

Dear Applicant

Headteacher vacancy at Great Wishford C of E Primary School

Welcome to Great Wishford C of E Primary School and thank you for your interest in this post. We hope the information enclosed in this pack inspires you to apply for this role which is so crucial to the future of our school.

The Acorn Education Trust

Acorn Education Trust was established in 2014 to provide a local solution to a national strategy. Our mission: to “prepare young people for their world in their time” through excellent leadership, excellent teaching and excellent learning is at the heart of all that we do. In every Acorn school you will see:

- active and visible leadership
- care, support and challenge
- opportunities for all
- respect, recognition and resilience
- needs of all are paramount.

Kingdown School is the founding school alongside Dilton Marsh Church of England Primary School and The Avenue Primary School. Acorn now serves 9 schools (1 secondary and 8 primary) with another secondary to join in mid-2018. The schools are organised into 4 hubs – 3 are primary and each one is lead by an Executive Headteacher. The fourth is the secondary hub overseen by the CEO; currently Kingdown School sits here in isolation but, is soon to be joined by The Clarendon Academy in Trowbridge.

The Trust is led by Sara Edwards CEO. Finance and HR are centrally organised and led by Sandra Reynolds (COO) and Anna Williams (HR Director) respectively. Shared services in IT, premises, catering, PE/Sport (primary) and SEND are developing across all schools.

One of the Trust’s main operational objectives is to ensure the Headteacher focuses on leading teaching and learning, so the business element is mainly managed by Trust staff. Reducing back office staff by sharing resources, improving IT and school to school support is keeping each school financially healthy and directing as much money as possible into teaching and learning. As mentioned in the acrostic above, professional development is a key priority and we hope that whoever becomes Headteacher at Great Wishford C of E Primary School will see the potential career opportunities within Acorn and aspire to Executive Headteacher and perhaps CEO in the future.

While Directors are very keen for all schools to develop their unique identity and serve their community, there are key areas where the Trust expects to see standardisation or alignment. Within the primary school context this relates to: assessment; health and safety and various policies. Sara Edwards will discuss this in more detail during the interview process.

The Directors maintain overall responsibility for all Trust schools, however they delegate many tasks to each school Academy Council of Governors through the scheme of delegation. The latter are the guardians of:

- the standards in the school
- the safety of the students and staff
- the management of the finances and assets

- the school's identity and community ethos.

The Great Wishford C of E Primary School Academy Council works collaboratively with the Senior Leadership Team to ensure high challenge and support.

The School

Great Wishford C of E Primary School joined the Trust in March 2018. This vibrant rural church primary school founded in 1722 is set in the heart of the ancient village of Great Wishford and serves 107 pupils from the local area. The village is located in the heart of the beautiful Wiltshire countryside, six miles from the medieval city of Salisbury. The school has expanded to provide flexible accommodation to provide for a wide range of learning needs and includes a spacious hall and refurbished library. It enjoys dedicated outdoor spaces within beautiful rural grounds, has access to woodland, and opportunities within the local area to engage in cultural activities. The independently managed Groveley Pre-School is located within the school grounds. The local community values the school for its caring ethos and strong Christian identity.

For the successful applicant we can offer:

- Enthusiastic children from a wide catchment area who are eager to learn and are proud of their school
- A genuine commitment to your professional development and well-being
- A committed, cohesive and caring staff team
- A skilled and supportive Academy Council who work in partnership with the Head, staff and the Trust;
- Support and collaboration with other professionals within the Trust and local cluster

Your application

We hope you will feel excited about this opportunity and we look forward to hearing from you. We strongly encourage prospective candidates to visit our school to experience our warm and friendly school community first-hand. Please contact Mandy Hewes, School Business Manager, to make an appointment or for an informal conversation about the role on admin@greatwishford.wilts.sch.uk or by telephone 01722 790433.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Certificate is required for this post prior to commencement.

Please apply by noon on the closing date of **17th April 2018**, via the TES website and Elaine Fullick at elf@acorneducationtrust.com. If you have not heard from us by **23rd April 2018**, please assume that your application has not been successful.

With many thanks for your interest in Great Wishford C of E Primary School

Yours sincerely



David Middleton
Chair of Acorn Education Trust Directors



Sara Edwards, CEO Acorn Education Trust

