

Headteacher

Marden Vale C of E Primary Academy

Recruitment Information Pack

Working for the

Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust





















Diocesan Education Centre The Avenue, Wilton Wiltshire, SP2 0FG Telephone: 01722 746948

Email: office@dsat.org.uk www.dsat.org.uk

Letter from DSAT CEO, Mark Lacey

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for showing an interest in the post of Headteacher at Marden Vale Academy within the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust (DSAT). Should you decide to apply for this position, you will be joining DSAT at an exciting time, in a period of both expansion and development within our academies across Wiltshire and Dorset.

DSAT is a strategic and forward thinking Trust and recognises the needs and challenges across all its academies. We are looking for a professional who is welcoming, compassionate, highly motivated and who can promote high expectations and aspirations at Marden Vale Academy and throughout the Academy Trust. The successful candidate will be a key member of our team within DSAT, meeting new challenges and driving forward improvements in the academy. Being committed to excellence, you will be working in collaboration to build strong partnerships with a range of stakeholders, working across the Trust for the growth of thriving Christian learning communities, allowing us to achieve our vision of going 'Beyond expectations for all of God's children.'

If you would like further information about this exciting role or to arrange a visit, please contact Caroline Roberts, Finance and Administration Officer at Marden Vale. Alternatively you may contact DSAT's Business Support Administrator, Gemma Kiddle by email at office@dsat.org.uk or on 01722 746948. You can also contact us via our website www.dsat.org.uk/current-vacancies

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

Mark Lacey
Chief Executive



Marden Vale C of E Academy
William Street, Calne
Wiltshire, SN11 9BD

Telephone: 01249 813505

Email: admin@mardenvale.dsat.org.uk www.mardenvale.dsat.org.uk

'Enjoying, Excelling, Achieving together'

Letter from Marden Vale Chair of Governors

Ours is a school that gets under your skin. Nearly everyone who has come into contact with Marden Vale seems to end up highly committed to helping us succeed. I love this school and want to find a Head Teacher who will give their all to improving the lives of the children and staff for whom we are responsible.

As part of a relatively new MAT we have a strong feeling of family between the other academies within DSAT and help is freely given between academies and from the Academy Trust in Wilton. Marden Vale has one school rule – *We all look after each other* – and I try to impress on the children that this works in both directions. We, the adults, look after them and they should look after each other and their teachers. The new Head will be expected to keep this as the corner-stone of our behaviour.

We are a Diocesan MAT and Marden Vale tries to help all its children develop an appreciation of Christian values. We are supported by the local churches and our children will go to the wonderful parish Church of St Mary's, Calne for services at Christmas, Easter and other notable days. It is an important part of our children's development that we will give them the understanding they will need to decide if they wish to bring God's love into their lives through the values of reconciliation, hope, forgiveness, peace, grace, justice and joy. Working with our parishes and communities, we will encourage an understanding of the significance of faith through teaching, worship and prayer.

Our mission is to give our pupils the best possible start in life: to put in place the first building blocks that will be the foundation for a lifetime of improvement. We want them to be taught the importance of kindness, tolerance and good manners as well as starting them along the academic road that will give them the skills to become whatever they want to become. This will need a Head Teacher who will recognise the different talents of each child but will also instil in them the importance of fitting in with the community of which they are a part. Above all, for them to learn and grow, we will give them a friendly, caring, safe and happy school and I have used 'we' as this has to be delivered by everyone who is part of Marden Vale.

It is not only the children who need caring for. All the staff at Marden Vale who, in their own ways, are supporting the lives of the pupils also need to be nurtured. Just as the new Head Teacher will be charged with looking after the welfare of both pupils and staff so I and my Board of Governors will look after you.

Marden Vale is a complex entity made up of children, families, teachers, support staff, volunteers, the MAT and the Governors - we will all look after each other.

Perry Chadwyck-Healey Chair of Marden Vale LGB



About our Academy

Our vision and values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and provide an environment which prepares our pupils as confident, happy citizens.

Our Vision

To develop caring, confident citizens who will always love learning, have high expectations of themselves in everything that they do, and who embrace excellence and enjoyment and our one school rule:

"We all look after each other".

Our Aims

We aim to work with our children to enable them to:

- leave school with happy memories and a feeling of pride;
- have high self-esteem, self-confidence, independence and resilience;
- make and maintain relationships and work co-operatively with others; develop lively, flexible and enquiring minds that are open to new ideas;
- develop, in a balanced way, spiritual, moral, social, cultural, personal and academic qualities and thus prepare them for the wider world;
- develop an appreciation of Christian Values;
- become effective, resourceful learners with high motivation and good work habits;
- set their own high standards and make the best possible progress in all areas of the curriculum and beyond;
- respect themselves, others and the environment;
- have equal access both physically and through the curriculum regardless of disabilities.

Our Mission

In order to give our children the best chance of achieving these aims, we will give them high-quality professional support by:

- providing a friendly, caring, safe and happy school;
- helping staff achieve their potential through teamwork and mutual respect;
- working with parents for the benefit of their children's education;
- providing a broad and balanced curriculum;
- using a variety of teaching and learning styles in a stimulating learning environment;
- acknowledging the individuality of each child and planning work in response to their needs;
- developing their independence and self-motivation;
- giving children opportunities to reflect on their work and behaviour;
- providing an enriched programme of extra-curricular activities, visitors to school and visits out of school;
- and removing boundaries to learning for all.

By following our one school rule and by having a positive ethos, we are all committed to ensuring children have a wide array of learning experiences, helping children to attain to the best of their abilities, and develop them so they are equipped with the knowledge, skills and values that will enable them to become fantastic members of their community. Marden Vale is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Welcome to the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust (DSAT) and thank you for your interest in working with us. The Trust is based at the Diocesan Education Centre in the historic village of Wilton, located three miles to the West of the mediaeval city of Salisbury.

In this pack we have enclosed some interesting and useful information about the Trust, which works with nine academies across the Diocese. You can find out more about these and the strengths of our organisation on our website at www.dsat.org.uk. We take safeguarding seriously and candidates will be subject to rigorous procedures to ensure that our children are suitably protected at all times. This will include an enhanced DBS check for all successful candidates before employment is confirmed.

This recruitment pack includes:

DSAT Vision and Values

This document outlines the strength of the ambitions that we have for our Trust and our vision for all of the children in the Trust.

Job Advert and how to apply

Please ensure that your application relates to the correct advertisement and that you have been able to find details of how to apply with the correct form.

Job Description and Person Specification

We aim to provide you with a clear indication of the role you are applying for. When completing your application, we ask you to relate your experience and skills to the Job Description and Person Specification in a clear and succinct manner.

Application Form

To apply for the role you are required to complete an application form and return this to the academy or the Trust HR department (please read the instructions carefully) before the closing date. We do appreciate the time taken to complete the application form. Unfortunately CVs will not be accepted.

Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

We are committed to equality in the workplace and supporting the development of all our employees.

Living and working in our Diocese

We have aimed to capture a brief overview of the rich social and cultural diversity across our beautiful area.





Our vision is for the growth of thriving Christian learning communities, providing everyone with the opportunity to achieve more than they ever thought possible. Christian service is at the heart of all we do, as we help young people to develop excitement in learning and to live life to the full. We value everyone equally and demonstrate this through our words, actions, community life and the quality of the opportunities we provide.

Children at the heart of all we do

Our young people will be inspired to develop academically and spiritually, aspiring beyond their own and others' expectations.

Faithfulness to our Christian tradition

We put God's love into action through our values of love, reconciliation, hope, forgiveness, peace, grace, justice and joy. Working with our parishes and communities, we encourage an understanding of the significance of faith through teaching, worship and prayer.

Striving for excellence

We love learning and are passionate about the high standards we can achieve in all aspects of life.

Collaboration

We build strong partnerships, learning with and from others as we challenge ourselves to reach new heights. We give of our best and expect the best from one another.

Celebrating success

We celebrate the achievements of every individual and share our successes widely.





















Background to DSAT

The Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust (DSAT) was established at the end of 2013 to provide a home for schools within the Diocese of Salisbury who wanted to convert to academy status. At the start of the academic year 2015-16, the Trust has seven academies, six sponsored and one through voluntary conversion. Whilst the Trust is a separate entity to the Diocesan Board of Education (DBE), they work together in dynamic and strategic partnership to transform provision and outcomes for the children in their care.

Alongside its improvement work in its current member academies, the Trust is working actively with other schools and the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to grow its family of academies. This will enable a greater level of system-led improvements, further opportunities for collaboration between leaders and staff at all levels of the organisation and better economies of scale, vital in the current challenging economic climate.

DSAT provides an opportunity for schools to convert to academy status in a way that is different to many academy trusts.

- Individual schools that can thrive in their own context and in line with their own vision and values;
- A home for church schools committed to maintaining their distinctiveness, based upon their Christian values;
- A home for schools without a Christian foundation, who are wanting to work with us in partnership to secure better outcomes for children;
- A dynamic collaboration, working in conjunction with a range of partners, to deliver tailored programmes of school improvement that will meet the needs of each academy;
- Services available to academies that will support improvements to teaching and learning, allowing schools to focus on their core business rather than being distracted by academy business;
- The flexibility to meet schools where they are on their journey and to adapt to their specific circumstances;
- Opportunties to operate in close partnership and strong relationship with the DBE, the RSC and local authorities for the good of our academies.



The Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE), formed in 1830, is one of the oldest formal diocesan bodies. Many of the church schools were founded before that date, and the Board, or Council as it was called then, was formed to support their work and to promote new schools. The Diocese today extends over 2000 square miles, with a population of just under 860,000. There are a total of 195 schools and academies serving 40,000 children. We work across a number of counties and local authorities, working closely in mutually beneficial partnership with them in order to progress the life-chances of the children in our care. We are open to both church and non-church affiliated schools across the region.

Job Advert

Job Title Headteacher

Academy Name Marden Vale C of E Academy Location Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 9BD

Hours Full Time
Contract Type Permanent
Salary L17-L23

Pension Teachers Pension

Child Care Vouchers Available upon request

Contact Gemma Kiddle
Interview Date/s 11th July 2017
Start Date 1st January 2018

How to Apply

If you are interested in this position and would like to have a more detailed conversation before making the decision to apply for the post, please give us a call and we will be happy to help you with as much detail as possible to support this process. We encourage visits to our academy and these can be arranged directly with the school.

When you have enough information to make your decision to apply, please complete all sections of the application form.

All applicants will be notified of the shortlisting decisions by email. References for shortlisted candidates will be requested before interviews. Interviews are planned for 11th July 2017 and further details about the interview process will be emailed to the candidates in good time.

To apply for this role you are required to complete our application form and return it to DSAT before the closing date. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept any CVs.

Please go to www.dsat.org.uk/current-vacancies for an application form.

Applications are due by Midday on 26th June 2017

Please post a completed hard copy of the application form and your supporting statement or letter to:

Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust, Diocesan Education Centre, The Avenue, Wilton, SP2 OFG marking it for the attention of Gemma Kiddle

OR

Email your completed application form and your supporting statement or letter to office@dsat.org.uk.

Job Description

Job Title: Headteacher Grade: L17 – L23

Reports To: DSAT CEO & LGB Salary Range: £57,810 - £66,982 p/a

Main Job Purpose:

To lead, develop and manage the Academy effectively and efficiently, providing clear vision and positive, inclusive educational direction underpinned by the strong Christian values and ethos of the school and ensuring that the school's distinctiveness as a Church of England Academy is effectively maintained

To be accountable to the Trust CEO and the Local Governing Board (LGB), as well as external partners for maximising the standards, progress and achievement of all pupils. Ensure the school meets all safeguarding and health and safety requirements. Leading by example, providing inspiration and motivation to the school community and ensuring that all statutory requirements are met.

- To be a key member of the Leadership Team, making a positive contribution to secure the longterm success of the Academy and, through close collaboration with the Chief Executive, the longterm success of DSAT;
- To specifically provide the day to day leadership and management which enables the Academy
 to give every pupil high quality education and which promotes the highest possible standards of
 achievement;
- To take the lead responsibility for teaching and learning at the Academy and be accountable for standards achieved;
- To prioritise the safeguarding of children and young people at all times;
- To be responsible for the day to day operation of the Academy;
- To take the prime lead in establishing a school presence for parents/carers at the Academy and to develop local community relationships, and links with partners;
- To ensure standards relating to health and safety and the maintenance and condition of buildings are met, reporting to governors/Chief Executive where additional resources and/or more strategic action are required;
- To report to the Governing Body on matters relating to the Key Stage progress outcomes at the Academy and on school specific issues;
- To be responsible for the effective deployment of staff across the Academy and, in conjunction
 with the Chief Executive, to contribute to the recruitment, management and deployment of staff
 across the Academies;
- To be responsible for the spending of any other budgets which the governing body may decide to allocate to each school, ensuring the efficient management of all resources;

Line Management Responsibilities:

All teaching and non-teaching academy staff.

Main Duties:

- 1. To shape the future of the Academy by:
 - Working under the direction of the Chief Executive, and in close cooperation with other Academy Heads, to ensure the long term success of the Academy.
 - Contributing to, and communicating, the Trust's shared vision which expresses core
 values and purpose and implementing the vision through agreed objectives, policies and
 operational plans at the Academy.

- Maintaining and continuing to develop a shared vision for the aims of the academy which inspires and motivates pupils, staff and the whole community, underpinned by the strong Christian values and ethos of the school.
- Motivating others to create a shared learning culture and positive climate.

2. To lead and manage teaching and learning by:

- Establishing creative, responsive, inclusive and effective approaches to learning and teaching and promoting improvement strategies to assist in the modelling of best practice of teaching and monitoring to shape good practice for all academies in the Trust.
- Working in collaboration with the CEO, LGB, senior leadership team and all staff to develop a culture of high expectations and stretching targets for the whole school community including a continuous and consistent Academy-wide focus on pupils' achievement, using data and benchmarks to monitor progress.
- Ensuring that the curriculum focuses on the necessary priorities so that all pupils make excellent progress and achieve high attainment in reading, writing and mathematics.
- Tackling under-performance at all levels in conjunction with the Chief Executive.
- Implementing robust procedures for monitoring and evaluating the quality of teaching learning effectively to ensure that all groups of pupils, including those eligible for the pupil premium and disadvantaged pupils, are enabled to make maximum progress.
- Ensuring that the curriculum is broad and balanced to meets pupils' needs and interests, increasing the range of learning opportunities as well as promoting their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Consistently applying policies and procedures and actively seeking to work collaboratively within DSAT.
- Pursuing excellence and modelling professional standards in all aspects of the head teacher's role in conjunction with the principal vision of DSAT.

3. To manage and develop self and others by:

- Recruiting and selecting high quality staff within the structure of employment legislation ensuring that staff management policies are consistently applied in conjunction with the DSAT HR Manager.
- Developing and maintaining effective strategies and procedures for staff induction, and ensuring that there is a strong link between performance review, appraisal and professional development.
- Promoting and maintaining a culture of high expectations for self and others through regularly reviewing own practice, setting personal targets and taking responsibility for own development.
- Ensuring effective planning, allocation, support and evaluation of work of teams and individuals including developing, empowering and supporting staff to work as a team and recognise their individual accountability.

4. To lead change and improvement by:

- Ensuring the smooth day-to-day running of the Academy, liaising with the LGB and reporting directly to the Chief Executive where appropriate.
- Contributing to, and articulating, an ethos which enables everyone to work
 collaboratively and which reflects the ethos of the Trust. Using self-evaluation to identify
 academy improvement plan objectives working in conjunction with the DSAT finance
 officer to ensure sound financial planning.
- Identifying key priorities, which focus on accelerating pupils' achievement and progress in conjunction with external advisors through engaging with internal mechanisms in the improvement planning process in order to maximise outcomes for pupils and ensure that every individual child has access to high quality teaching and learning.

- Under the direction of the Chief Executive, recruiting, retaining and deploying staff appropriately within the Academy.
- Implementing rigorous self-evaluation procedures, maintaining all self-evaluation documentation and ensuring that individual staff accountabilities are clearly defined, understood and agreed within the School or phase.

5. To use resources effectively by:

- Working with the DSAT Finance Officer and LGB to ensure that the financial resources available to the academy are managed effectively and in accordance with DSAT financial regulations in terms of teaching, learning, personnel and premises.
- Ensuring that the pupil premium funding is used to overcome barriers to learning and that there are strong links between the deployment of staff and resources and pupils' achievement.
- Ensuring that appropriate resources are allocated for staff development and the priorities identified in the Academy Improvement Plan.
- Reviewing the professional development needs of staff and providing opportunities for professional and career development both internally within DSAT and externally where appropriate.

6. To ensure safeguarding requirements are met by:

- Fully complying with the Trust's safeguarding policy and taking responsibility for promoting the welfare of all children and young people as Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Creating an organisational culture of safety, including e-safety, which is vigilant to, monitors, and prioritises the safeguarding of children and young people at all times, ensuring that appropriate policies and procedures are in place and are followed by staff, and working with other relevant agencies where appropriate.
- Ensuring that the single central record is maintained and ensuring that the academy's
 arrangements for safeguarding children are fully in line with the current requirements of
 the Local Safeguarding Children Board and DSAT.
- Complying with the Health and Safety at work requirements in accordance with legislation and agreed guidelines.
- Monitoring attendance and following up pupil absence rigorously.
- Complying with the data protection requirements and maintain the security of all documents and information, in accordance with legislation and agreed guidelines.

7. To promote the school's Church and community links by:

- Promoting and maintaining positive relationships with parents, other schools, churches, community groups and external agencies; providing relevant information to all stakeholders.
- Collaborating with other agencies to ensure pupil and community needs are met and to ensure a range of community-based learning experiences.
- Being a proactive ex officio member of the LGB, providing information to enable DSAT to meet its statutory obligations.
- Continuing to foster links between the local schools, church and diocese to promote the
 pastoral and spiritual life of the school and leading regular acts of collective worship in
 accordance with DSAT and the aims of the DBE.
- Promoting and ensuring equality and fairness including positive strategies for challenging racial and other prejudice.

This job description is not exhaustive and will be subject to periodic review. It may be amended to meet the changing needs of the business. The post-holder will be expected to participate in this process and we would aim to reach agreement on any changes.

Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills and Knowledge Qualifications	 Qualified Teacher Status Readiness for headship Successful teaching experience in the primary phase Ability to support maintain and develop the Christian ethos of the school Awareness and understanding of the current Ofsted and SIAMS frameworks Understanding of the Headteacher's responsibilities and accountability to pupils, governors, parents, the Trust and the wider community. Knowledge and understanding of statutory education frameworks and of effective models of learning and teaching, behaviour and attendance management Knowledge and understanding of ways to build, communicate and implement a shared vision in order to build and sustain a learning community. Knowledge and understanding of the use of a range of tools and evidence, including performance data, to support, monitor, evaluate and improve aspects of school life, including challenging poor performance, raising achievement and achieving excellence Knowledge and understanding of strategic planning processes and strategies to promote individual, team and organisational development Knowledge and understanding of legal issues relating to managing a school including equal opportunities, race relations, disability, human rights and employment legislation 	 NPQH, or evidence of equivalent level of learning achieved through senior leadership role within a school Recent and relevant in-service professional development and training including Safeguarding Wide, current knowledge and understanding of education and school systems locally, nationally and globally. Understanding of how to demand ambitious standards for all pupils, overcoming disadvantage and advancing equality, instilling a strong sense of accountability in staff for the impact of their work on pupils' outcomes. Understanding of how to distribute leadership throughout the organisation, forging teams of colleagues who have distinct roles and responsibilities and hold each other to account for their decision making. Understanding of how to actively support the LGB to understand its role and deliver its functions effectively – in particular to set school strategy and hold the headteacher to account for pupil, staff and financial performance. Knowledge and understanding of curriculum design and management including the use and impact of new technologies. Knowledge and understanding of strategies which encourage parents and carers to support their children's learning Knowledge and understanding of a range of effective communication strategies, both within and beyond the school
Experience	 Experience of successful school leadership in a senior role including evidence of bringing about school improvement Experience of using whole school self-evaluation (e.g. lesson observations, work scrutiny, data analysis) to raise standards and bring about school improvement Successful experience of using performance management along with the professional development of all staff to bring about school improvement Successful experience of setting and managing budgets to support school improvement 	 Experience of establishing an educational culture of 'open classrooms' as a basis for sharing best practice within and between schools, drawing on and conducting relevant research and robust data analysis. Experience of securing excellent teaching through an analytical understanding of how pupils learn and of the core features of successful classroom practice and curriculum design. Experience of establishing rigorous, fair and transparent systems and measures for managing the performance of staff, addressing any underperformance and improvement.

Personal Attributes school with a personal commitment to quality and excellence. and members of the local community. • The ability to inspire trust and commitment from the whole school community. • The confidence and ability to lead collective education for the pupils they serve. worship throughout the school. • The ability to develop effective relationships with fellow professionals and colleagues in other public services to improve academic and social outcomes for all pupils. society. • Confident, competent and capable of accurate self-assessment. Excellent communicator, motivator and innovator with an ability to negotiate effectively to further the School's objectives and compellingly communicate the school's vision and drive the strategic leadership, empowering all pupils and staff to excel.. other. • Emotionally self-aware and self-controlled. Ability to work effectively and cooperatively between schools and with all stakeholders. • The skills to work with children and the ability to **Skills and Abilities** protect and promote their welfare. • The ability to develop a curriculum which around them. promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social, cultural, academic creative and physical development and well-being. • The ability to build effective relationships with all policy into the school's context. members of the school community, leading by • Holds all staff to account for their professional example and coaching others to bring about conduct and practice improvements. • The ability to articulate and communicate a vision Able to identify emerging talents, coaching for the future development of the Academy as a distinctive and effective church school and a succession planning. commitment to upholding and developing its values

• Leadership and management skills to improve and maintain the School's level of attainment and success

• The ability to contribute to, and maintain a clear

vision for the School in line with the Trust vision

and values and to lead others to plan and deliver

Essential

• A passion for learning that extends beyond the

- Excellent classroom practitioner who can lead by example to motivate students and staff, reviewing, monitoring and evaluating progress and results
- Demonstrated ability to lead, coordinate and delegate including managing change and working under pressure of changing circumstances

- Demonstrates optimistic personal behaviour, positive relationships and attitudes towards their pupils and staff, and towards parents, governors
- Holds and articulates clear values and moral purpose, focused on providing a world-class

Desirable

- Provides a safe, calm and well-ordered environment for all pupils and staff, focused on safeguarding pupils and developing their exemplary behaviour in school and in the wider
- Able to inspires and influences others within and beyond schools - to believe in the fundamental importance of education in young people's lives and to promote the value of education.
- Able to create an ethos within which all staff are motivated and supported to develop their own skills and subject knowledge, and to support each
- Able to lead by example with integrity, creativity, resilience, and clarity - drawing on their own scholarship, expertise and skills, and that of those
- Works with political and financial astuteness, within a clear set of principles centred on the school's vision, ably translating local and national
- current and aspiring leaders in a climate where excellence is the standard, leading to clear
- Ensure that the school's systems, organisation and processes are well considered, efficient and fit for purpose, upholding the principles of transparency, integrity and probity.
- The ability to create an outward-facing school which works with other schools and organisations - in a climate of mutual challenge - to champion best practice and secure excellent achievements for all pupils.
- Exercises strategic, curriculum-led financial planning to ensure the equitable deployment of budgets and resources, in the best interests of pupils' achievements and the school's sustainability.

13





Salisbury Diocese Living and Working in Wiltshire

Wiltshire is home to the best preserved copy of the Magna Carta in the magnificent Salisbury Cathedral. Not only the UK's tallest medieval cathedral spire but as quoted by Bill Bryson in Notes from a Small Island, 'Salisbury Cathedral is the single most beautiful structure in England, and the Close around it the most beautiful space'. How wonderful to be part of this, as well as so many other highlights of the west country; the highest concentration of prehistoric sites in Europe, the World Heritage sites of Stonehenge and Avebury, England's first safari park at Longleat, and National Trust and historic homes at Stourhead, Bowood and Wilton House, set in surroundings made famous by palladium landscapers.

Discover an endless variety of music, literature and art festivals, food and drinks events, village fetes and local markets. Wiltshire has year round activities including sporting events at Salisbury Racecourse and Castle Combe racing circuit as well as traditional events such as the Downton Cuckoo Fair and the Wessex Country Fair.

For theatre goers there is not only the Salisbury Playhouse but the Wiltshire Music Centre in Bradford-on-Avon, Salisbury Arts Centre, the Lighthouse Arts Centre in Poole and many local amateur dramatic, art, literary and music societies.

Wiltshire is proud to have award-winning dining with three Michelin starred restaurants at some of our prestigious hotels as well as AA rosettes for fine dining. Keep an eye out for the Wiltshire Food & Drink logo which is awarded to properties that meet certain criteria regarding sourcing local produce. The keen foodies may want to follow one of the food trails, head to one of the Wiltshire farmers' markets for fresh produce directly from the supplier, or perhaps improve your culinary skills at a cookery school.

Wiltshire is also lucky to have some fine vineyards and breweries, including the Wadworth Brewery famed for its 6X bee and Bishop's Tipple and the Hopback Brewery selling wonderful flavours such as Summer Lightning and the Crop Circle! Why not also sample local cider and apple juice found in the local farmers' markets.

Wiltshire has lots of amazing places to explore; discover more about Salisbury, Swindon, Bradford-on-Avon, Trowbridge, Royal Wootton Bassett, Cricklade, Calne, Amesbury, Marlborough, Devizes, Chippenham, Tisbury and Corsham as well as other towns and villages.

http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/