

**UPPER HOLLAND ROAD, SUTTON COLDFIELD, B72 1RB**

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Headteacher: Ms T Campbell BA. MEd.

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE SCHOOL AND THE POST**

### **THE AREA**

Sutton Coldfield is predominantly a residential area and has its own distinctive identity. It boasts a modern shopping centre, a variety of recreational and cultural facilities and a large and beautiful park. It is also on the edge of both the multicultural city of Birmingham and the rolling countryside of North Warwickshire and South Staffordshire. In short, it is an attractive place in which to work.

### **THE SCHOOL**

Plantsbrook is an 11-19 Comprehensive Academy, situated close to the town centre of Sutton Coldfield, which is about eight miles to the north of Birmingham city centre. There are around 1300 students on roll, including well over 250 in the Sixth Form. We are proud to take students of all abilities.

### **OUR VISION AND AIMS**

Our core purpose is learning and teaching, in order to raise the achievement of our students. This is central to everything that we do. At all times we aspire to our motto 'be the best that you can be'. Our vision for the school is highlighted in the prospectus. I write: 'I believe that above all, education must be about opening doors for youngsters and then keeping them open. My vision for Plantsbrook is one in which children develop into rounded young adults with a love of learning and a desire to succeed. I see children who are actively involved in school life, who respect themselves and others and who want to be the best that they can be. I see children prepared for adult life who are able to use the latest technology with confidence and who appreciate the world around them. I see a team of highly professional teachers who are committed to our students and love teaching their subjects. I see parents who are proud of their children's achievements and proud of the school'.

This summarises the approach that we take at Plantsbrook in everything that we do.

## WHERE ARE WE NOW?

In September 2011, we were judged to be an 'outstanding' school by OFSTED. This afforded many opportunities, such as Teaching School status. Our results continued to be strong up until recently and whilst our attainment at GCSE remains very positive, our 2016 Progress 8 figure was extremely disappointing. As a result, we had an unscheduled OFSTED inspection in November 2016 which judged our outcomes to 'require improvement' and therefore our quality of teaching and Leadership and Management also to 'require improvement', in a domino effect. Behaviour, personal development and well-being and Sixth Form were judged to be good. We were devastated by the overall judgement, as was our whole school community as we feel that we are a good school. We are absolutely committed to improving our GCSE progress and proving OFSTED wrong. Whilst it has been a massive blow to our incredibly talented and dedicated staff, we are rising to this challenge. The management ethos is very much one of teamwork. We believe that people work best in an environment that is secure, caring and friendly, as well as challenging. It is a 'no-blame' culture which encourages creativity, imagination and ambition. We have committed staff with an excellent balance of experience and youth. They work tremendously hard to help both the students and each other. In short, it is a positive place to be. In spite of the pressures of OFSTED, we are determined to ensure that this remains the case.

We have a very supportive parent body who believe that Plantsbrook is delivering a good education to their children, as evidenced by Parent View. We are massively oversubscribed with 1300 applications each year for 210 places. We are currently in the process of a new build which will see our current building replaced by state-of-the-art facilities. The new main building will be up and running by September 2017 at the latest.

## OUR FUTURE

The foundations are in place for us to bounce back quickly from our recent disappointment with the OFSTED inspection and to improve our Progress 8 score. This will be a challenging time for us, but an exciting one too. We are fully committed to regaining our 'Outstanding' status as soon as possible. Our staff 'buy in' to our drive to improve. Do you share this drive to make Plantsbrook the very best school it can be? Do you want to be part of the team which delivers this and to join us on our journey?

## APPLICATIONS

We welcome applications from enthusiastic, committed teachers and support professionals.

If you would like to apply for the post, please:

- Complete the Plantsbrook School application form enclosed.
- Send a letter of application, which should convey an impression of your personality.

**Note:** If you have not heard from the school within 2 weeks of the closing date, please assume that you have been unsuccessful in your application.

May we thank you for your interest.



Tracy Campbell (Ms)  
Headteacher

## **STAFF BENEFITS**

### **THE HEALTH SCHEME FROM BHSF**

Staff can volunteer to pay into the BHSF health cash plan which is designed to take the financial burden out of looking after your health. As an employee, you benefit from corporate rates, which are approximately 30% lower than direct premiums. Premiums can be deducted directly from your salary and start from £6.76 per month or £12.57 per month for a family membership.

### **BHSF CONNECT**

The School's Employee Assistance Programme is BHSF Connect.

BHSF Connect is a mobile solution that extends beyond the workplace, providing you with 24/7 access to a range of health and wellbeing services, as well as discounted gym membership. BHSF Connect also provides access to an online voluntary discounts platform providing a range of offers and discounts from well-known retailers and high-street brands e.g. Marks and Spencer's, Boots, Argos and B & Q.

### **TAX-FREE BIKES FOR WORK – CYCLE SCHEME**

Plantsbrook are part of the Cycle Scheme which means you are able to sign up to the scheme in order to obtain bicycles and safety equipment whilst saving income tax and national insurance. You can obtain a bicycle and safety equipment up to a limit of £1000. The scheme works by having the bike and equipment cost taken from your gross salary. Hence you can spread the cost of a new bike over either 12 or 18 months.

### **CHILDCARE VOUCHERS**

The logo for KiddiVouchers features the word 'Kiddi' in a playful, rounded font with each letter in a different color (K: red, i: yellow, d: blue, d: green, i: yellow). The word 'Vouchers' is in a similar rounded font, with 'V' in red, 'o' in orange, 'u' in blue, 'c' in green, 'h' in blue, 'e' in orange, 'r' in blue, 's' in orange, and 'h' in blue.

Childcare vouchers are a Government initiative aimed at helping working parents. Parents can receive childcare vouchers free of tax and National Insurance via salary sacrifice, which means you receive your vouchers instead of part of your salary.