

Sarah Pashley: Principal

Mark Ollerenshaw: Vice Principal

Steve Willacy: Vice Principal

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for taking an interest in becoming a key member of a Leadership Team at Ron Dearing UTC, heading up our Digital Technology and Computer Science department and working with us to revolutionise education in this country.

Ron Dearing UTC is a brand new school for 14-19 year olds, which opened in Hull city centre in September 2017. Working in close partnership with The University of Hull and the region’s leading employers (KCOM, RB, Siemens Gamesa, Smith & Nephew, Spencer Group and C4DI to name but a few), we provide our students with a totally unique way to learn. Our high quality educational provision ensures that our students acquire the academic and professional qualifications and the personal and employability skills they need to give them the edge in our rapidly evolving digital world.

Currently we have two hundred and thirty students on roll; one hundred and twenty in Year 10 and one hundred and ten in Year 12. Over 50% of our Year 10 cohort are high attaining students. We are already oversubscribed by well-over a hundred students for places in 2018. Over the next four years, numbers will increase to six hundred (one hundred and fifty in each year group). Our students come predominantly from Hull and the East Riding. Unlike students attending other schools, they have made a proactive choice to attend Ron Dearing UTC because they have high aspirations and are passionate about the employer - engaged model of learning and the curriculum we offer. They are STEM addicts!

Ron Dearing UTC is an academic institution with a very strong emphasis on technical and applied learning. Our students study a range of vocational and professional qualifications alongside their academic subjects. Whilst the English Baccalaureate is not part of our curriculum offer, the school’s performance in terms of the key benchmarks of Progress 8, Attainment 8 and Basics is of the *highest* priority. In response to the increasing needs of local industry within our region, we specialise in Engineering and Digital Technology. GCSE Computer Science, the City and Guilds Technical Award in Digital Technology, and Level 3 BTEC Computer Science are exceptionally important and popular courses. Digital Technology underpins everything we do. The successful applicant will lead curriculum development and teaching and learning within our influential and exciting Digital Technology and Computer Science department.

Our school does not feel like a school. Our £10,000,000 building is designed to reflect a professional working environment and a very high spec. one at that. In addition to the usual funding allocated to academies, we receive significant additional moneys to ensure that our facilities and equipment are state of the art and industry standard. On top of this, we receive private sponsorship from a large number of businesses who embrace our educational vision and wish to invest in it. This enables us to have a £350,000 Virtual Reality Cave, a 21st Century Library, a business-standard conference centre, executive board rooms, fantastic laboratories and top class digital technology facilities throughout the school. Our VR facilities are second to none and offer the successful candidate the exceptional opportunity to be at the cutting edge of developing this exciting technology. Our close links with the University of Hull and two of our main employer partners, KCOM and The Centre for Digital Innovation (C4DI), give our students and staff unprecedented access to specialist industry practitioners who work alongside our teachers to develop and deliver unique project-based learning. Another key aspect of this post is to lead the development of our Digital Technology employer projects.

Expectations in terms of standards of behaviour of our students are exceptionally high. Indeed, our students are expected to behave like young professionals rather than students. Our behaviour policy is based on the principles of Positive Discipline, but has been further developed in collaboration with the Heads of Human Resources from each of our employer sponsors. It therefore connects directly with the world of work and focuses on three aspects of behaviour: health and safety; personal and organisational reputation; productivity. Relationships between staff and students are a strength of the school, being based on mutual respect. Students call staff by first names and, because of the relatively small size of our student and staff body, everyone feels part of a caring and happy community. Our Professional Values and Behaviours policy is available on the website.

Our school day mirrors a traditional working day. Learning time starts at 9.15 a.m. and finishes at 5.15 p.m. Monday to Thursday with an early finish at 4.30 pm. on Friday. The extended day allows us to run a broad enrichment curriculum, including supervised independent study instead of homework. We also have time to enable our students to study additional professional qualifications. Contact time is limited to twenty-two hours per week for main scale teachers and teaching staff are free to spend their PPA time off-site if they wish to. Members of the leadership team have reduced contact time in recognition of their leadership responsibilities.

This is truly a once in a life time opportunity to make your mark on education in the UK. At Ron Dearing UTC we believe passionately that the current education system does not meet the needs of all students. Neither does it prepare young people effectively for the world of work. In proactive partnership with our employer sponsors, we intend to lead the way in changing this.

If this challenge excites you as much as it does us, you want to work alongside successful local businesses to support your own professional development as well as that of our students AND you think you have what we are looking for, please apply.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Yours faithfully,



Sarah Pashley Charlie Spencer

Principal of RDUTC Executive Chairman of The Spencer Group

Chair of Governors of RDUTC