



TU IGITUR PERFER ADVERSA

Waihi School

Preparatory School for Boys

Dear Candidate

Re: Waihi School – Head of Science Position

Thank you for your interest in the Head of Science position at Waihi School. I hope that having considered the enclosed information you feel that this might just be the right opportunity for you.

If you want to teach small, motivated classes of boys in a school committed to creating an exciting and unique learning environment, then this might be for you! We are looking for someone who realises the time and commitment a school such as Waihi requires. A sense of humour and ability to cope in our busy school are prerequisites to the position.

The current school roll is growing with class sizes averaging 16 boys, this is a very special opportunity for a teacher to come and enjoy taking on the Head of Science role at Waihi, teaching each of our six form classes.

Teaching, learning or living at Waihi School is a very different experience to that found in most schools. It is not for everyone, and certainly I would not judge any who felt they would prefer a more traditional school environment. For those who embrace the ethos of a boys only, boarding school, working here can have an equally transformative effect on a teacher as with our boys.

Waihi is an Independent School, this gives us as much freedom as it does responsibility. Yes, Waihi does place expectations and demands on its staff, but this expectation is mirrored for the boys and their parents. This is what makes our school work so well. We truly are a family and one that has been a part of the educational landscape of the South Island for over one hundred years.

The school *punches above its weight* in so many ways, most often because of the staff. They encourage each boy to aspire, to dream and to take risks. Individuals are nurtured and valued for their own particular talents.

I encourage you to visit our school website www.waihi.school.nz, or our Facebook page www.facebook.com/WaihiSchool, to discover a little more about our school, this will give you a feel of who we are.

Our current Head of Science, Mark West, is heading back home to the U.K. after four years of fantastic contribution to the school. He has developed an outstanding Waihi Science curriculum experience for our boys. Although most lessons are based in the science lab, the wonderful rural environment allows opportunities for boys to explore and learn outside of the classroom too.

Over the past couple of years environmental science initiatives have grown through the acquisition of a large orchard property adjacent to the school as well as easy accessibility to the Waihi river.

The school's geographical location, close to the beaches, mountains and lakes is stunning. The boys have even had opportunities to explore astronomy – a section of the Southern skies above Aorangi Mt Cook is currently being considered to be declared as a World Heritage Site, this would become the first starlight heritage site in the world.

All boys have an afternoon of outdoor education with a specialist teacher, which from next term will include a horticulture module as the redevelopment of large commercial glasshouse is completed.

There is enormous potential for a new Head of Science to share their own interests with the boys, this is something all staff at Waihi are encouraged to do – Mark currently runs a robotics club, has boys participating in the ePro8 Challenge (an engineering and problem solving race) and takes the 1st XI Football team. We would love to hear how you would share your passions with the boys.

Accommodation is available, if desired, on-site for the successful applicant. Other than the Headmaster, we currently have six members of the teaching staff and their families residential at the school, all in their own private houses on the school boundary.

If you are interested in making an application please send the following to executive@waihi.school.nz:

- Your Curriculum Vitae – including the names of two referees.
- A letter of application.
- The completed and signed declaration.

Alternatively, you may choose to send your application by mail. Please address to The Headmaster, Waihi School, 611 Temuka-Orari Highway, RD 26, Temuka 7986, South Canterbury.

We are looking for a candidate who has the range of skills, experience and passion to really make a difference for each boy here and be the *best fit* with our current team at Waihi. Candidates new to the profession as well as experienced colleagues are encouraged to apply.

I urge you to consider the wider experience Waihi has to offer you and outline what you can bring to Waihi.

Thank you for your interest in our wonderful school and I look forward to hearing from you.

If you have any further questions about the position, please feel free to contact the school, or email me directly at headmaster@waihi.school.nz.

Kind regards

Allan Short
Headmaster