Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the post of Headteacher at Queen Mary’s Grammar School.

We are looking for someone who is convinced that the role of Headteacher is the highest of callings, the best of jobs. We trust that the successful candidate will share our belief that education is not primarily about information, it is about transformation; not first and foremost about qualifications, but about qualities of character; it is not about preparation for a full bank account, but about participation in a full life.

The School is on the threshold of an exciting new chapter in a long and distinguished history. The vacancy arises because the current Headmaster is moving to take on wider responsibilities as CEO of The Mercian Trust, a new MAT of which the Grammar School is a Founder Academy. The successful candidate will not only work to secure the success of the next phase of Queen Mary’s Grammar School’s development, but also join the Executive Team of the *Mercian.* In that capacity, he or she will be shaping a new educational landscape across the Borough of Walsall. We live in a time of rapid change in education, so we are looking for someone with the strength, courage and vision to see exciting opportunity in future challenges.

You are invited to download the Candidate Information Pack which we hope will whet your appetite for the task ahead. Queen Mary’s is a vibrant community and an exceptionally rewarding place to work. However, we are sure you will want to explore further. Our website is a good place to start, obviously. You can find it here: <http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/> . We would draw your attention to what we call the QM Brand (which is an online book with a link at the bottom of the Ethos and Values page). It is worth consulting our Twitter account too: @qmgs1554. We’re heading towards our 10,000th tweet, so you should find a full picture of Marian life. One more suggestion: if you want to find out a bit more about the School’s Field Centre in Wales, you could try looking at @mariansonthemawddach. You’ll discover much about the spirit of our school there.

We are delighted that you are interested in this post and our school community. If you are inspired to be its next leader, we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

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Philip Sturrock MBE Paul Lee Timothy Swain

Chairman, The Mercian Trust Chair Of Governors CEO, The Mercian Trust

**Postscript:**

**Application**

Please complete the application form and provide a letter (of no more than two sides of A4) in which you outline how your experience has prepared you to fulfil the job description in the Candidate information Pack. You should also include a brief outline of how you would intend to lead the school over the next five years and how you would envisage contributing to the development of The Mercian Trust.

Applications should be returned online to [tj-swain@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:tj-swain@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk)

**Key dates:**

Closing date for application: Friday 17th November at 12 noon

Shortlisting: Monday 27th November

Interviews: Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December

**Visiting the School:**

You are welcome to make an informal visit to the School. There will be two opportunities to do so:

* Wednesday 01 November
* Tuesday 07 November

Please contact Tim Swain (email address as above or 01922 720696) to arrange your visit.

**Starting in post:**

The successful candidate will be expected to take up the position on 01 September 2018, but an earlier start may be possible if individual circumstances permit.