**** November 2017

Dear Prospective Candidate

**Principal of Lanchester Community Free School**

I am delighted to write to you about the exceptional opportunity to become the principal of Lanchester Community Free School. The school opened in September 2014 and is already successful and regarded well by the local community. In May 2017, in its first inspection, the school was deemed good in four of the five areas inspected but was judged to require improvement in leadership and management.

Lanchester currently has children from reception to year three and, by September 2020, the school will be full and have children in all year groups.

Along with two other primary schools, one in Watford and one in Hemel Hempstead, Lanchester is part of the West Herts Schools Trust. Our main aims are to improve the life chances for local children and families, and for our schools to rank amongst the highest performing locally and nationally.

The Trust Board is a group of people with a common vision and driving purpose who believe strongly that good academic and social achievement is the key to a child’s successful future and choices about his/her adult life. The Trust has recently drawn up a strategic plan setting out its future growth and development.

The national free school policy has given our schools the opportunity and permission to do things differently, such as teaching Spanish from the time that children enter school and having small classes in reception and year one. This, along with high quality teaching and leadership, has already had an enormously positive impact on our children’s learning and achievement.

Lanchester was opened and established, along with Ascot Road Community Free School by an Executive Principal across the two schools. The Executive Principal will be leaving at the end of December and the Trust has decided that now is the time to appoint a principal for each school. We are now, therefore, seeking a great leader to take Lanchester to the next stage of its growth and success.

We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



John Harris

**Chair of the Trust**