



Beaumont School

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Headteacher: Elizabeth Hitch e: head@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

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Dear Applicant

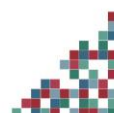
Thank you for your interest in Beaumont School and this exciting opportunity to lead a truly outstanding school. We are looking for an inspirational and caring individual with the energy and passion to sustain and develop our school, students and staff to go “*beyond outstanding*.”

You will find a plethora of information about Beaumont School on the school's website; in past editions of *Beaumont Life* (the monthly newsletter available on the website); in the exceptional 2014 Ofsted report; in the school prospectus; in the job advert itself; and in the other papers included with the job advert.

We are particularly proud of and celebrate the following aspects of Beaumont:

- Students' progress, attainment and results are consistently excellent.
- Our outstanding staff consistently deliver inspiring lessons, which challenge students. One Ofsted inspector commented that she had seen some of the best teaching and learning of her career in some of the lessons she observed. The Teaching and Learning Team spreads good practice across the school and encourages innovation and Beaumont's own brand of independent learning – *Beaumont Skills for Success*.
- We consider our sport and arts provision to be second-to-none. Our students participate at school, district, county and national levels in music, drama and a huge variety of sports. Our programme of enrichment activities is extremely wide and students are encouraged to “*get involved*” in as many activities as possible.
- We have the widest curriculum offering at KS4 in the local area, with four option blocks, allowing students a very broad selection of options at GCSE. This successful strategy has consistently resulted in exceptional EBacc outcomes.

We were very proud to be recognised as Outstanding in all respects by Ofsted in 2014. Since that report, the Headteacher, Leadership Team and Governing Body have focussed on going “*beyond outstanding*” and seeking to develop the school further. The Governing Body has approved a strategy to 2020 which provides that “*we will maintain and build upon the 2014 Ofsted 'Outstanding' judgment to ensure that Beaumont School maintains its position as a nationally-leading non-selective comprehensive school; continues to provide outstanding opportunities and quality of provision for our local community; and shares its outstanding practice beyond Beaumont.*”



In order to achieve this, we have adopted a number of Strategic Priorities, which include:

- ***Maintaining our ethos*** – *maintaining our unique, supportive community ethos through a period of rapid change and instability in state education*

The 2014 Ofsted report says a lot about the school. But we believe that there is much more to Beaumont School than is set out in the report. A sense of that is captured in the comment of the Lead Inspector, on the second day of the 2014 Ofsted inspection, that Beaumont School is a “*breath of fresh air.*” We genuinely believe that our ethos and approach set the school apart. Beaumont School stands at the heart of its community, and it is that community coming together and collaborating – students, staff, parents, governors – that makes the school what it is. Our supportive community ethos is central to all we do and defines staff and students’ attitudes to themselves and each other. In 2015, we undertook a major exercise to try to capture the essence of Beaumont’s ethos. The results of that exercise have been published on the school website on the “*School Aims & Ethos*” page. Our ethos informs all that we do – in terms of strategy, teaching and learning, curriculum, extra-curricular activities, relationships between staff and students, and teamwork and collaboration across the school community – and the Governing Body has prioritised its commitment to maintaining that successful formula.

- ***Improving our facilities*** – *Developing, funding and implementing a master plan of premises development over the next five to ten years to ensure outstanding provision for all students and the local community – to include a sports hall, additional classrooms, more science laboratories, and a performing arts centre*

This is an exciting time for Beaumont School. 2016 saw the completion of a twenty-year project (the “FAB” (Fields, Access and Buildings) Project) to provide exceptional new state-of-the-art facilities for the school. Whilst the new access road to the school (from Hatfield Road) is still to be built (and will hopefully be completed within the next 12 months), the school now has brand new natural sports pitches, a multi-use games area, an all-weather pitch, a new sports hall, an 11 classroom Maths & Computing block, a conference room, a fitness suite, and a new reception, looking over new car parking facilities that will eventually be fed by the new access road. We have recently agreed that – as part of the expansion of the school to 7FE – Hertfordshire County Council will fund the further development of the site, including a new 5-laboratory Science Block, and improvement works to core facilities (dining space and recreational areas). It is hoped that this new development work will be completed by the Summer of 2018, in time for the expansion of intake in Year 7.

- ***Budgeting and fundraising*** – *Sustaining the school’s financial position and outstanding provision through prudent budgeting and an appropriate and ambitious fundraising plan*

At a time of financial pressure on schools, we have acted quickly to ensure prudent budgeting and increased income for the school. The 80 in '18 Fundraising Campaign (which celebrates Beaumont’s 80th birthday in 2018) has already raised money for the provision of equipment for the new fitness suite. Our focus is now on raising funds for the redevelopment of the 1960s school hall into a performing arts centre, worthy of the exceptional performances that are regularly mounted by the school’s excellent drama and music departments. Sufficient funds have been raised to commission designs and plans for the centre, and we hope shortly to approach grant-awarding bodies for substantial funding to realise this project.

- ***Working with other schools*** – *Expanding opportunities for our students and sharing outstanding practice through appropriate collaborations, whether formal or informal, with other schools in St Albans and elsewhere*

Beaumont School has a long history of supporting improvement in other schools. In addition, our consortium arrangements at Sixth Form have recently been formalised

through the establishment of the BeauSandVer Education Trust, an umbrella trust which oversees the expansive range of courses offered to Sixth Form students across the three schools – Beaumont, Sandringham and Verulam – within the Trust. We are also involved in discussions across all St Albans and Harpenden (STASSH) secondary schools with regard to the establishment of an umbrella trust across the local area, to support schools and increase collaboration.

The Governing Body has recently agreed in principle that Beaumont School should become a Sponsor of a Multi-Academy Trust. The Academy Trust considers that it has the skills and capacity to oversee additional schools, and governors are keen to spread the Beaumont ethos beyond the school boundaries. We hope to move this strategy forward during the course of 2017.

There is already much to celebrate at Beaumont School and we are very ambitious and optimistic about the school's future. We would hope to appoint an outstanding and thoughtful Headteacher, who will work collaboratively with the Leadership Team, staff and governors, to build on his/her predecessor's legacy – to take Beaumont School "*beyond outstanding*" and to spread its approach beyond the school's boundaries.

If you believe that you are the right person for the role, please complete and send to us your application (with covering letter, as detailed in the job advert). Should you wish to have a tour of the school and a short meeting with the current Headteacher, we would be delighted to arrange for you to be shown around during the week commencing 28 November 2016 or the week commencing 5 December 2016. Please contact Mandy Watt (Headteacher's PA) on 01727 854726 to arrange a tour.

I look forward to meeting you during the course of the interview process.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Hall', with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Mr Alex Hall
Chair of Governors
For and on behalf of **Beaumont School**