



# Helme C E (VA) J & I School

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## CHAIR OF GOVERNORS WELCOME LETTER

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the post of Head Teacher at Helme CE (VA) Junior and Infant School in Helme, West Yorkshire. As Chair of the Governing Body I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little about the context of our school.

Helme CE (VA) School occupies an idyllic setting on the edge of the Peak District National Park (in 'Summer Wine' country), approximately 5 miles from Huddersfield. It is a small school, with 5 classes covering the 7 primary education years. There are currently 128 pupils on roll, aged 4-11 years.

As a result of an Ofsted Inspection in January 2017 the school was placed in special measures and will become an academy, as part of a Multi-Academy Trust. We now await a decision from the Regional School Commissioner regarding who the academy sponsor will be. We are viewing this as a fresh and exciting opportunity for the school to make further progress in partnership with others.

Whilst the outcome of the Ofsted Inspection was clearly disappointing at the time, it is important to stress that action was already underway to improve standards and has continued at a pace ever since, with strong support from Kirklees Local Authority and the Diocese of Leeds. We have also been fortunate in securing the services of an experienced and successful Headteacher on an interim, full-time secondment basis (since the beginning of the Summer Term 2017) and the school is moving forward under his leadership. It is also worth noting that there were several positive points made in the recent Ofsted report and that the personal development, behaviour and welfare of the pupils were judged as: 'Good'.

The Governing Body is seeking an ambitious leader who will embrace our ethos and build on the foundations already embedded in the school. In particular we are looking to appoint someone who will be committed to raising standards and has the vision to lead the school to be outstanding in all aspects.



We are a friendly and welcoming school which continues to enjoy strong, determined support from its pupils, parents and carers, staff, governors and local community. The school motto, provided by the children, is: "A small school that makes us feel big."

We are very proud of our school and I warmly encourage you to visit. I am confident that you will find children who are eager to learn and a dedicated team of staff and governors who want the best for our school community.

Our Interim Headteacher, Mr Alex Beaumont will be very happy to show you around and answer any questions that you may have. To arrange a visit, please contact the Business Support Manager, Julie Roberts, either by email [julie.roberts@helme.school.com](mailto:julie.roberts@helme.school.com) or by telephoning the school on 01484 854524.

Interviews for this post will be held on the Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Our preference is for the new Head Teacher to be in position to start by the beginning of the Summer Term 2018 (Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018) and earlier if possible.

Yours faithfully



Dennis Shields  
Chair of Governors

