

Theale Green School



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Letter from the Headteacher
for applicants for the role
of Executive Head of English

November 2019

Dear Applicant

We are delighted to invite you to come and look around Theale Green School and on our journey to achieve the ALET Mission of “transforming lives through learning”. As we enter our second academic year as part of ALET, we have made our mark within the Trust and placed Theale Green School firmly on the ALET map.

We want you to be certain that you have chosen the right school for you. Our staff team at Theale Green School are loyal, confident, supportive, resilient and hugely determined; our determination is borne of a clear desire to ensure that Theale Green School will become the best school that it can be, and we are highly focused on the pathway ahead to achieve our Mission. If this feels like a “family” that you would like to join, then we will be delighted to welcome you.

We have achieved a ‘massive improvement’ (DfE April 2019) in our first year and have done it by delivering what we set out to do. Our recent Year 7 intake has increased by 70% on the three previous years as the community recognises the very significant and substantial changes taking place. Staff absence and turnover are both low, and this is a strong reflection of our culture.

Our English Department, at Theale Green School, is vibrant and engaging; the students are the focus of everything we do. A leading department in the school, we have made rapid improvements at both GCSE and A level which are reflected in our results. The past three years evidences strong increases in both Language and Literature. Moving from a 64% to 71% pass rate at GCSE an external English review reflected that English students recognise the passion for teaching within the department coupled with ‘strong subject knowledge’.

At KS5, a highly innovative leader has moved results from an ALPS 7 to 2, with pass rates above national average and West Berkshire averages (top 5% nationally). Students at Theale Green recognise the value of the learning journey that the English Department offers from KS3 through to KS5. The English Department is staffed with dynamic teachers who ensure our teaching practice maximises standards of student progress and attainment. The successful applicant will be expected to continue the vision that we share to further enhance the progress of students at Theale Green School.



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The concluding comment of the English Review stated that 'the English Department has the potential to be an outstanding department'. This mirrors the vision for the team and therefore we seek a dynamic and forward-thinking specialist to help us achieve our department goals.

As Headteacher (I teach a Year 10 and a Year 11 Science class), I am passionate about the power of education to open doors for young people, and in this age of results driven outcomes often being seen as the primary measure of success for schools, Theale Green School equally has a rich and impressive heritage of the Creative Arts and Sport, which continues to grow from strength to strength in our curriculum. Talent comes in all shapes and sizes, and we firmly believe that whilst high grades are an important aspiration for all of our students, each individual student has much to offer Theale Green School in addition; every child at Theale Green School must feel valued for who they are, and building confidence and resilience is an important part of the ethos surrounding participation in life at school. Student leadership, membership of clubs, involvement in the community, participation in sports teams and performance events and the Duke of Edinburgh programme all provide important opportunities for personal development of our students.

We have recently invested in a refurbishment of many of our buildings, completely refurbishing our IT suites and upgrading our whole school network; our Sixth Form students value their modern and accessible facilities. Year on year our Sixth Form outcomes gather strength, and we are very much in the top echelons of Sixth Form schools nationally in terms of the progress our students make during their A Levels. Yet again this year we were exceptionally proud of the destinations achieved by our students, and we have achieved the elite status of a Grade 1 ALPS School for Sixth Form provision.

Students know that our Values of Respect, Hard Work and Progress are the drivers for daily life at school. We believe that if students' emotions are balanced, they are willing to put in effort, and they are motivated to go further, then they will be successful growing up in our community.

We look forward to welcoming you to Theale Green School to meet our students and staff.

Jo Halliday
Headteacher