

**Director of Digital Learning**

**To all aspiring applicants**

It is a rather unusual step to write a letter to accompany a job advertisement, but this particular appointment excites me hugely. We have reached a really interesting point in our (long: 1552) history: a school full of 1100 boys, both boarding and day from aged 7-18; a truly outstanding recent ISI inspection; our best ever A Level and IB results (just under 60% of papers were marked at A\* or A); and numerous national achievements in sport, music and drama, to name only three of a myriad of extra-curricular opportunities. However, we still feel we have much progress to make.

Bedford School has been here for over 450 years and keeps many of the traditions that have formed its ethos; it aims to mix these traditions with a genuinely open, fun, ambitious, forward looking atmosphere, understanding that education should be enjoyable as well as challenging for all those who work here together, be they adults or children. There is a wonderful sense of community. We are determined, however, not to be complacent or stuck in our ways. The world is moving quickly around us and we wish now to employ someone who is closely in touch with that quickly changing world, who is excited by the opportunities that it opens for the next generation, who is passionate about education, knowledgeable in technological matters and keen to lead both boys and staff through a period of change. It seems pretty clear to me that teaching and learning will look very different in 10 years’ time; and that we need to be pre-empting that position now.

I, and the Governors (who recently held an Away Day on the Future of Education), are absolutely committed to this challenge. If you are successful in your application, you will find a school in great heart, with boys who are open, intelligent and good fun, and a wider community which is open minded and keen to support each other. You will also find a school with strong finances and exciting prospects for the development of its site. You do not need to have been a teacher before; you will need to be knowledgeable, persuasive, determined and a hard working team player.

If you have read this far and are wondering about salary, I will simply assure you that this will be commensurate with experience and also the fact that we are a school. The role also comes with significant benefits not least of which (for those with families) is generous fee reduction at all the Harpur Trust schools.

I look forward very much to hearing from you.

With kind regards,



**James Hodgson**

**Head Master**