

Assistant Headteacher of Monkwick Junior School

The Vacancy

This is a new post in the school created to provide greater leadership capacity as the school grows. The school has also recently appointed a new Headteacher, Rebecca McCutcheon, who will be taking up her post in September. At the same time, we are also advertising for a new Deputy Headteacher, the existing Deputy having recently been appointed to a local headship. This is therefore an exciting opportunity as we seek to create a new leadership team to drive the school forward. The leadership of the school is further supported through the Executive Headteacher, Gavin Bradley. Gavin is also Head of White Hall Academy in Clacton, part of the learning Pathways Trust.



The School

Monkwick Junior School is currently a Group 2 school but will become a Group 3 school on the completion of all of the current expansion. An extension to the school is planned to begin construction in the Autumn term to be completed for September 2018. The school roll will therefore rise to 360 by September 2019. The image below shows the two storey extension.

The school is on land adjacent to both Monkwick Infant and Nursery School and The Thomas Lord Audley school, both of which are part of The Sigma Trust.



A key priority for the Trust is to ensure closer ties are developed with the both schools, particularly the infant school. From Easter a single Local Governing Body will work across the two Monkwick schools and it is planned to appoint staff who also work across the two schools.

The school was identified as Requiring Improvement at its last Ofsted inspection in January 2017.

The Sigma Trust

The Sigma Trust is a local partnership of six academies in North East Essex. Sigma was established in September 2016 and currently consists of 4 secondary schools, a junior school and an infant and nursery school. The four secondary schools all became academies in 2012 as part of the North East Essex Education Partnership (NEEEP) umbrella trust. They all have a strong tradition of working collaboratively to achieve the best outcomes for all students in their academies.

Soon after NEEEP was created there was a desire to extend the partnership to incorporate primary partners. Changes to academy rules meant that this was only possible by establishing separate multi-academy trusts. Two of the secondary schools formed a MAT with the two primary schools in 2014 and one of the other secondary schools became an approved sponsor in 2015. Later that year a decision was taken to simplify this model by creating one single multi-academy trust and hence The Sigma Trust was born.



All schools are geographically close enough to provide the necessary support and challenge to take all academies to the next level. We have a set of shared values and a common mission and vision that aims to ensure that no child is left behind. No academy is seen as the “lead” school and we believe that every school should be a giver as well as a receiver of support. All academies within the trust retain their cultural autonomy but we work together to ensure that best practice becomes shared practice.

The Learning Pathways Academy Trust



As The Sigma Trust consist of more secondary schools than primary schools we created a close partnership with the Learning Pathways Academy Trust (LPAT). LPAT is a highly successful trust of three schools; Lyons Hall in Braintree, Braiswick in Colchester and White Hall Academy in Clacton. The partnership has provided the opportunity for both our primary school to gain access to the extensive resources LPAT is able to offer. In addition, the Head of White Hall has been appointed as Executive Headteacher to provide strategic leadership support for Monkwick Junior School. This support will remain as the new leadership team becomes established, as well as continuing to provide guidance to the Trust and the CEO on the further development of primary academies.

Potential candidates are invited to visit the school and contact the Executive Headteacher, Gavin Bradley, for further information. Please email, Lynne Horsewill, lynne.horsewill@sigmatrust.org.uk