**Emmanuel Schools Foundation** is looking to appoint an outstanding Chief Finance Officer and Head of Support Services to play a leadership role in this expanding Trust.

The Emmanuel Schools Foundation is a Christian foundation which aims to provide centres of academic excellence where staff and students have the opportunity to achieve their personal best.

Beginning in Gateshead with Emmanuel College in 1990, the Foundation includes three academies, The King’s Academy in Middlesbrough, which opened in 2002, Trinity Academy in Doncaster, which opened in 2005 and Bede Academy in Northumberland (our all through school), which opened in 2009.

Current school population:

Emmanuel College 11-16 = 1,048 16-19 = 267

The King’s Academy 11-16 = 1,030 16-19 = 161

Trinity Academy 11-16 = 1,119 16-19 = 197

Bede Academy Nursery 75, Primary years = 636, 11-16 = 921, 16-19 = 162

The Foundation creates an environment and provides the facilities for young people to develop their academic, moral and spiritual potential. It is our aim to put character first, so that our students are well rounded, wise, confident, able young people who reach their full potential and go on to higher education, further education, apprenticeships or directly onto career based learning.

Students benefit from the Christian ethos which emphasises our values;

Honourable purpose

Humility

Compassion

Integrity

Accountability

Courage

Determination

The successful candidate will be joining at a pivotal time for the Foundation as we obtain Multi-Academy Status.

As a key member of the Executive Team, reporting to the Board of Directors, you will be responsible for all financial aspects of the Foundation, ensuring our statutory financial obligations are met. You will also play a key role in looking at ways to generate income and securing efficiencies across the schools through joint procurement opportunities and improved use of technology.
The successful candidate will hold a recognised accountancy qualification and have a proven track record of managing people, finances and resources, and organisational change. You will also have significant experience of producing detailed management reports and completing funding applications. Highly developed communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Without doubt, you will have the vision, drive and ability to think strategically and support the delivery of outstanding educational outcomes for the young people in our schools.

The post holder will strategically manage and lead the support services function which consists of business innovation, finance functions, IT, HR, projects and facilities, uniform procurement and distribution and catering. There are leaders in place for each function within support services and the post holder will line manage and appraise these staff.

This post represents an exciting and stimulating opportunity for an ambitious and talented senior leader to be part of the continuing development of the foundation.

**Qualification Criteria**

Qualified accountant with relevant post-qualification experience.

**Experience**

Experience of managing and motivating staff.

Understanding and experience of the challenges presented by working in a network environment with some devolved financial functions.

Financial reporting variance analysis and benchmarking school performance.

Experience on all aspects of school funding.

Planning and budgeting experience.

Experience of VAT regulations.

Excellent skills in strategic planning and strategic management of financial resources

Well-developed skills in spreadsheet and accountancy software.

Good communication and training skills, as well as the ability to write clearly and concisely and to produce and maintain documents.

You will be highly experienced at working at a senior operational level within a school or education setting. You will be a key player in a strong leadership team, collaborating on crucial decisions whilst working closely with the Executive Team and Principals to build and support a strong relationship between the educational and operational strands of the schools.

**Personal characteristics**

You will be comfortable in operating at board level and as a member of the executive team, offering sound commercial and strategic advice.

Strong persuasive, influencing and interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate clearly and confidently.

**Values**

Personal vision is aligned with the values of Emmanuel Schools Foundation.

Genuine passion and a belief in the potential of every student.

Motivation to continually improve standards and achieve excellence.

**Salary**

Competitive Salary, attractive pension scheme.

For further information, / initial discussion speak to Patricia Rowland Finance Director and Head of Support Services. prowland@esf-mail.org.uk. 01670 543570