

March 2019

Dear Applicant

Thank you for showing an interest in this post. In order to know whether or not you should apply for the Assistant Headteacher post you will want to know something about the school which I will try to do in this letter. You are, of course, very welcome to contact the school and speak to me or Vicky Willis, Head of School, and we will answer any questions or queries you may have. This is an important job both for the school and the successful applicant who will have the opportunity to work in one of the best non-selective schools in Kent, a school where exciting things happen and where we are at the forefront of many exciting developments and changes in Thanet and beyond.

King Ethelbert is a mixed non-selective school of approximately 850 students. In the context of Thanet (Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate), it is the most popular non-selective school each year, filled with first choice students and long waiting lists for each year group. We have a wide range of abilities studying with us including some students who have passed the Kent Test but want to be at their local school where they can be equally successful; such is our reputation.

It has not always been like this. In 2009 the school was the 5th worst performing school in Kent despite having an outstanding judgement from Ofsted and the aspirations of the students and families were low. We have worked very hard over the last ten years to improve outcomes for our students and make our parents realise we are working with them in our community to give the best to our young people. We are now one of the top performing non-selective schools in the country and lead the way in schools across Kent to help improve standards in the classroom. We are also, however, determined to ensure that we do not wreck the curriculum or compromise the breadth of educational experience that we offer, or indeed write off any student who will not get positive P8! Our students are given as many opportunities as we can cram in to the time we have them and we are a lead school in the country with the Royal Shakespeare Company and also the Turner Contemporary. King Ethelbert is part of the East Kent Learning Alliance (EKLA) and plays a massive part in developing teaching and learning in all national programmes from NQT to NPQML, NPQSL and NPQH. One of the things I am most proud about is that at King Ethelbert teachers routinely talk about teaching and learning, and sharing good practice and the ethos and culture is centred around family, team, sharing and success.

King Ethelbert was the first school in the country and one of the first schools in the world to offer the International Baccalaureate Careers-Related Programme in the sixth form because it is the best post-16 educational offer in the world. We are a lead school for the IBCP and support 29 other schools in Kent as well as welcome visitors from across the world to see what the IBCP does for our students and how we can share good practice internationally as well as locally; it is very exciting and just what education should be about. The IBCP has values and qualities we want our students to have rather than constantly obsessing over results and this is very important to us. The King Ethelbert leadership team talk about education, the future, the purpose of education and how we want our young people to succeed. It is an open, tolerant, compassionate community and we will use education to transform the lives of our students as well as the economic and social fortunes of our deprived community. We are totally committed to working in collaboration with local schools as well as those in Kent, in the UK and across the world.

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The commitment to work together lies at the heart of Coastal Academies Trust. The trust began as a federation between King Ethelbert and Dane Court Grammar School in 2009 and these two schools still share a governing body. Over the last three years we have been joined by Cliftonville Primary School, an extraordinary, outstanding, very large primary school serving the most deprived areas of Margate; Hartsdown Academy, an extremely challenging non-selective school serving Margate and Royal Harbour Academy, an equally challenging school serving Ramsgate. As a Trust our commitment to all schools is non-negotiable. All students who attend any one of our schools are valued and important and we have a collective responsibility to all. This is exciting and powerful and interesting and challenging and frustrating and it makes the Coastal Academies Trust unique; we are close, we stand together, we learn from each other and we are committed to making Thanet the centre of excellence for education.

The successful applicant will be an important member of the King Ethelbert leadership team and a part of the improvement of the Trust. We have not specified what you would be actually responsible for because we do not know yet. Your exact responsibilities will depend on your strengths, interests and ideas but the one absolute criterion for the post is that you have the capacity, courage and ambition to eventually become a headteacher.

This is a fantastic opportunity for an ambitious middle leader who aspires to leadership in the future. This is a fabulous time to be involved with school leadership, the Coastal Academies Trust and, of course, King Ethelbert School.

If you have the ambition, work ethic, motivation and want to be a part of an exciting, dynamic team then apply. Should you require any additional information please contact Debbie Shallcross, Personnel Administrator on 01843 831999 or ask to speak to Kate Greig, Executive Headteacher or Vicky Willis, Head of School. Pre-application visits and/or discussion are welcome. To apply please complete our application form available from our website: www.kingethelbert.com (under 'contact us') and submit a covering letter. Applications should be submitted no later than 12.00 noon

Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Greig". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Kate Greig
Headteacher