



# St Mary's Church of England Academy

Trinity Avenue, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7LR

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Web Site: [www.smpsac.org](http://www.smpsac.org)

Principal: Mr Colin Haley

Chair of Governors: Derek Kuziw

Email: [Office@smpsac.org](mailto:Office@smpsac.org)

October 2017

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Principal at St Mary's Church of England Academy.

St Mary's became a converted stand-alone Academy, supported by the Diocesan Board of Education in September 2011, at a time when Suffolk schools were going through a Strategic Organisation Review which turned the existing school from a 4-9 First School into a 4-11 Primary. Our first Year 6 completed their studies with us in July 2013 by which time the school had 420 pupils.

The school serves the medieval market town of Mildenhall in West Suffolk, home of the USAF at the RAF Air Force base. The school draws on children from over a dozen local nursery schools with about 17% of our pupils eligible for pupil premium. Parents are very supportive of the school and our children are widely recognised for their good behaviour and motivation to learn. These are due, in part at least, to the strong but open Christian ethos that underpins the life of the whole school community.

Over the last 7 years the fabric of the school has undergone an extensive upgrade including the addition of an eco-centre, a Year 4/5 centre and improvements to the Year 6 learning area and computer suite.

School meals are provided by our in-house catering team led by an excellent Catering Manager.

Since our first KS2 results in 2013, the school has seen year on year improvements in outcomes. We are particularly proud of our above national average maths results. Through our 'Talk for Writing' project we are on the pathway to mirror this success in English. The last Ofsted (June 2017) resulted in a 'good' outcome and our current action plan is focused on reading comprehension and writing initiatives.

The Governors are fully supportive of the efforts of the Senior Leadership team and all the staff. They have ensured that resources have been made available to provide the necessary support and intervention strategies for pupils, and training and support for staff.

As a Church School we believe in the value of a school based on a clear Christian ethos reflected in excellent Collective Worship and RE which permeates all aspects of the school's life. We have the confidence to do this while retaining a totally open attitude that welcomes and honours all – those of Christian faith, other faiths and no faith. At our last Section 48 Inspection in March 2015 (SIAMS) the school was judged to be "outstanding". We value and celebrate diversity. We have high expectations of our children and seek to help them to develop their gifts whether they be academic, sporting or creative. We are committed not only to every child but to "whole child".

Building on earlier foundations the current Principal has developed valuable and stimulating relationships with other local schools in partnership with the Cambridge and Suffolk Schools Alliance (CASSA) and through a continuing Teaching Partnership with the University of Cambridge. This reflects the outstanding teaching that was recognised by Ofsted in the many areas used by the University for visiting trainees. We support trainee teachers through both the PCGE (placements) and Straight to Teaching routes.

The Governors and I are very proud of our school and are convinced that with a dynamic new Principal, building on excellent foundations that have been laid by our current Principal the school will continue to develop and become an outstanding school.

No paperwork can give you a full picture and we invite you to come and see the school for yourself. It will not disappoint. You may not even be certain that you want to move at this stage of your career, but come and see us and you will find that there is an opportunity here that you should not miss. Please contact Mrs Jenny Vaughan, the School Business Manager by email [jenny.vaughan@smpsac.org](mailto:jenny.vaughan@smpsac.org) or by telephone 01638 713317 to make an appointment. For further information and to hear what the children think of our school go to the website [www.smpsac.org](http://www.smpsac.org).

If you believe you are a person with vision, enthusiasm and the ability to lead an able and dedicated team taking the school forward in the next stage of its development then please do complete the application form. The closing date for applications is Friday 17 November 2017 and interviews will be held on Thursday 30 November/Friday 1 December 2017 at the school.

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D.G. Kuziw' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Derek Kuziw  
Chair of Governors

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