

**The  
Whitstable  
School**

**Assistant Headteacher  
The Whitstable School  
Information**



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# Welcome

Welcome to The Whitstable School, a thriving and supportive community committed to excellence and inclusion. If you're considering joining our team, you'll find a school that prioritises both academic achievement and personal growth for students and staff alike. We are one of the highest-performing non-selective schools in the district, with a strong track record in GCSE results and an unwavering dedication to meeting each students' unique needs.

At Whitstable, we have a rich curriculum that balances academic rigor with creative and practical opportunities. Our arts programs in drama, music, and dance are well-developed, while our STEM curriculum goes beyond the basics with enhanced lessons and enrichment activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. We believe that when students have a clear sense of belonging, they're empowered to become innovative and independent thinkers. Our above national attendance rates are a testament to the engaging and inclusive environment we create at The Whitstable School.

New staff will find a supportive and collaborative atmosphere, fostered by our open door policy. At The Whitstable School, professional development isn't just encouraged, it's woven into our school culture. Teachers work closely together to share insights, develop their pedagogical skills, and support each other's growth. We also value leadership development, offering opportunities across all phases of secondary education for staff to expand their skills, take on new challenges, and contribute to the school's vision.

Our commitment to broadening students' horizons extends to our partnerships with external organisations. From affiliations with the Cave Hotel Golf Academy and Football Futures, to collaborations with the Iris STEM Community and local construction companies, our partnerships create valuable pathways for our sixth form students, who pursue both A-levels and vocational qualifications. These connections not only open doors for students but also provide our staff with exciting opportunities to collaborate with industry professionals and bring real world insights into their teaching.

The Whitstable School is a place where educators can thrive as part of a dedicated, innovative team. We combine the academic rigor of a grammar school with a tailored approach that supports students of all abilities, from high achievers to those pursuing vocational pathways. If you're passionate about making a difference, working collaboratively, and inspiring young people, we would love to welcome you to our team at Whitstable. Here, you'll be part of a school that values excellence, creativity and community, and is a place where you'll truly make an impact.

Here are the benefits of working at Whitstable School:

- Headteacher days offered throughout the year for running extra enrichment, clubs and activities.
- A friendly, supportive community where staff work closely together.
- Cross departmental CPD, allowing staff to collaborate in teams for pedagogical development.
- An inclusive environment with regular staff gatherings, including breakfast briefings.
- A strong sense of teamwork and collaboration among staff.
- Access to lesson planning and resource support.
- A centralised behaviour system, enabling teachers to focus on teaching.
- Clear behaviour expectations where students take responsibility through specialised behaviour cards.
- Opportunities for leadership and skill development by working with others across the school.

Thank you for considering Whitstable School.



Alex Holmes  
Headteacher



# Job Description

**Job Title:** Assistant Headteacher  
**Grade:** Leadership scale (L10 - L14)  
**Responsible to:** Headteacher

## **Main Purpose:**

The Assistant Headteacher will work in partnership with the Headteacher and other SLT members in defining, articulating and implementing the mission and values of the School through effective communication and engagement of all stakeholders.

The Assistant Headteacher will also be expected to fulfil the professional responsibilities as set out in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD).

The specific nature and balance of responsibilities will vary according to the needs of the school but the main functions of the role are:

## **Main duties**

- Support the Headteacher in the school's self-review procedures, including the analysis of performance data, and producing the School Development Plan.
- Have full responsibilities for outcomes across the school including ensuring that relevant evidences are available and held in the required format.
- Implement the school's behaviour policy to maintain good order in the school;
- Carry out Performance Management of designated staff;
- Undertake other reasonable duties at the request of the Headteacher or governing body;
- Promote the values and achievements of the school to the community;
- Lead, drive, motivate, support, challenge and develop middle leaders to secure improvement across the school;
- Take school assemblies when required;
- To lead in the further development of the teaching of core and foundation subjects.
- All members of the School's Senior Leadership team are expected to:
- Reflect the school's vision and aims by promoting and developing a learning and caring culture;
- Demonstrate leadership by example;
- Set high standards, acting as role models for colleagues;
- Show a commitment to enabling all pupils to maximise their achievements;
- Contribute to the provision of a safe and secure learning environment;
- Support the school's endeavours to meet the needs of its community;
- Manage staff in a way that promotes their skills, confidence and expertise;
- Participate in the school's Performance Management process;

## **Key Accountabilities**

### **Strategic direction and development of the school**

- To assist the Headteacher in shaping the vision and direction for the school, setting out very high expectations and with a clear focus on pupil achievement;
- To play a significant role in setting aims and objectives for the school and in producing the School Development Plan along with the Headteacher, governors and other senior leaders;
- To take responsibility for developing and monitoring policy and practice as laid down in the School Development Plan, and in agreement with the Headteacher;
- To assist the Headteacher in school self-evaluation and in the effective planning and management of resources to secure improvements;

# Job Description

- Demonstrate strategic vision and planning, using performance data analysis to inform staff deployment and to set targets;
- Ensure that analysis leads to improved rates of children's progress and overall attainment levels across the designated phase or whole school;
- Creation of strategic and operational data analysis systems to support in-depth analysis of individual teacher, subject and curriculum performance as part of the whole school self-evaluation process.
- Implement systems for managing the performance of all staff, addressing any underperformance, supporting staff to improve and valuing excellent practice.
- Work with the governing board as appropriate.
- Support strategic, curriculum-led financial planning to ensure the effective use of budgets and resources.

## **Leading and Managing Staff**

- Lead, drive, motivate, support, challenge and develop staff to secure improvement;
- Support the Headteacher, Executive Headteacher and governors in accounting for the efficiency and effectiveness of the school to all relevant stakeholders;
- To actively participate in school / community events;
- In consultation with, and by the direction of the Headteacher, deploy people and resources efficiently and effectively i.e. timetables, supply staff;
- To participate in recruitment and selection as agreed by the Headteacher.

## **Safeguarding**

- Take responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of pupils and staff in accordance with the current statutory guidance and legislation.
- Promote expected standards of behaviour which support learning and positive pupil outcomes;
- Create and maintain an effective partnership with parents/carers to improve children's achievement and their personal and social development;
- Promote a culture of independent learning;
- Take responsibility for handling individual pupil disciplinary cases.

The duties / responsibilities of this post may vary from time to time according to the changing needs of the Trust services.

## **The Working Time Regulations 1998**

All teachers are subject to the EU Working Time Regulations which are described in paragraph 114 of DfEE Circular No. 12/99.

The duties / responsibilities of this post may vary from time to time according to the changing needs of the Trust services.

# Person Specification

| Qualifications  | Essential / Desirable |
|---|-----------------------|
| Qualified Teacher Status.   | E                     |
| A Degree  | E                     |
| Experience  |                       |
| Recent participation in a range of relevant and significant continuing professional development, including leadership.                | E                     |
| Successful Middle Leadership experience.  | E                     |
| Impacting significantly on a whole school initiative which has led to raising standards   | E                     |
| Experience of leading one or more curriculum areas with evidence of impact of initiatives on pupil outcomes                           | E                     |
| Successful curriculum leadership and innovation   | E                     |
| Successful Senior Leadership experience or substantial experience of coaching teachers to improve performance.                        | D                     |
| Skills and Abilities  |                       |
| Improve planning and implementation, monitoring and review.   | E                     |
| Developing effective partnerships with parents and outside agencies   | E                     |
| Improving the quality of teaching at individual practitioner level and the whole school.  | E                     |
| Working in partnership with governors   | E                     |
| Ability to inspire, motivate and challenge staff including through the development of effective teams                                 | E                     |
| Ability to manage effectively pupil discipline and have a commitment to a high level of pastoral care                                 | D                     |
| Ability to use performance management to promote and support school improvement   | D                     |
| Knowledge   |                       |
| Up to date knowledge of national policies, priorities and statutory frameworks including recent changes in curriculum and assessment. | E                     |
| Knowledge of co-ordinating and leading on school outcomes.  | E                     |
| Appreciation of the benefits of effective collaborative working   | E                     |
| Personal Qualities  |                       |
| Excellent communication skills  | E                     |
| Exceptional interpersonal skills  | E                     |
| Personal impact, commitment, enthusiasm, integrity and resilience   | E                     |
| A commitment to promoting and developing pupils' personal development and well-being  | E                     |
| Enjoyment, energy and enthusiasm for working with our children  | E                     |
| Willingness to maintain own learning and professional development   | E                     |
| Being an organised, professional, reflective practitioner and creative thinker.   | E                     |



# Working at The Whitstable School

## Benefits

- Teachers Pension Scheme – with a generous employer contribution
- Employee Referral Recruitment Incentive
- Enhanced Maternity Pay
- Access to training and development
- Discounts with local and national retailers, cinemas and restaurants
- On-site Parking

## Well-Being

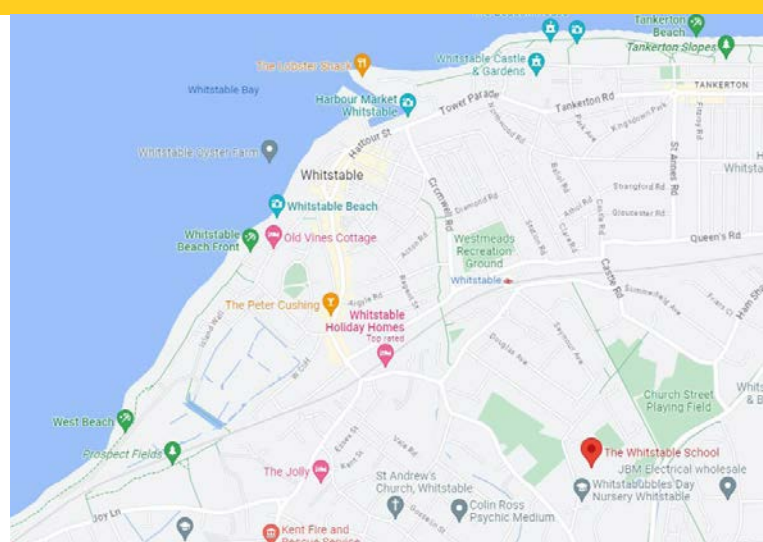
- Employee Assistance Programme – Wellbeing and advice
- Cycle to Work scheme

# Finding Us

**The Whitstable School**  
Bellevue Rd, Whitstable CT5 1PX

01795 905989  
recruitment@swale.at

**Closest Train Station: Whitstable Station**  
Approx. 15 minute walk





# Headteacher's Vision

The Whitstable School, under the stewardship of its Headteacher Mr Alex Holmes, is charting an ambitious course towards excellence while ensuring inclusivity every step of the way. As a new era unfolds, the school stands ready to redefine its role in the community – not merely as an educational institution but as a hub of innovation, opportunity and personal growth.

Situated in the heart of Whitstable, Kent, the secondary school's fresh vision aims to cater to the needs of its current students, as well as inspire future generations of prospective students.

At the heart of Mr Holmes' vision is a commitment to provide a holistic educational experience – one that recognises the diverse talents and aspirations of every student. Central to this ethos is the belief that academic achievement should be complemented by a robust creative and vocational pathway. Thus, the school is expanding its GCSE offerings to include construction and bolstering its investment in science, technology, engineering and mathematics enrichment.

The Whitstable School is also broadening its A-level curriculum, introducing a suite of exciting new qualifications to accommodate the evolving needs of its student body, while a partnership agreement with Football Futures underscores the school's dedication to nurturing regional football talent.

Acknowledging the impact of extracurricular activities, Mr Holmes has introduced new roles such as Enrichment Coordinator, aimed at diversifying the range of trips and rewards available to students. This commitment to broadening horizons and celebrating success extends to the very fabric of the school's culture, with an emphasis on fostering a supportive environment where every student can thrive.

Through a redesigned curriculum model, The Whitstable School is prioritising the development of leadership skills, ensuring that students across all year groups have the opportunity to lead, inspire and make a tangible impact within their community.

Headteacher Mr Alex Holmes said: "It has been a real pleasure to become the new Headteacher of The Whitstable School and to be welcomed so warmly by the pupils, parents and local community. The school is now fully embarking on its next phase of school improvement to ensure it enhances its position as the district's best performing non-selective school.

"I am very much looking forward to welcoming the community into the school and working closely with local primary schools, businesses and charities to share resources and celebrate the work and successes of our brilliant young people."





## The Application Process

Applications will only be accepted from candidates completing the appropriate application form. All sections of the form which are applicable to you must be completed as clearly and fully as possible.

Please note CVs will not be accepted in place of a completed application form.

Application forms can be found on the Kent-Teach website and applications should be made via this route. Alternatively, completed [SAT Application Forms](#) can be sent by email to [anna.rimmington@swale.at](mailto:anna.rimmington@swale.at) or by post to the following address:

Anna Rimmington  
The Whitstable School  
Bellevue Road  
Whitstable  
Kent  
CT5 1PX

## The Shortlisting and Interview Process

After the closing date for this post a panel will conduct the shortlisting process. You will be selected for interview based entirely on the contents of your application form, it is therefore important that you fully read the Job Description and Person Specification prior to completing your form.

After the shortlisting process has been completed candidates who have been selected for interview will be informed, and provided with full details of the interview programme. If you have not heard from us within 10 working days of the closing date for this post, you have, on this occasion, unfortunately been unsuccessful.

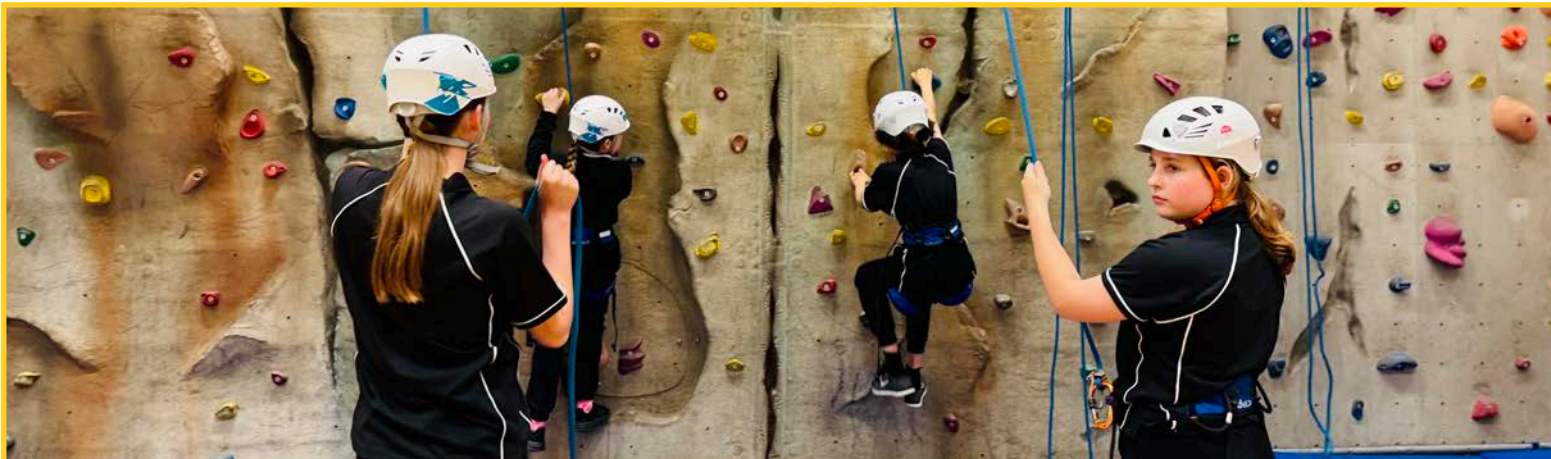
All candidates who are invited to interview must bring the following original documents:

- Documentary evidence of right to work in the UK
- Visual identification which includes a photograph, usually a passport or driving licence
- Documentary proof of current name and address
- Where appropriate any documentation evidencing change of name
- Certificates of educational or professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post

## Conditional Offer

Any offer of employment will be conditional upon a number of formalities, including, but not restricted to the following:

- Verification of right to work in the UK
- Receipt of two satisfactory references
- Verification of identity checks and qualifications
- Satisfactory enhanced DBS check, as well as additional checks that may be appropriate if you have worked or been resident overseas in the previous five years
- Satisfactory pre-employment health clearance
- A check against the Teacher Service Register for any teaching prohibition or restriction orders where you are applying for a teaching role or if you have previously held a teaching role in past employment.



## **Safeguarding**

Our Trust has robust safer recruitment procedures to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children.

All individuals working in any capacity at our Trust will be subjected to safeguarding checks in line with the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Swale Academies Trust schools will conduct an online check of shortlisted candidates in line with the Keeping Children Safe In Education guidelines.

## **Retention of information**

All information is stored securely and any information supplied by unsuccessful candidates will be destroyed through the confidential waste system after six months from the date of the interview, in accordance with our retention of records procedure.

## **Privacy Notice**

Please refer to the Trust's [Privacy Notice](#) for job applicants for information about how we use any personal data about them we hold.

# Overview of Swale Academies Trust

Since its creation in September 2010, Swale Academies Trust has developed into one of the South East's leading Multi-Academy Trusts.

Our purpose is to develop good and outstanding schools and ensure the rapid improvement of schools with challenges.

As the Trust has grown and developed, we continue to ensure that effective school support and leadership is maintained. The Trust's approach to school improvement is based on a combination of CPD, capacity building and collaboration, with a relentless focus on teaching and pupil progress, in order to effect rapid and sustained improvements in outcomes for young people.

The Trust is an organisation which is driven by the belief that all children deserve a good quality education where they are seen as individuals and above all are exceptionally well cared for.

## Swale Academies Trust - Schools

### Primary

- Beaver Green Primary School, Ashford
- Istead Rise Primary School, Istead Rise
- James Dixon Primary School, Bromley
- Langney Primary Academy, Eastbourne
- Parkland Infant School, Eastbourne
- Parkland Junior School, Eastbourne
- Regis Manor Primary School, Sittingbourne
- Shinewater Primary School, Eastbourne
- South Borough Primary School, Maidstone
- Westlands Primary School, Sittingbourne

### Secondary

- Meopham Secondary School, Meopham
- Peacehaven Community School, Peacehaven
- The Eastbourne Academy, Eastbourne
- The Holmesdale School, Snodland
- The North School, Ashford
- The Sittingbourne School, Sittingbourne
- The Turing School, Eastbourne
- The Whitstable School, Whitstable
- Westlands Secondary School, Sittingbourne

## Central Support Services

- Human Resource Team
- Finance Team
- ICT Team
- Estate Management
- Governance and Communications



