



Stowting, Ashford, Kent TN25 6BE Tel: 01303 (862375)  
Headteacher: Mrs D Skilton

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

Dear Applicant

On behalf of the Children, Staff, Governors and the wider Community of Stowting C.E.P School I would like to extend a warm welcome to you.

We are a Voluntary Controlled school working closely with the Canterbury Diocese to continually enhance our values of Peace, Trust, Friendship, Thankfulness and Forgiveness.

Our current Headteacher is taking early retirement after 5 years for personal reasons and so we are looking for someone to sustain the ethos in our lovely little school. We are trying to maintain the small class sizes whilst still delivering a good, with many elements of outstanding, level of teaching and learning despite the ever challenging impact funding is having on small schools. In October we were given 'Outstanding' in our SIAMS Inspection, reflecting this and the vision of the school.

Funding for Stowting Primary has been a challenge this year for the Governors and for the first time in the school's history we have had to amalgamate year groups full-time as opposed to having 15 in a class for mornings then joining in the afternoon. Whilst this was a change for the school the staff and parents have been very supportive and it has been a positive strategic move. We hope that there will not be so many changes in the future but the Government's strategies on Financing Education have had a big impact on small rural schools like ours. The Governors remain optimistic and are a very supportive and experienced group of individuals who are keen to work with the Headteacher and staff to ensure stability. We are also keen to avoid Academisation at this stage but rather are looking to work with other rural schools to work as a collaboration, maybe even a cooperative. If you are an innovative person you will be keen to work with us strategically.

As a Governing Body we are very committed to ensuring Stowting retains its uniqueness, but as we are established in a rural area we seek someone who can continue to uphold the school's current ethos and lead the school further. Ideally you will be able to provide evidence of leading a school to outstanding and can demonstrate areas where you have had an impact. We are a very supportive Governing Body and if you are the right person but perhaps lacking in some experience of managing a small school we will be on hand to help! The out-going Headteacher has also said that she would lend support in the early days, so don't be put off!

If you are ready to manage the challenges a small school can sometimes produce, we would be interested to hear from you. We invite you to visit the school to see for yourself, the commitment of staff and the willingness of the pupils to learn as well as to enjoy the peace that emanates from our delightful school.

Yours faithfully,

Cathy Chambers  
Chair of Governors

Ofsted 2007 "This is an outstanding school where all the staff share a passion for teaching and learning and for the personal development of each and every child. In this school, every child matters." Sustained status 2010

