



Dear Potential Applicant,

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about our school. Our current Headteacher is retiring after seven years in his role at the helm and we are keen to find a strong successor! He has worked hard to improve the school and leaves it in a strong position. We have a clear agreed vision with a cohesive strategy that all of our staff have had input into.

The last couple of years have been a time of change at governing body level with a complete restructure and lots of fresh faces. The resultant structure means we now have three committees – finance, teaching and learning and ethics and culture. Individual governors also have responsibility for safeguarding, health & safety, SEND, marketing and building maintenance.

The ethics and culture committee is an unusual departure but we felt that it aligned best with a school that is focussed on more than just results. Academic results are critical for the school as a whole and for individual pupils, but we also recognise that this should not be at any cost. Our aim is to develop a well-rounded, confident child. So if we are reviewing SATs results at the full governing body, we will also be looking at pupil well-being. The committee is also key in ensuring our Christian ethos continues to underpin all that we do.

We are, however, most definitely strategic. We are there as a sounding board, as a support in time of need, although we will suggest and challenge as our role requires. The day-to-day running of the school is down to the Headteacher and we know not to overstep the mark.

Looking forward, there are challenges that lie ahead. Depending on government strategy, we may well have to consider our academisation options over the next couple of years. The new curriculum and assessment without levels has had a year to bed in and we are happy with how we have adapted it to suit our school but there are bound to be changes in an environment which wishes to compare and contrast school against school.

You would join at an opportune time; the foundations are laid. We have a clear direction, but there are still changes and improvements to consider – nothing urgent but interesting and important decisions to be made over time. Your first steps would be to get to know our school, really understand where we have come from and who we are now. Then, importantly, bring in your own experience and judgement to help shape the future – to lead from the front but with the support of the whole community.

Please take time to read everything we have on this microsite – from the children's input (can you tell the Year Fives and Sixes have been studying film as their topic this term?) to the information on the local area. Our prospectus and website are both hot off the press and should give you an even more in-depth view of what you can expect.

If we sound like the sort of school you would enjoy leading, arrange a visit and I look forward to meeting you!

Hester Fenwick

Chair of Governors