



# Academy

INTERNATIONAL BOARDING SCHOOLS

EF Academy: Torbay  
EF House  
Castle Road  
Torquay  
TQ1 3BG

April 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to start by thanking you for your interest in working in our school and with our students. In addition to the information provided with this advertisement I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce our school to help further inform your application.

Most importantly, the first thing any visitor comments upon when visiting our school is our wonderful student body who have come to study here from over 35 countries. As those of you reading this letter who have worked in international education before will know, to spend each day with such a diverse group of young people is a true privilege and one which enriches all of our lives here in school each day.

What you will also find when you visit us is the superb relationship between these students and our staff body. We pride ourselves on our family atmosphere where all members of the community are responsible for taking a genuine interest in every student. From the canteen staff to those on reception, all students are known by name and we make every effort to know them all as individuals.

In recent years the school has seen significant growth from just over 250 students in September 2016 to 300 this academic year and this figure is set to rise to approximately 350 by September 2019. During the same period we have grown from 2 boarding houses with capacity for 85 students to 5 full residences of 225 students. The strong growth we have experienced in the last two years has led to developments across the school, including curriculum expansion and significant development of our co-curricular and sports programmes. Despite this increase on role we are totally committed to maintaining the highest levels of personalised care and support for our students. Our maximum class size is limited to 16 (the current average is 11) and all teachers have a maximum of 80% directed time to enable them to plan, teach and mark to a high standard. Teachers also enjoy 16 weeks holiday per year, including a 10 week break during the summer.

Furthermore, in the last 12 months the school has achieved its best ever results in all 3 examination programmes (IGCSE, A-Level and IBDP). Despite studying in a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> language and living away from home for the first time, on average our students outperform their UK counterparts at IGCSE and A-Level and our IBDP scores are consistently above the world average. The next post holder has the opportunity to build on this success and play a significant role in working with the faculty and our academic leadership team to further these improvements whilst working day-to-day in our warm and welcoming community.

On behalf of our students and staff, I look forward to receiving your application and, for those who are shortlisted, to welcoming you to our community. Should you have any further questions or you wish to visit informally you are most welcome to contact me by phone or directly by email [mark.howe@ef.com](mailto:mark.howe@ef.com)

Sincerely,

**Mr. Mark Howe**  
Head of School, EF Academy Torbay



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