February 2019

Dear Colleague

As Principal, I am delighted to enclose details and an application form for the position of **PLC Support Assistant** at The Farnley Academy. This vacancy represents a unique opportunity to join a highly ambitious and motivated professional body, which is changing the lives of young people in the community it serves.

The Farnley Academy is part of The GORSE Academies Trust, a not-for-profit charity whose driving energy is centred on creating exceptional schools within the Leeds city region. The Trust has established a reputation for setting standards of excellence and achieving rates of improvements, which have received national attention, not least of all those of The Farnley Academy! The Chief Executive Officer, Sir John Townsley, is a National Leader of Education and gives considerable support to an increasing number of primary and secondary schools across the North.

The Farnley Academy has a simple mission – to create an environment which is free from cynicism and unwilling to put limits on what young people can achieve. Having worked and supported in many schools, I am firmly of the opinion that The Farnley Academy is a very special place. Without doubt, it is the incredible professional body, both teachers and support staff, which sets it apart. As Principal, I am humbled and privileged to work alongside such a dedicated team that is relentless in its determination to secure the very best outcomes for the young people we serve. Indeed, we strive to provide an educational experience that is all too often the preserve of students in the private sector.

In December 2013 the excellence of our work was recognised by Ofsted, which judged the academy to be Outstanding in all areas. Inspectors noted that 'the quality of teaching is outstanding. Much is inspirational. As a result, students display a rare thirst for learning and an eagerness to succeed.' A copy of the full report is available to download from our website. It was as a consequence of this judgment that the academy was designated a Teaching School in 2014 and went on to secure the prestigious World Class Schools Quality Mark in 2016. Still, we are never complacent and work incredibly hard and in genuine partnership with other academies within The GORSE Academies Trust.

GCSE outcomes at The Farnley Academy are well above average, achieving a Progress 8 score of +0.26 in 2017/18. We are very proud of the outcomes that our students achieve, but are bold and ambitious for the future. Recently, The Farnley Academy set itself a new goal to become an academy in the Top 1% of all secondary schools nationally. This ambition is driven by a genuine desire to ensure that all students in our community leave school with a true passport to achieve their dreams, no matter what they might be. Together as a professional body we will ensure that through the delivery of exceptional teaching, our goals are achieved, and The Farnley Academy is both locally and nationally recognised as an academy where only the very best will do for our students.

Clearly, working in our academy will be demanding as well as very rewarding. We assure you that as our colleague you will be of great value and importance, an importance that is reflected in the quality of our induction and professional development programmes. Professional development is an area we take extremely seriously. As a new member of staff in our school we will get to know you, your strengths and any areas that you are keen to develop further. We will put in place a personalised CPD offering, that will support and challenge you, as well as prepare you for the next stage of your career.

Should you wish to join us then please ensure that the enclosed application form is fully completed. A CV is not required.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully



Mr C Stokes

**Principal**