Dear prospective applicant

Thank you for your interest in role of Teacher of Technology at Pakefield. The post is within the Design and Technology Department, which itself sits in the Science and Technology Learning Team. The post involves teaching Food and Textiles Technology at KS3, and Resistant Materials at KS4. You will work closely with, and be supported by, me as Subject Leader for Technology and also our Subject Leader for Food and Textiles.

Pakefield is a relatively new school, having been founded with students in Years 7 and 8 in September 2011. The school played its part in setting new standards and aspirations - not just for its own students but for those of Lowestoft as a whole. I started at Pakefield in September 2013 and was excited to become Subject Leader for Technology in 2016 with the aim of refreshing and modernising the department. Our leadership team is determined to create a supportive environment of high trust and high challenge for students and staff alike. We are increasingly questioning our existing practices with a view to instilling a culture of continual improvement. The whole school curriculum had been redesigned over the last year to ensure all students can achieve success, embarked upon a staged plan for improving the quality of teaching and learning, and have implemented a new staff structure designed to give coherence, career progression and empower all staff to be leaders.

This year we have launched a whole-school programme of “interventions and electives” and our team offers a range of enrichment programmes including Gardening Club and Robotics for our students as part of this programme.

We are seeking a dynamic and enthusiastic practitioner ready to contribute to the department, adding to both the curricular and extra-curricular experience and outcomes for students. Naturally we are looking for a colleague who has presence, can command the respect of students and staff and provide innovation and creativity in the role.

It is an exciting time to be joining the Technology Department. The recent changes to the subject at a national level mean that the subject has gone through changes uniting the many areas of the subject together. The department is very well equipped with modern equipment and boasts a dedicated food technology room, textiles room and two workshops. Design Technology is a popular subject with students across the school - over 50% of year 9 pick a Technology subject as an option. At KS3 Design Technology is taught on a rotation of Food, Textiles and Resistant Materials. At KS4 the new Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE is offered along with the new combined DT GCSE with students specialising in either Textiles or Timbers.

During my time at Pakefield I have been constantly impressed by the maturity, kindness and intelligence of our students and the dedication of our staff. I look forward to your application.

Yours faithfully

Mathew Hughes

Subject Leader Technology