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## **DETAILS FOR TEACHER OF HUMANITIES – FOLEY'S SCHOOL**

### **THE SCHOOL**

The school is relatively small (around 250 in the secondary school and 500 in the primary section). It was founded in 1970 in Famagusta and moved to Limassol (also known as Lemesos) in 1974. Until the 2016-17 academic year, the primary and secondary schools occupied the same site in town (Homer Street). This building is (in estate agent's language) compact, with available space being used to maximum effect (!) and there has been a continuous improvement and expansion of facilities over the years. However, in an exciting development, the primary school (Pre-Reception - Year 6) moved to new, state-of-the-art premises on the outskirts of Limassol in September 2016. The building work at this brand-new site continues, with new sports facilities nearing completion - including a sports hall, a swimming pool and an athletics track surrounding a full-sized astroturf pitch. The construction of the secondary section of the school is progressing rapidly we will soon all be moving to the new site. in the meantime, the older pupils are benefiting from the extra space available at Homer Street!

We are very well-equipped for the subjects we offer on both sites, including sciences and computing. Data projectors and interactive whiteboards are available in all rooms.

All teachers (except for Greek and Spanish language) are UK-trained and hold UK teaching qualifications recognised by DfES (either PGCE or QTS).

Pupils come from a very wide range of backgrounds and we have over 45 different nationalities. On average 55-60% are native English speakers but at secondary level the vast majority have a very good level of English, even if it is their second language.

The school policy is to keep class size to a maximum of 25 throughout the Primary school and the first three years of secondary. Classes in Form 4 (Year 10) and above, tend to be smaller because of options. Until recently, the school had a mixture of single-class and double-class year groups. We have now moved on to a triple-class entry and this will have filtered through to Form 3 (Year 9) by next academic year.

We have a school uniform and high standards of discipline and courtesy are expected from the pupils at all times.

The attraction of the post is a pleasant lifestyle in a well disciplined environment with well-motivated boys and girls, pleasant colleagues and, I hope, a pleasant headmaster!

### **THE CURRICULUM**

Although we do not rigidly follow the UK National Curriculum, we use text books which do so. We find that the few pupils who transfer to schools in the UK are "up to speed" and almost invariably slightly ahead of their peers in all of the subjects we study.

The fourth and fifth forms (Years 10 and 11) study for Edexcel or Cambridge International Examinations IGCSEs in most subjects. We also offer GCSEs in PE, Music, Drama and Art. The sixth form prepare for AS and A2 examinations also with Edexcel or CIE.

Our results in external examinations have been very good indeed over the years. One has to be careful quoting statistics based on the small number of pupils we enter each year since one or two weak candidates make a big impact on percentages! However, last year we had 100% pass rate at A level, with 93% achieving grades A-C and 58% grade A\*/A. At IGCSE/GCSE, the pass rate was 99%, with 62% achieving A\* and 85% achieving grade A/A\*.

Bear in mind that many of our pupils have been with us from an early age and were not selected for academic ability. Obviously, when taking on pupils into the secondary school we are more selective. We cater better for academically able pupils but do everything we can to support academically weaker pupils. However, we cannot really claim to offer a comprehensive-style education, in that there are no vocational courses.

Morning school runs from 8.10 am – 2.05 pm and incorporates an eight period day (40 period week).

The afternoons are reserved for extra-curricular activities and it is very much within the ethos of the school that all teachers (and pupils) should be highly involved in these. At present we offer various sports, music groups, drama (including several concerts and productions each year) and Duke of Edinburgh Award as well as an adventure training programme which includes hiking and camping expeditions. We are always open to new ideas!

In addition we run a wide range of educational visits within Cyprus and abroad. In recent years trips have been to Athens, Geneva, Paris, Barcelona, China, Vietnam and, most recently, Sri Lanka..

## **THE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT**

The Humanities Department offers History, Geography and Economics. Until recently, one specialist teacher for each subject was sufficient to cover the whole of the secondary age range. Obviously, as the school has expanded, this is no longer the case – hence this new post has arisen!

At Key Stage 3, pupils have two, 40 minute periods of Geography and History per week. At IGCSE (Years 10-11) they have four periods a week and, at A level, eight periods. Currently, Economics is offered at A level only

## **THE POST**

As mentioned above, this post has arisen as a result of the expansion of the school. The main requirement is for Years 7-9 Geography and History, with the possibility of teaching one of these subjects to a higher level. There may also be some General Studies/PSHE teaching involved. The exact role could be adjusted to suit a recently qualified or a more experienced teacher.

## **SALARY SCALES**

These are purely internal, but compare very favourably with salaries in the state sector here (and with other private schools).

Your gross annual salary would be €30 000 (plus comprehensive medical insurance and 4% employer contribution to provident fund). Current exchange rate (Jan 2018) €1 = £0.88). Mere figures do not tell the whole story of course. Much depends upon the life-style that the salary offers in practice. The attached information sheet gives some details about the cost of living, which should be related to salary. Cyprus salaries should not be compared with those in Saudi Arabia and some Gulf or African states, where one is compensated for discomfort and/or restrictions on life style.

Your contract would be for 2 years initially.

## **CYPRUS**

It is a pleasant country to live in. It has distinct seasons, rather hot in mid-summer but sunny and comfortable for most of the year. It is a good place for a family, being relatively crime-free (much safer than British towns and cities) and a place where women and children can walk safely. A very high proportion of Cypriots speak excellent English and the British are generally well regarded. It would be difficult to find a Cypriot who does not have at least one relative in Britain.

The school does not provide housing but we help new teachers to find suitable accommodation using local estate agents and other contacts (you do not have to pay for these services!). We do not recommend looking for housing on the internet. Upon arrival in Cyprus you will be given accommodation in a hotel or apartment until you have found a suitable home. In recent years, all of the teachers arriving at the school have found suitable housing within a week.

## **SOCIAL**

Over the past ten years or so, Limassol has become a very cosmopolitan town which offers a wide range of restaurants, cultural activities and entertainment. On the sporting side, there are a considerable range of facilities available. To give you an idea, we have staff involved in all of the following activities: mini-football (social + more serious), mountain-biking, running, windsurfing, scuba diving, water-skiing, indoor bowling, gym, tennis, squash, cricket, golf, rambling, volleyball, hashing, amateur dramatics, dancing etc. etc. In fact, you can find almost everything here if you look for it.

The staff are very sociable (honestly!) and most new members integrate very quickly and soon have a busy social life.

## **SCHOOL SESSION**

Early September to Christmas, early January to end of March, early April to end of June. Christmas and Easter holidays are roughly a fortnight each. We take the national holidays but not the Saints' Days.

C J Bailey  
Headmaster