

Welcome Letter

Dear Prospective Candidate,

St Paul's Way Trust School (SPWT) is an outstanding, highly oversubscribed school with an excellent staff body and healthy finances. As an 'All Through' school, with already strong outcomes for pupils aged 4 to 18, the capacity of the school to embrace innovation is high. As such, the role of Associate Headteacher is an exceptionally exciting proposition for any experienced, ambitious and dedicated school leader.

The school estate is absolutely 'fit for purpose' at both Primary and Secondary level. The school is currently exploring options for a new building to house our growing, already successful, Sixth Form. The Governors of SPWT are both delighted and proud of our recent history of providing an excellent standard of education and a fantastic range of developmental opportunities to all our pupils, however we firmly believe that even greater success can now be achieved by appointing the right candidate to this vitally important post.

We invite applications for the role of Associate Headteacher from candidates who share our determination to provide outstanding educational outcomes for our young people without exception or bias. The Associate Headteacher that we are looking for must demonstrate an excellent understanding of teaching and learning, a thorough commitment to inclusion and must have the ability (and wish) to connect with all members of our diverse and vibrant school community. The successful candidate will also use his/her excellent organisational skills to ensure the smooth running of the Trust School Site (ages 11-18).

Arguably there has never been a time within the UK Education system where schools have had more freedom. The opportunity to innovate is boundless whilst the responsibility to ensure that robust processes are in place rests almost entirely with Senior Leadership Teams, Governors and, within the context of a MAT, Officers and Trustees. In seeking to fill this post we seek a candidate with a very strong grasp of effective governance and someone who relishes the opportunity to contribute toward the development of the Multi-Academy Trust within which SPWT has a leading role – the University Schools Trust (UST).

The University Schools Trust believes that the most important resource is the human resource. The role of Associate Headteacher of SPWT is a vitally important one within the Trust. As stated in the UST prospectus:

'UST invests in our people and partnerships understanding the key importance of good communication in creating an environment of mutual trust. Having the ability to forge effective and creative relationships is an essential requirement for all of our school leaders'.

UST is a unique organisation. Six prominent UK Universities together with an impressive group of other companies and institutions have formed a partnership with the potential to transform thousands of young people's lives.

At UST there is an unrelenting focus on a transformative educational agenda. As a National Teaching School, SPWT clearly has an important role to play in achieving this. The Local Governing Body alongside the Trust are seeking to appoint a candidate who recognises the benefits of the Trust model, relishes the opportunity to work with our Trust partners and who welcomes the prospect of working as part of a team with the Headteacher of the Royal Greenwich Trust School and other Headteachers as more schools join the Trust.

Candidates should also note that recently UST has established a School of Education, providing outreach support focussed on school improvement and which provides wonderful developmental opportunities for staff at St Paul's Way Trust School (and for staff in other schools within the Trust). It is hoped that the successful candidate will contribute toward this work by working with schools in challenging circumstances and continuing to allow colleagues from UST to do likewise.

If you feel that our values, as expressed in this pack, echo yours, and if our vision for continual improvement excites you - and if you feel that you have the necessary experience, skills and expertise to be our new Associate Headteacher - we very much look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Akerman
Executive Headteacher
St Paul's Way Trust School