November 2016

Dear Colleague

We are delighted to enclose details and an application form for the position of **Teaching Assistant** at The Farnley Academy, a member of The GORSE Academies Trust. This vacancy represents a unique opportunity to join a highly ambitious and motivated professional body which is transforming the lives of young people in the community it serves.

The Farnley Academy is one of the most improved schools in England. Since 2009 we have transformed outcomes for young people from 32% gaining five or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C including English and mathematics to 71% in 2016. This year, 89% made or exceeded expected progress in English and 83% in Mathematics. Our mission is simple – to create an environment which is free from cynicism and unwilling to put limits on what young people can achieve.

In December 2013 the excellence of our work was recognised by Ofsted which judged the academy to be Outstanding in all areas. Inspectors noted that 'the quality of teaching is outstanding. Much is inspirational. As a result, students display a rare thirst for learning and an eagerness to succeed.' A copy of the full report is available to download from our website.

Working together as a team, young people and professionals are dedicated and passionate about learning and making sustained progress together. Lessons are highly personalised and cater for the needs of all learners including the most able, those who qualify for the pupil premium, SEND and young people who may not speak English as a first language. As an average size secondary school, students and staff know each other very well and this makes an important contribution to the excellent relationships we enjoy and the outstanding results we attain. In 2012, the academy benefitted from a £23 million building programme which has transformed our learning environment.

Visitors to our academy always comment on how welcoming and friendly our school is. This comes from our pride in what we have achieved together and our eagerness to share this with others. As a strategic partner in the Leeds Teaching School Alliance, we welcome significant numbers of trainee teachers to our academy each year and also work closely with other schools to support their transformations.

In order to move forward with your application you will need to complete the application form fully. A CV is not required. With regard to the additional information section candidates are invited to write in no more than 2 sides of standard font a supporting letter which details your experience and expertise relevant to the post. Please ensure that you refer specifically to the *Person Specification*. (*Please note if you do not hear from the Academy 48 hours after the closing date, your application has not been successful).*

We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Mr Scott Wilson

**Principal**