

25/07/2017

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Deputy Headteacher at Alfreton Park Special School.

Our school supports 86 pupils from 2-19 years of age with severe, profound and complex learning difficulties, many of whom additionally have autistic spectrum condition. The school is very popular and is oversubscribed. I believe that this is due to our unique nurturing family environment. Increasingly, we have a number of pupils with complex health needs and employ our own nurse who supports school staff in meeting these needs.

I am very proud of our fantastic pupils who work so hard to develop independence and to support each other in their learning.

We are in the process of reviewing our curriculum, which is based on developing the four pillars of physical development, communication, personal and social development and self-management of behaviour. Teaching is based on person centred approaches and focuses on developing independence and promoting the skills required to be successful in adult life.

These are very exciting times at Alfreton Park. We are very fortunate to have been granted funding for a new school by the LA and eagerly await starting to plan a school fit to deliver our new curriculum. The successful applicant will be fully involved in creating the vision for our new school.

We do have a new hydrotherapy pool that illustrates the benefits of up to date purpose built facilities. This a brilliant learning environment for our pupils and so much fun!

Teaching across the school takes advantage of the lovely position we have set in the park and near to local facilities available in Alfreton. Outdoor learning, forest schools, horticulture, leisure opportunities and life skills enhance our student learning experiences.

Alfreton Park is a founder member of the Federation of Derbyshire Special schools and we are very outward facing. We are members of three teaching school alliances and active in the local school cluster group.

In these times of national change both within education nationally and SEND, we embrace change and proactively work to ensure that we navigate these changes to promote the best interest of our pupils.

We have a dedicated and highly skilled staff team who go above and beyond expectations to ensure that our pupils have a varied and fun range of opportunities and nurturing experiences, including residential visits such as sailing and outdoor pursuit activities.

Our new deputy will have the opportunity to help us build on our successes and help us to ensure we deliver an outstanding education for all our young people. The Governors and I strongly believe that we should nurture our next generation of School Leaders. The successful candidate will be fully supporting in developing their role in School leadership including preparing for Headship if that is where their ambition lies.

I am sure that you will agree that this is an exciting opportunity to make a real difference for the present and future generations of young people with special educational needs in our community.

I look forward to receiving your application,

Yours sincerely

Cheryl Smart

(Headteacher)