



**Cutteslowe Primary School**

*"A School of Opportunity"*

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Head of School: Sarah Gristwood

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Dear Prospective Candidate,

## **RE: Play Worker**

Thank you for your interest in the **Play Worker** post at Cutteslowe Primary School. The job will involve working alongside the Childcare Coordinator and other Play Workers to ensure that Cutteslowe School provides an excellent after school and holiday childcare for our children.

It is an exciting time for Cutteslowe Primary School. In April 2013 the school converted to an Academy in partnership with The Cherwell School by joining The Cherwell School Academy Trust. The Cherwell School is our local 'Outstanding' secondary school where the majority of our children go onto study. We received our first full OFSTED as an Academy in March 2015. We are very pleased to announce that we were awarded a "Good" in every category. The report states "The headteacher and his senior team have created a strong culture of learning across the school. Pupils and adults are keen to improve their skills and, as a result, pupils' attainment is rising and the school has the capacity to improve further. The behaviour of pupils is good. They are polite and courteous and enjoy talking about their school. Relationships are very productive; pupils and adults have great respect for each other."

The school serves a mixed catchment area of North Oxford. A high proportion of our children are at the early stages of learning to speak English. At the last count we had thirty two different languages spoken at the school. We also have higher than the national average of children that are entitled to Pupil Premium funding. We believe that this diverse catchment should be celebrated and be reflected in our creative curriculum.

In the last few academic years we have seen many important changes for the school. Our admission number has been changed permanently to 60 children. To accommodate this increase in size the school has undergone a £2.5 million expansion and refurbishment. This has included a £100,000 investment in our outdoor areas. We now have purpose built outdoor areas for our Early Years and Key Stage 1 Units. Our extensive school field has also been developed to include: a Forest School site; fire pit; vegetable beds; climbing equipment; reading tent; willow dome; amphitheatre; bug hotels and pathways.

In November 2015 The Cherwell School Academy Trust converted to the River Learning Trust as other schools started to join the partnership. At the moment the Trust consists of a number of primary and secondary schools and The Cherwell OTSA (Oxfordshire Teaching School Alliance) SCITT. You can also find out more information about the growing River Learning Trust by visiting [www.riverlearningtrust.org](http://www.riverlearningtrust.org).



Cotteslowe is excited by the opportunities of working more closely with such a diverse range of schools which will benefit both our staff and children. The Trust schools are also involved in working with OTSA which provides further access to support and development opportunities.

The River Learning Trust has also made further commitments to improvements at Cotteslowe Primary School by announcing changes to The Cherwell School's admissions policy. This important change ensures that any child who lives in The Cherwell School's catchment and attends Cotteslowe Primary School will be guaranteed a space at the oversubscribed school.

If you are an experienced Play Worker or have worked with children we would love to hear from you. We are also looking for someone who wants to further develop their career; we are very proud of the opportunities we provide to staff to further enhance both their experience and effectiveness. If you are interested in becoming a teacher or a Teaching Assistant we have an excellent track record of supporting our staff. For example a number of our Teaching Assistants have become teachers via additional training and the SCITT.

We are seeking candidates who are excited by, and relish the prospect of, working in a school such as ours. We would recommend that prospective candidates visit or make contact before applying.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Gristwood', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Gristwood (Head of School)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Gray', written in a cursive style.

Jon Gray (Executive Headteacher)