November 2019

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about Grove Academy, a new all through free school for 4-18 year olds in Slough. When full, there will be 1940 students (1740 4 – 16 year olds and 200 sixth formers). As of September 2020 Grove Academy will welcome 120 pupils each year Reception and 180 students each year in Year 7 until the school is fully subscribed. In September 2017 we opened with Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 and Year 7 students in our temporary accommodation on Wellington Street until we move into our brand new purpose built building in Chalvey in July 2020.

This is an exciting opportunity to work in a brand new school and to play an important part in its development. Grove Academy is the second school opened by The SASH Education Trust (Slough Association of Secondary Headteachers) and we benefit enormously from the support and collaboration of the 14 secondary Headteachers in Slough. Ditton Park Academy is the first school within the trust and was opened in September 2014. I feel both privileged and excited to have been appointed as the Executive Principal. The chance to create a new and outstanding school from scratch; designing the curriculum, structuring the school day and year and appointing the staff is a rare and golden one. A key feature of this school already has been the support that all Headteachers and their schools in Slough have provided so far and will continue to provide going forwards to make this school outstanding and successful for students and staff.

You will realise that at Grove Academy we set extremely high expectations of ourselves, all staff and of each and every student. It is important that all staff have an unwavering belief that, regardless of background or prior attainment, every student entering the school has the potential to leave with a set of qualifications that will enable them to pursue their dreams in skilled employment or at a top university. We are therefore, starting GCSE courses in Year 10.

We are setting ourselves very ambitious goals and the appointment of outstanding teachers/leaders or colleagues who demonstrate a capacity to be outstanding practitioners will be key in supporting me and the team in ensuring that Grove Academy becomes a truly great school. You have the chance to be part of the design and creation of a brand new school, the curriculum and the recruitment of future colleagues which is probably once in a career opportunity for people passionate about improving the life skills and chances of young people and their families.

If you share our commitment to educational excellence, I want to hear from you. This will be a great opportunity for you to talk to me and see if the school, the opportunities and potential responsibilities are a good fit for you, whilst also discussing the details roles with
myself. Please contact my PA, Sarah Janes, to make an appointment to discuss these opportunities at sjanes@groveacademy.co.uk or on 01753 517359.

I have very high expectations and a relentless drive on achieving excellence in all aspects of my work and those associated with the school. An important part of my philosophy is the belief that strong, positive relationships built on trust, integrity, honesty and mutual respect are essential to ensure that these expectations are met both with students and adults.

I am also passionate about developing young people who can hold a coherent conversation, think for themselves, have the confidence to take action, be independent but know when the right time to ask for support is, be happy, want to better themselves, want to help their friends and family, have aspirations but are doing something in the present about achieving them.

Finally, the young people at our school will be supported in achieving outstanding individual outcomes both academically and as a person. With this in mind:

You will be:

- a qualified teacher educated to degree level
- a passionate and outstanding classroom practitioner
- an advocate for young people
- someone with clear leadership potential
- innovative, creative, resilient and dynamic
- ideally someone who can offer a second subject
- an excellent communicator who has a positive attitude to life and work
- experienced colleagues need to be able to demonstrate impact in their current role
- a good communicator
- able to demonstrate emotional intelligence
- someone who acts with integrity
- a person who is able to maintain focus, objectivity and exercise sound judgement
- a teacher who supports our Common Visual Language to develop children who are thinkers

The salary, position of responsibility and possible opportunities for promotion whilst the school grows over the next few years can be discussed with individuals at interview or before making an application. What a fantastic opportunity this is for any teacher!

To apply, please complete the application form found on the TES website by Friday 6th December 2019 at 12pm noon or post it to Sarah Janes, Grove Academy, Wellington Street, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 1YG. Interviews will take place beginning Monday 9th December 2019 at Grove Academy, Slough for shortlisted candidates.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Caulfield
Executive Principal
SASH Trust

Self-Worth + Aspire + Success + Honesty