March 2017

Dear Candidate

**2nd in Faculty – Mathematics, ICT & Music**

Thank you for asking for details of the post of 2nd in Faculty – Mathematics, ICT & Music. Together with this letter you should find the following enclosures have been sent to you:

* General details about Fakenham Academy
* A Job Description for the post
* A Personal Specification for the post

John Hewson, our Head of Mathematics, ICT & Music Faculty, leads an experienced department with specialist teachers who work together closely. The post now advertised is for a full time mathematics teacher to join us from September 2017 and to be 2nd in the Faculty.

We are looking for someone who can add to the teaching and leadership skills within the Faculty and the Academy generally. There is a strong sense of collegiality within the Faculty and across the Academy as a whole. GCSE results have been record highs for the Academy for the past four years, but we know we can do even better and mathematics will play a key part in this. There is an opportunity now for an ambitious, creative and innovative person who has the passion and determination to drive standards up to an even higher level.

On joining the school in Year 7 students are taught Mathematics in ability. The number of sets in each year group varies by cohort size, currently in each of Years 8 and 9 there are 5 Mathematics groups, in 7 and 10 there are 6 Mathematics groups and in Year 11 there are currently 7 Mathematics groups. Curriculum time for Mathematics is currently 7 sixty minute lessons per fortnight in Years 7 and 8, and 8 sixty minute lessons per fortnight in Year 9, 10 and 11.

The Department is well resourced; all students have a textbook for use at school and for homework. At KS3 we currently use Pearson’s KS3 Maths Progress as the main teaching resource, with a core of problem solving tasks, IT tasks and various other resources incorporated into our schemes of work. All students in Key Stage 4 enter a linear exam. The department is equipped with Pearson’s Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Mathematics text books and Active Teach for the interactive whiteboards. There are many other texts and resources available through the school’s VLE and students have access to online assessment through Active Learn and MyMaths.

Mathematics is extremely popular at Post-16. There are 2 AS groups in Year 12 and 2 groups in year 13 completing the full A2 course with an average group size of ten. There are also two retake GCSE groups in the College. At AS and A2 Level all students currently follow the AQA specification, using the appropriate texts throughout. We also offer the full Further Maths course at AS/A2, again currently following the AQA scheme and using appropriate texts throughout.

On the Wells Road site the Department occupies a delightful suite at the front of the College building comprising two teaching rooms, both of which are equipped with an interactive whiteboard, and an office. On Field Lane, the High School mathematics suite consists of five teaching rooms.

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**2nd in Faculty – Mathematics, ICT & Music**  - continued

The Department is also fortunate in possessing a large resource area where mathematical materials, worksheets, software and students’ work are stored. The resource area also acts as a workroom for staff and enables Internet access. In addition to the school’s excellent ICT facilities, every mathematics classroom contains an interactive whiteboard.

The Department utilises many different software applications and websites including MyMaths, Active Teach and Active Learn, all of which have been incorporated into our schemes of work. Students are encouraged to access the Internet and to use spreadsheets and databases both as part of their every-day learning and as part of the problem solving tasks in which they engage during lessons. Teachers and students are encouraged to use the VLE to access support and to send and receive homework tasks. All students are expected to provide their own calculators, either scientific or graphical according to recommendation. We now have a class set of Texas TI-83 Plus in the Department to be used with students as young as those in Year 7. College students are expected to invest in their own graphical calculator, preferably the Casio FX 9680 or CG20, as all interactive whiteboards have the emulator for this model installed.

Maths, ICT & Music is a newly formed faculty and links between the departments are in the early stages of development, but many teachers in the mathematics department use ICT in their teaching to enhance the learning of students already. Opportunities to share ideas, collaborate and explore new learning opportunities through STEM, both across the departments and in the wider school are waiting to be opened up by someone with skills to lead this forward.

John Hewson would be very happy to answer any questions you may have prior to your making a formal on-line application. His e-mail is jhewson@fakenhamacademy.org.

If you would like to apply, please complete the on-line application form via our website. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 22 March 2017. All interviews will take place w/c 27 March 2017.

I look forward to reading your application and to meeting short-listed candidates at interview. In the interests of economy, no acknowledgement of applications will be made. If you have not heard from me by Friday 31March, please take this as an indication that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Parr-Burman

Principal