December 2017

Dear Applicant

Thank you for expressing an interest in leading our school in the next stage of its journey. This is an exciting opportunity to join a successful state boarding school. Sexey’s is a mixed 11-18 academy with a comprehensive intake. The school is one of only thirty eight state boarding schools and academies in the country and, with nearly 200 boarders, we are one of the largest. The fact that so many of our students and staff live on the school site gives the school a strong family and community feel which makes it a very friendly and rewarding place in which to work.

The school is relatively small for a secondary school with around 590 students. As other secondary schools in the area cater for pupils aged 11-16 we operate as the only Sixth form with a purely academic A Level offering in East Somerset. The majority of our sixth formers, usually well over 90%, will go on to higher education.

For the right candidate, Sexey’s provides an exciting opportunity for any school leader to live and work in a community dedicated to the development of young people ready to meet the challenges of life in the 21st century. Sexey’s School has always had a strong academic tradition. It has consistently featured prominently in the national league tables for comprehensive schools and in 2017 its results were amongst the best achieved in the history of the school.

The expectations here are high both in terms of the work ethic and student behaviour. Visitors to the school comment that our students are polite, welcoming and confident and, above all, that they appear very happy at the school. This makes Sexey’s a fantastically positive school environment in which to work; it is also one of the most beautiful areas of the country.

Sexey’s is a Church of England Academy in the diocese of Bath & Wells, and while Christian affiliation is not a prerequisite for leading the school, we do expect the Head to embrace and positively promote the Christian ethos of the school. Similarly, an understanding of the boarding context of the school is essential as staff contribute to the boarding dimension.

Even though Sexey’s is an exceptional place to work we are aware how challenging teaching is as a profession and we do all that we can to support our staff. We have a dynamic and challenging programme for growth and this brings equally demanding challenges to maintain an effective financial base in a world where funding is limited. Extra-curricular facilities are strongly supported by our Parent Staff Association which works in partnership with the school to benefit our students.

At this time of dynamic change in education we are determined that Sexey’s students will benefit from all the opportunities available, but equally we will ensure that the fundamental values upon which this school is based, and which makes us such a strong community, will continue to underpin everything that we do. As Head, we will be looking to you to continue the drive for excellence and we look forward to receiving your application.

Should you wish to visit the school prior to application, the opportunity to do so is available once school restarts on Monday 8th January. The current Head, Mrs Gill Kelly, is also available for an informal conversation about the post and the school. Should you wish to visit or speak to Mrs Kelly please contact Mrs Stallion, PA to the Head on 01749 814103 or sstallion@sexeys.somerset.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

 

Janet Wilson and Emma Miller

**Co-Chairs of Governors**