

September 2020

Dear Colleague

As Principal, I am delighted to enclose details and an application form for the position of **Assistant Principal** at The Farnley Academy. This vacancy represents a unique opportunity to join a highly ambitious and motivated professional body, which is changing the lives of young people in the community it serves.

The Farnley Academy is part of The GORSE Academies Trust, a not-for-profit charity whose driving energy is centred on creating exceptional schools within the Leeds city region. The Trust has established a reputation for setting standards of excellence and achieving rates of improvements, which have received national attention, not least of all those of The Farnley Academy! The Chief Executive Officer, Sir John Townsley, is a National Leader of Education and gives considerable support to an increasing number of primary and secondary schools across the North.

The Farnley Academy has a simple mission – to create an environment which is free from cynicism and unwilling to put limits on what young people can achieve. Having worked and supported in many schools, I am firmly of the opinion that The Farnley Academy is a very special place. Without doubt, it is the incredible professional body, both teachers and support staff, which sets it apart. As Principal, I am humbled and privileged to work alongside such a dedicated team that is relentless in its determination to secure the very best outcomes for the young people we serve. Indeed, we strive to provide an educational experience that is all too often the preserve of students in the private sector.

GCSE outcomes at The Farnley Academy are well above average, achieving a Progress 8 score of +0.62 in 2018/19. We are very proud of the outcomes that our students achieve, but are bold and ambitious for the future. Recently, The Farnley Academy set itself a new goal to become an academy in the Top 1% of all secondary schools nationally. This ambition is driven by a genuine desire to ensure that all students in our community leave school with a true passport to achieve their dreams, no matter what they might be. Together as a professional body we will ensure that through the delivery of exceptional teaching, our goals are achieved, and The Farnley Academy is both locally and nationally recognised as an academy where only the very best will do for our students.

Clearly, working in our academy will be demanding as well as very rewarding. We assure you that as our colleague you will be of great value and importance, an importance that is reflected in the quality of our induction and professional development programmes. Professional development is an area we take extremely seriously. As a new member of staff in our school we will get to know you, your strengths and any areas that you are keen to develop further. We will put in place a personalised CPD offering, that will support and challenge you, as well as prepare you for the next stage of your career.

The role of Assistant Principal within The GORSE Academies Trust is one of great privilege, but also responsibility. As a Senior Leader within our academy you will have the opportunity to be mentored and developed by some of the highest performing Senior Leaders in the country. When it comes to teaching, we expect our Senior Leaders to be the ambassadors for their subject and deliver truly outstanding lessons to students. Senior Leaders work collaboratively, not only within The Farnley Academy, but also with Senior Leaders from across our Trust. Overseen by Leanne Griffiths, Executive Principal: 11-16 Education, we are fortunate to be part of a group of five secondary schools, three of which are Ofsted Outstanding and two Good. In addition, we work directly alongside our own groundbreaking alternative provision, The Stephen Longfellow Academy. We are proud to work amongst the best leaders in the profession and seize

every opportunity to both share and learn about best practice. To be part of our Leadership team, you must truly believe in the power of partnership as there can be no doubt, that without it The Farnley Academy would not be where it is today.

Should you wish to join us then please ensure that the enclosed application form is fully completed. A CV is not required. Supporting statements should be no longer than two sides of standard font and should address the following areas:

- Your experience and expertise which is relevant to the post.
- How a highly effective academy ensures that every learner regardless of background is successful and high achieving.
- How effective leadership can raise student attainment.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully



Mr C Stokes
Principal