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Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018

## **DETAILS FOR PRIMARY CLASS TEACHER POST – FOLEY’S SCHOOL**

### **THE SCHOOL**

The school 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 26 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!

### **THE CURRICULUM**

The curriculum is British. Although we do not rigidly follow the National Curriculum, we use text books which do. 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.

One slightly unusual aspect of the school’s organisation is that Prep (Year 6) follow a secondary style timetable with specialist teachers.

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

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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\*. (Results for recent years are on the school website). 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.

## **THE POST**

This is a primary class teaching post for key stage 1 or 2 for September 2018; however, in a school of this nature, flexibility is highly valued.

School runs from 7.50 am – 1.55 pm and incorporates an eight period day (forty period week) for the pupils. After school we have extra-curricular activities organized which is very much within the ethos of the school and most teachers (and pupils) are highly involved in these. At present we offer various music groups, choir, sports, drama (including several concerts and productions each year), Science and Duke of Edinburgh Award as well as an adventure training programme, which includes hiking and camping expeditions for older pupils.

In addition, we run a wide range of educational visits within Cyprus and abroad. In recent years residential trips have been organised to Paphos and Kritou Terra (Primary), Athens, Geneva, New York, Barcelona, Iceland and China (Secondary).

## **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 €25 000 plus comprehensive medical insurance and 4% employer contribution to provident fund. Current exchange rate (1/02/18) €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.

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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 fifteen 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 and 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.

Further information regarding the school can be found on our website [www.foleysschool.com](http://www.foleysschool.com)

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