



Dear Applicant,

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this letter and finding out more about our small but inspirational school with big aspirations!

Laddingford St Mary's is an idyllic 'Good' church school in the heart of a beautiful village. We are ambitious about the education of our pupils and cherish the friendly, caring ethos that is shared in our school.

This position would really suit an enthusiastic, motivated individual looking for an opportunity to develop and advance their career in a highly supportive environment with a team of dedicated, experienced and proactive professionals. This might be a Deputy or Assistant Head who is keen to take their first Headship in a 'Good' school, or an existing Head wanting to experience the journey from 'Good' to 'Outstanding'.

Our school combines a fantastic atmosphere with high standards of education and a genuine village feel. The school is well supported; with an experienced Governing Body, an enthusiastic team of staff, an established collaboration of local schools and active parents, many of whom travel far to attend our school. Most importantly, we have motivated and well behaved pupils.

When asked why our current head applied for the job, she replied, "because of the feel of the school the moment I walked in. Every child gave me a wide smile and they looked as happy to see me as I was to see them!".

You will be supported by a senior teacher and there are no timetabled teaching requirements for the Headteacher.

We are really fortunate to have dedicated and highly motivated staff within the school. Whilst we have some experienced staff, as a school we have also been committed to choosing enthusiastic, talented NQTS and helping them develop into professionals within education.

Our new Headteacher must be able to show they have the ability to identify and put into place the actions required to establish good to outstanding teaching whilst at the same time conserve our friendly, supportive and encouraging environment which is key to the success of the school.

Laddingford St Mary's has strong links with the community and has fantastic learning opportunities right on our doorstep. The school is in an ideal place to embrace the surrounding environment, using it as a means of developing learning, creativity and interaction across the curriculum.

At the heart of our school are our Christian values, caring, respecting and helping others. These are the foundations of our school on which we build on and they strongly reflect our excellent relationships throughout.

As Headteacher, it's important to demonstrate how you would nurture and promote our Christian values as well as understand our distinct Christian Character. You will be fully supported in this role by our school Chaplain who is a member of staff and an invaluable resource of ideas and actions!

We hope that we have encouraged you to visit our school to see for yourself the opportunities available. We welcome your application providing evidence of your skills, qualities and experience that will help to lead our school to future success.

Best Wishes,

Katie Goldfinch (Chair of Governors)