st September 2012 the School wishes to appoint a suitably experienced, inspirational and ambitious Deputy Headteacher. This is an excellent opportunity for someone to join our friendly, supportive and dedicated team, and to play a key role in leading and shaping the future development of

our School. Equally, it will be a wonderful platform and stepping stone for anyone who has aspirations of moving forward towards an eventual headship.

The salary range for this post is L11 to L15 (£48,022 to £52,899).

The post has a wide range of responsibilities and duties that will ensure the smooth and successful day to day running of the School. Apart from the overall leadership and management duties, the successful candidate will be responsible for leadership on matters relating to Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

The successful candidate will clearly need to demonstrate that they have a range of leadership and management skills that will allow them to competently carry out their duties. These include being an excellent classroom practitioner; having excellent organisational, communication and inter personal skills; energy and enthusiasm; wisdom, vision and drive; calmness, judgement and an ability to see "the big picture"; a sense of humour; and clear leadership qualities.

The application process

The closing date for applications is Monday 27th February.

Interviews are planned to take place across two days on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th March.

And finally

Further information can be gained from:

- the job description
- the personnel specification
- the School Website (www.henlowmiddleschool.co.uk)

Visits to the School are welcomed.

The School operates safer recruitment practices and the successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced CRB clearance.

We look forward to receiving your completed application. Thank you.

Ray Payne
Headteacher