



Teacher of Business and Economics Application Pack

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Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in this post, and I hope you find the information provided useful.

Furze Platt is an extremely rewarding school in which to work and was rated 'Good' by Ofsted in our most recent inspection (September 2016).

As our values and vision statement notes, 'Our successful school is a happy, safe and caring learning community where achievement is promoted, potential realised and young people flourish.' We have nearly 170 caring, committed and good humoured teaching and support staff together with a diverse student body of 1250 students, who come to school ready to learn and who are supportive of the school's policies and procedures. This is a school where staff and students work together to achieve high standards and excellent outcomes.

'Pupils achieve highly at this school' - Ofsted 2016

Our student body is taken from the town of Maidenhead, 30 miles west of London, and from other parts of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire. Whilst overall the area is affluent, ours is a true comprehensive school, with students from all social, economic and ethnic backgrounds. The school is popular and well regarded in the local community. The achievement of most students is good or better and has been significantly above national averages for 4 years running. Both girls and boys make significantly better progress than children nationally.

'The quality of teaching and learning is strong. Teachers' strong subject knowledge and good behaviour management skills help pupils to learn effectively' - Ofsted 2016

We are also a very inclusive school, and our vertical tutor group system, with six tutor groups in each of eight houses, emphasises the sense of community. We have a specialist unit for students with autistic spectrum disorder, and provide excellent support for those with academic or emotional difficulties.

Our curriculum is broad and balanced, and aims to meet the differing needs of students. We operate a two year Key Stage Three to allow students to make accelerated progress and to embark on their GCSE studies in Year 9.

At Key Stage Four our curriculum provides an appropriate mix of academic GCSE subjects including English Language and English Literature, maths, and both combined and separate sciences. Students can also opt for more vocational subjects. Standards are very high and students' progress and attainment are significantly above the national average.

The Sixth Form is an undoubted strength of Furze Platt, with the broad curriculum offer and high standard of teaching leading to excellent examination results. A very large number of sixth formers progress to university, including Russell Group universities and Oxbridge. Sixth form students are also expected to undertake community work in or out of school, including paired reading and maths schemes, and act as subject prefects or mentors. They make a significant contribution to the school. The Sixth Form block boasts state of the art teaching rooms, study facilities and a common room.

‘Teaching in the Sixth Form is consistently good... students made very strong progress in both academic and vocational subjects [and] are excellent role models for younger pupils... the proportion of A* and A grades has also increased’ - Ofsted 2016

We have excellent ICT facilities, with all departments having either a separate ICT suite or large numbers of laptops for student use. Our VLE (‘FP Online’) is first class, and enables staff and students to collaborate simultaneously over the Google ‘cloud.’ All teaching staff have their own school laptop.

We also believe passionately in music, drama, the arts and sport, and have excellent facilities to support these. In particular, over the past five years two state of the art Drama studios, including a small theatre, have been built; a new Dance studio has been constructed; while our Music department has been completely redesigned, and now houses a professional recording studio, practice rooms and classrooms. As would be expected, there are a large number of music and drama productions, both on a large and small scale. We have recently completed a significant sports development programme and Furze Platt Leisure Centre opened on site in 2015.

We have a strong team of teaching staff and are committed to developing our teaching still further, and thus to ensure that even more students reach their full potential. To this end, we invest heavily in teachers’ professional development. In addition to twilight staff development time and teaching and learning-focused INSET days, staff are encouraged to join working parties focusing on aspects of pedagogy and benefit from staff coaching. Where appropriate, staff attend external courses, and we encourage staff to visit other schools to see examples of best practice.

Furze Platt is an exciting school to work in, and this is an exciting time to join us on our journey. I hope that the information in this pack inspires you to apply to work with us. Should you require any further information, then please visit our website (www.furzeplatt.com) or contact me via my P.A. Mrs Jacky Phillips email jacky.phillips@furzeplatt.net.

With best wishes

Tanya White
Headteacher

Job Description – Teacher

Purpose: To ensure the greatest possible progress and development of students, through high quality teaching and learning, and appropriate pastoral support. To challenge and support all students to achieve their best by:

- Setting consistently high expectations and standards
- Sharing a love of your subject and of learning
- Enthusiating, engaging and motivating students
- Inspiring trust and confidence in students and colleagues

Main duties:

- To maintain thorough and up to date subject knowledge and pedagogy
- To plan lessons and sequences of lessons and to support students in meeting their personal and academic potential
- To use a range of effective strategies for teaching and for behaviour management, as detailed in the school's Learning Policy and Behaviour Policy
- To ensure the effective deployment of classroom support where appropriate
- To use and analyse performance data including prior learning data, progress data and external examination data when planning lessons, and in order to establish and set expectations, targets and action plans for individuals and groups of students
- To assess, monitor and record progress of students in teaching and tutorial groups
- To set home learning regularly and in accordance with the school's Homework, Marking and Assessment Policy
- To mark work regularly, provide appropriate feedback, and ensure this feedback is acted upon, in accordance with the school's Homework, Marking and Assessment Policy
- To communicate students' progress with parents and carers
- To take part in marketing and liaison activities, such as Open Evenings, Parents' Evenings, Options Evenings and Celebration Events
- To engage actively in your own Performance Management and to take responsibility for your own Professional Development within the context of the school's Performance Management and Professional Development policies
- To be a team player within your department and house, contributing to department meetings, improvement plans and self evaluation processes.
- To contribute and where appropriate to lead on departmental learning plans including Schemes of Learning or Schemes of Work
- To work with, learn from, and support departmental and House colleagues
- To cooperate with colleagues to ensure a sharing and effective use of resources and to inform the process of ordering and allocation of equipment and materials
- To alert relevant staff to problems experienced by students and to work with those staff to implement solutions

Other duties:

- Where appropriate, to assume pastoral responsibility either for a mixed age Key Stage 3 and 4 tutor group or a Sixth Form tutor group, as part of the school's house system
- As a form tutor, to produce appropriate reports and otherwise liaise with parents as required
- To be aware of and assume the appropriate level of responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and to report any concerns in accordance with the school's Child Protection policy
- To comply with the school's Health and Safety Policy
- To undertake any other duties not mentioned above, commensurate with the level of the post

Furze Platt Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Teacher of Business and Economics Person Specification

Requirement	Essential?	Desirable?	Shown through? A = application I = interview R = reference
QTS and eligibility to work in UK	✓		A, I, R
Evidence of continuing professional development	✓		A, I
Understanding and support for the values and visions of the school	✓		A, I
Understanding and clear vision of the importance of SUBJECT	✓		A, I
A consistently good or outstanding practitioner capable of generating high student outcomes	✓		A, I
Ability to teach Business at GCSE	✓		A, I, R
Interest or experience to teach Business and Economics at A-Level.		✓	A, I
Self-motivated and self-reflective	✓		A, I
Good teamwork skills	✓		A, I
Good interpersonal and communication skills	✓		A, I
Good organisational skills	✓		A, I
Flexibility	✓		A, I
Patience	✓		A, I
Resilience	✓		A, I



Business and Economics Department

The Business and Economics department aims to provide a stimulating, dynamic and academically rigorous experience for all our students. We are dedicated to student-led, independent learning. The department has a focus on skills that are important for work as well as those that are important for examinations. We use ICT creatively and we actively encourage our students and staff to take educated and calculated risks in the class room. We are committed to building links with industry, developing a culture of enterprise and playing a broader role in a whole school context.

Accommodation, Resources and Facilities

The Business and Economics department is suited in three well equipped teaching rooms. Two have suites of desktop computers; the other has its own suite of laptops. The department is very well resourced and students benefit from many excellent textbooks which are supplemented by newspapers, magazines, periodicals and other resources from the school's Learning Resource Centre. Schemes of learning and other learning resources are produced and stored electronically, and are available to students as well as staff via the school's VLE.

Staffing

Head of Department + 2 experienced teachers.

Curriculum

KS3	The school encourages Enterprise throughout Key Stage 3. This takes place through activities such as the Enterprise House Challenge, and through the Lionheart Enterprise Challenge.
KS4	There are currently 2 classes studying Business in each of Year 9, 10 and 11. At GCSE, we follow the AQA specification for Business. This currently comprises two exams at the end of Year 11. There is a practical focus to the units and students are expected to apply their knowledge to real life business situations. Students work hard, enjoy the subject, and their high examination results reflect this.
KS5	Both Business and Economics are popular A-Level subjects. We offer both A-Level and BTEC Business, as well as A-Level Economics. A-Level Business (AQA) is examined via three two-hour examinations. The department offers the reformed Level 3 BTEC Business which is examined by a combination of coursework, a controlled assessment and a 2-hour exam. In Year 12 we offer 2 classes of each of our 6 th form subjects, making the department a very popular choice for 6 th Formers. A-Level Economics (AQA) is examined via three 2-hour examinations. We achieve consistently high results in all courses with a significant uptake of Business and Economics at university.

Extra-Curricular Provision

Teams from the school regularly compete in the regional and national finals of the Lionheart Challenge. We offer a number of visits to a range of businesses each year including to the Mini plant in Oxford, to Longleat in Wiltshire, as well as attending business competitions in London. We have developed close ties with John Lewis Partnership, who work with staff and students in a range of ways including, interviewing skills, CV development and presentation skills. Each year John Lewis offer 2-week summer work experience placements to Furze Platt Students – an initiative which is co-ordinated by the Business and Economics Department.