

Briefing Pack for Applicants x2 Assistant Headteachers



STOCKSBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

— This is Just the Start —

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

The school will undertake stringent and rigorous checks of identity and qualifications to ensure that we maintain the very highest standards of child protection for our students.

Contents

Section 1: Post Advertisement.....	1
Section 2: Letter from the Chief Executive – Bev Matthews.....	3
Section 3: Letter from the Headteacher	4
Section 4: About Stocksbridge High School	5
Section 5: About our Trust.....	9
Section 6: Job Description.....	15
Section 7: Person Specification.....	19
Section 8: The Appointment Process.....	22

May we take this opportunity to thank you in anticipation of your application. If, however, you have not heard from us by the proposed date for the interview you should assume that on this occasion your application has not been successful. In that event we wish you every success in any future applications you make.

Section 1: Post Advertisement

Post: Assistant Headteacher (x2 posts)
Location: Stocksbridge High School
Pay scale: Leadership Pay Range, L13: £66,919 to L17: £73,819 gross per annum
Contract: Permanent, full time
Start date: September 2025

Minerva Learning Trust is an expanding Sheffield based Multi Academy Trust with a vision of providing outstanding education for all the students within our schools. The Trust is passionate that all students should see their time in education as happy and fulfilling with their potential developed to the utmost. The Trust employs just under 800 staff across our schools and Central Team, and we are committed to providing career opportunities and professional development which allows people to make a positive contribution to the delivery of our vision.

Stocksbridge High School in an inclusive school and through a range of curriculum and wrap-around support do all we can to ensure every young person, irrespective of their challenges and barriers has opportunity to grow into a happy and productive adult.

Stocksbridge High School is seeking to appoint two dynamic, energetic and experienced senior leaders to join the school's senior leadership team. This presents a brilliant opportunity for two strong Assistant Headteachers to work with the new Headteacher, and senior team, to shape and deliver an ambitious and successful future for the school. As Assistant Headteacher, you will lead on a broad range of strategic and operational elements of the school, with specific duties to be agreed with the successful candidate. We would specifically welcome candidates with successful experience in leading inclusion background and/or those with experiences of wider enrichment and personal development expertise.

We are looking for someone who:

- Is a proven senior leader with successful experience in leading strategic school improvement.
- Can motivate, inspire and innovate.
- Has ambition for becoming a system leader.
- Is committed to changing the life chances of all young people; especially the hardest to reach.

In return we can offer you:

- A strong commitment to your ongoing professional development.
- Mentoring by and support from the Headteacher, senior team and central Trust staff.
- The opportunity to work collaboratively with other school leaders throughout the Trust.
- The chance to make a real difference to the lives of our inspiring children and young people access to other employee benefits offered by our Trust.

The closing date is at 9am on Thursday 30 January 2025 and interviews are scheduled to take place before February half-term.

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment, further information can be found in our child

protection and safeguarding policy on our statutory information page on our website [Statutory Information - Minerva Learning Trust](#) . The successful candidate will be required to complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. In line with KCSIE, the trust/school will be carrying out online searches on shortlisted candidates as part of their due diligence.

Visits to the school are encouraged. Further information is available by contacting Ben Gilder – Headteacher. Contact details: PA to the Headteacher, Hannah Taylor, htaylor@stocksbridge-mlt.co.uk.

The application form and information pack is available on the Trust's and School's website minervalearningtrust.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies/ / [Vacancies : Stocksbridge High School](#)

Please ensure that you do not fill in a Sheffield City Council application form in respect of this vacancy, ONLY MINERVA LEARNING TRUST APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Please provide telephone numbers and email addresses for yourself and referees.

Section 2: Letter from the Chief Executive – Bev Matthews

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in this role within Minerva Learning Trust. Minerva Learning Trust was established in October 2014 with the vision of providing outstanding education for pupils who are from a wide variety of backgrounds across the city of Sheffield. During 2017-18 the Trust expanded and brought together four secondary schools across Sheffield to create a new partnership of schools which supports the education of over 5000 pupils. In September 2020, Chapelton Academy joined the Trust and enhanced the post-16 provision within the Trust in the north of the city and in September 2021, we were delighted that Woodthorpe Community Primary School became the first primary school to join the Trust. We resolutely believe that we are stronger together and that each school within the MAT has individual strengths and we celebrate the diverse and unique qualities of each particular school.

As a Trust our mission, vision and values are central to our work and are the driving force behind all that we do. Our vision of Outstanding Together, Working Together and Learning Together is underpinned by our core values of Inclusion, Independence, Respect and Success. Through our values we foster an ethos of collegiality, we ensure inclusion is at the heart of all we do and we work hard to ensure that every child succeeds, no matter what their background or circumstance.

We recognise that the commitment and care shown by all our staff is fundamental to the success of our young people. As such, we work hard to ensure that staff are supported, encouraged, developed, respected and listened to within an enjoyable and rewarding working environment. Our culture is one of professional trust, respect, honesty and integrity and we want our staff and students to work and learn within an environment that enables them to flourish and to work at their best.

The professional development of staff, including opportunities for research, is a key priority of Minerva Learning Trust. As such, we seek to enrich employee capability and maximise the strength and contribution of each individual who works with us. The Trust believes in investing in the learning and development of its employees through a range of opportunities which are aligned to the needs of the organisation and its young people.

This is an exciting opportunity to join the Trust. If you choose to apply you will be choosing to work alongside a team of dedicated professionals who passionately believe in the power of education to change the life, chances of young people.

If you believe you have the experience, skills and ambition to support our aims and contribute to the delivery of the very best for our pupils then we look forward to receiving your application.



Bev Matthews
Chief Executive Officer

Section 3: Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Candidate,

I am delighted that you are considering making an application for this position at Stocksbridge High School. We are an ambitious and inclusive 11 to 16 comprehensive school firmly rooted in our local community. You will find us to be open, friendly and welcoming with great students and a dedicated staff.

Every one of the young people we serve is entitled to thrive at school so that they may leave skilled, qualified and confident to make a success of their next steps in life. This is achieved through high quality leadership, teaching and support from our staff so that all students learn and progress well. Working at Stocksbridge High School means that you will always hold young people in high regard and have nothing but the highest of expectations for their learning, conduct and aspiration. This is reflected in our core vision of Believe, Achieve, Succeed' and felt by our values of:

- Be Positive
- Be Kind
- Be Confident
- Be Reflective

We are here to make a difference to the young people and families of Stocksbridge and we aim to be recognised as outstanding in this endeavour. It is an exciting time to join our school and if you share that ambition and determination, I look forward to receiving your application.



Ben Gilder
Headteacher

Section 4: About Stocksbridge High School



Our Mission, Vision and Values

...THIS IS JUST THE START...

Our Mission:

All pupils have the opportunity to grow academically, socially, morally and spiritually to ensure that when they leave our care every door to a potential future remains firmly open.

Our Vision:

Our vision is based upon our core principles of 'Believe, Achieve, Succeed'

Believe

We generate **belief** in students through personal development, raising aspirations and self-respect, and encouraging all students to pursue their dreams.

Achieve

We have a relentless and unapologetic focus on the outcomes of students to ensure that they **achieve** their dreams.

Succeed

We recognise and celebrate **success** for students on a daily basis with a positive learning culture.

Our Values:

Be Positive

We smile, we accept compliments, we are polite, and we are respectful

Be Kind

We are caring, we show empathy, we have good manners, and we are considerate

Be Confident

We develop our self-esteem, we show resilience, we are ambitious, and we set high standards for ourselves

Be Reflective

We learn from our mistakes, we identify our targets, we always look to improve, and we celebrate our successes

Our Beliefs:

We drive our Mission through the school by believing in the pupils, staff and community to work together. To do this we:

- Develop **belief** from the community by engaging key stakeholders in every aspect of school life and working together to create a world-class learning environment for their children.
- **Believe** in the staff we have to develop professionally and encourage a culture of succession and personal aspiration.
- **Believe** in a solutions-focussed continuous improvement cycle to drive change and raise standards.



Our Mission, Vision and Values

Leaders at SHS	All Staff at SHS	Parents at SHS	Pupils at SHS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead with a positive approach • Are solutions focussed • Are highly visible • Are highly active and act quickly to resolve issues • Model expectations and never ignore problems • Are reflective, support and develop colleagues within our teams • Have high expectations of all stakeholders • Are accountable and confident to hold others to account • Are kind and mindful of well-being, physical and mental health • Communicate with clarity in a timely manner • Put the school’s vision and values front and foremost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have high expectations for all stakeholders and build confidence • Are reflective and continually strive for improvement • Look after their own well-being and that of others • Put relationships at the heart of everything they do through kindness • Have a relentless focus on outcomes • Uphold standards positively and support the school’s drive towards excellence • Use policies and guidance to provide clarity of purpose • Recognise achievements of all stakeholders and celebrate through a culture of success 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be part of the decision-making process by involving themselves as part of the school community • Support school decisions by reflecting on the rationale and encourage their children to • Understand that pupil success is at the heart of the school’s values • Engage with the school and respond positively • Be kind to staff that are working hard to do the best for their children • Be confident to approach the school about how we can work more closely together 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have high expectations of themselves and their peers • Be positive in all that they do • Be kind, compassionate and caring to others • Be confident to make choices even when they might be difficult • Be reflective and consider the impact of our actions on others • Understand that staff are here to help them to be the best version of themselves • Be part of the decision-making process by fully engaging in leadership opportunities • Adhere to the school’s policies

Our Mission, Vision and Values

Believe:

- Generate **belief** in students through personal development, raising aspirations and self-respect, and encouraging all students to pursue their dreams.
- Develop **belief** from the community by engaging key stakeholders in every aspect of school life and working together to create a world-class learning environment for their children.
- **Believe** in the staff we have to develop professionally through a comprehensive CPD package that takes into account career stage and encourages a culture of succession and personal aspiration.
- **Believe** in a solutions-focused continuous improvement cycle to drive change and raise standards.

Achieve:

- Have a relentless and unapologetic focus on the outcomes of students to ensure that they **achieve** their dreams.
- Improve the life chances of the community by creating a generation of **high achieving** young people that can drive industry and entrepreneurship, both locally and further afield.
- Celebrate staff **achievements** and recognise their contributions through a morally driven and determined staff body.
- Be recognised nationally for our **achievements** in outcomes and our wider enrichment offer.

Succeed:

- Recognise and celebrate **success** for students on a daily basis with a positive learning culture.
- Be an oversubscribed, **successful** school that is the choice of parents both locally and further afield.
- Have **successful** teachers that are driven to improve their own practice and develop their careers.
- Make our vision a reality, then we will have **succeeded**.

ABOUT US

Stocksbridge High School joined the Trust in December 2017. Our aim is to create and sustain educational excellence for all young people, whilst still developing the whole person, building in them the skills they need to be confident, happy and successful.

Based in a superb new building we are proud to offer a stimulating environment for learning. As a growing school we have a unique opportunity to get to know every child individually, enabling us to develop and support them throughout their time at our school. We are driven as a school to constantly challenge ourselves and to accept the challenge of our parents to improve all that we do.

We want all students to make progress from their individual starting points and achieve outcomes that enable them to move on to the next phase of their education at the highest possible entry point.

To ensure this happens we:

- Are relentlessly positive with all students every day, believing they can and will succeed.
- Work tirelessly to remove barriers to learning for all students so that all students can be successful.
- Deliver high quality (quality first) teaching and learning experiences all day every day.
- Provide opportunities for all students to develop the skills required to be successful beyond their formal education.
- Ensure that students are safe at school.
- Work with students, parents, carers and the community to support our values of respect and tolerance.
- Celebrate the achievements of all students, recognising that achievements are personal to every child.
- Create an environment in which all staff and students' value and enjoy learning.
- Care for and support each other.

Our school is a popular, thriving 11-16 comprehensive. Our greatest asset lies in our people – a wonderful team of enthusiastic students, committed staff and supportive parents and governors. We value the contributions that each person brings. We are passionate about making school life enjoyable and challenging, providing varied opportunities for learning and securing the highest possible levels of achievement for each and every student. We believe our students deserve every opportunity to flourish, not solely in academic pursuits, but emotionally, socially, spiritually and culturally. We seek to ensure that every student develops vital transferable skills for life and work that will allow them to become active, informed and responsible citizens of the 21st century.

We look forward to your application and thank you for your interest in our school.

Further information about the school including access to the full Ofsted Report can be found on our website: [Stocksbridge High School](#)

Section 5: About our Trust

Who We Are

Minerva Learning Trust is an educational charity that has the single objective 'to advance education for public benefit'. As such:

- The Trust is legally accountable for the education of every child, the professional performance of every employee and the health and safety of the working environment
- The workforce is a single "faculty of education" who work together even though their places of work are located on different school sites
- The Board of Trustees, who are appointed by the members, are the governing body of the Trust. Every other governance group is a sub-committee, including Local Governing Bodies
- The CEO is the Accountable Officer

The Trust was established in October 2014. Our vision is to provide outstanding education for students who are from a wide variety of backgrounds across the city of Sheffield.

The Trust is an expanding Sheffield based Multi Academy Trust with a vision of providing outstanding education for all the students within our schools. During 2017/2018 the Trust brought together four secondary schools to create a new partnership which supports the teaching and learning of around 5,500 students.

In September 2020, Chapelton Academy converted to academy status with Minerva, this has enhanced the post-16 provision within the Trust in the north of the city. In addition, September 2021, Woodthorpe Community Primary became the first primary school to join our Trust as we begin an exciting expansion into the primary phase.

We resolutely believe that we are stronger together and that each school within the MAT has individual strengths and we celebrate the diverse and unique qualities of each particular school. The Trust is passionate that all students should see their time at school as happy and fulfilling with their potential developed to the utmost.

Minerva Learning Trust is led by Bev Matthews, Chief Executive Officer and Ed Wydenbach, Chair of the Trust Board. Bev is an experienced Headteacher and School Improvement leader. Ed is an experienced Governor and is a National Leader of Governance (NLG).

The Trust employs just under 800 staff across our schools and central services, and we are committed to providing career opportunities and professional development which allows people to make a positive contribution to the delivery of our vision.

What We Do

Our aim is to deliver an outstanding education for all students, staff and stakeholders.

We do this through an ethos of collegiality, placing students at the centre of all that we do. We are an inclusive Trust; our students show a high level of care for each other and respect each other's diversity. We do not allow disadvantage to be a barrier to learning and we support all our students to be the very best.

Why We Exist

As a Trust our mission, vision and values are central to our work and are the driving force behind all that we do. Our vision of Working Together, Learning Together and Outstanding Together is underpinned by our core values of Inclusion, Independence, Respect and Success. Through our values we foster an ethos of collegiality, we ensure inclusion is at the heart of all we do, and we work hard to ensure that every child succeeds, no matter what their background or circumstance.

We recognise that the commitment and care shown by all our staff is fundamental to the success of our young people. As such, we work hard to ensure that staff are supported, encouraged, developed, respected, and listened to within an enjoyable and rewarding working environment. Our culture is one of professional trust, respect, honesty and integrity and we want our staff and students to work and learn within an environment that enables them to flourish and to work at their best.

Mission, Vision, Values and Beliefs

Our Mission, Vision and Values

OUR MISSION

To provide an outstanding education for students, staff and stakeholders within the Trust.

OUR VISION

Our mission is underpinned by our vision that we are 'Stronger Together' by:

'Working Together'

Our students, staff and stakeholders work in partnership to maximise attainment and achievement and create successful and confident citizens.

'Learning Together'

Our students, staff and stakeholders learn collaboratively with each other to develop a highly skilled workforce which impacts positively on students' life chances.

'Outstanding Together'

Our students, staff and stakeholders work tirelessly, effectively, and efficiently to develop an outstanding quality of education in all our schools.

OUR VALUES

Our values underpin all of the work that we do and all of the decisions that we make.

Inclusion

We place the needs of our students at the heart of everything we do and we all support and encourage each other

Independence

We promote and support strong leadership within our students, staff and stakeholders and we are all accountable for each other

Respect

We recognise and appreciate the diverse qualities of our students, schools and stakeholders and we all care for each other.

Success

We celebrate and communicate our successes, share good practice and we all promote a culture of continuously learning from each other

OUR BELIEFS

- We believe that we will have a significant impact on young people in Sheffield by providing outstanding provision.
- We believe that we can empower existing and aspiring leaders to drive school improvement.
- We believe that through a quality education we can support students to be successful in life after school and to positively contribute to society.
- We believe that a child's background and circumstances should not pre-determine their future.
- We believe that we can enrich the learning experience for all our students by providing aspirational opportunity beyond the classroom.

Our Schools

Minerva Learning Trust is one of the largest Multi Academy Trusts in Sheffield with over 5,000 students. We are very proud of all our schools. Each school serves a very different community within Sheffield, which contributes toward the inclusive nature of the Trust and is something we are very proud of.

The benefits of this means that we have schools in close proximity to each other which provides huge opportunities for staff and students alike to work with and learn from each other. No school is seen as the lead school and every school within the Trust is expected to be a 'giver' and 'receiver' of support.

We have a shared set of values and a common mission which ensures that every child receives the education they deserve. Each school within the Trust retains its cultural autonomy but we work together to ensure best practice becomes shared practice.

Each of our schools is led by a Headteacher with a Senior Leadership Team of Assistant and Assistant Headteachers. Headteachers are responsible for the overall success of the school and for developing a professional and effective working relationship with the Local Governing Body.



Why Choose to Work for Minerva Learning Trust?

The Trust recognises that the commitment and care shown by all our people are fundamental to the success of our young people and we promise our staff that they will be supported, encouraged, developed, respected and listened to within an enjoyable and rewarding working environment.

Our culture is one of professional trust, respect, honesty and integrity and we want our staff and students to work and learn within an environment that enables them to flourish and to work at their best.

Wellbeing Charter

Alongside students, our staff are our most important asset, and we are committed to being an employer of choice across our region. A happy and healthy workforce is vital for the success of our students, and we are developing our approaches to staff wellbeing. The charter below gives a flavour of our thinking and direction of travel toward ensuring our Trust is a great place to work.

Emotional Pillar

An employee assistance programme with a confidential helpline that any member of staff can ring for support at any time.

Swift referrals to Counselling support and services and bespoke paid support for colleagues who are particularly struggling.

Workload Impact Assessment of new policies to ensure that they are manageable and reasonable.

Work-life Balance Policy and Charter which ensures staff are able to manage their workload.

Job opportunities shared across the Trust.

CPD and networks for teachers and support staff.

Staff voice including an annual Trust-wide survey.

Supportive arrangements including induction for new staff.

Open door policies for SLT.

Line manager support through regular 1:1 and team meetings.

Clear expectations for all staff (e.g. Code of Conduct and professional standards).

Access to onsite Mental Health First Aiders.

An MLT Wellbeing ROUTES CPD programme.

Social Pillar

Supportive policies (e.g. flexible working, maternity, paternity, shared parental leave, KIT days and leave of absence).

CPD and networks for teachers and support staff.

Working partnerships with local and regional union representatives.

Approaches across the Trust to celebrate staff as individuals and as a team.

Careful planning of meetings calendars and INSET time to allow staff to meet whilst maintaining a reasonable work-life balance

Designated social spaces in each school to allow time for rest and reflection.

A designated Wellbeing Working Group in each school.

A clear Equality Statement and community that is proactive in supporting diversity and inclusion.

A commitment to collect, analyse and respond to exit interview findings.

Dedicated mentoring support for NQTs and a buddy system for all new staff.

Access to coaching support as part of the Trust's professional development programme.



Physical Pillar

Supportive policies (e.g. work-life balance, flexible working, time off for medical screening and hospital appointments, reasonable adjustments, support for specific issues such as menopause, dementia, cancer, disabilities).

Occupational Health referrals.

Wellbeing sessions for staff (when and where appropriate) and access to resources such as gyms.

Estates management across the Trust to ensure that all staff experience a warm, safe and healthy environment.

Support for the Cycle to Work Scheme.

Individual Risk Assessments for staff facing challenges.

Wellbeing initiatives include cross Trust events.

A commitment to review workload regularly and make changes where possible.

Access to free eye tests for routine users of Display Screen Equipment.

Financial Pillar

Support for courses to prepare for retirement.

Access to enrolment in a defined benefit Pension Scheme (TPS or LGPS).

Access to pensions advice and additional voluntary contributions.

Ensuring that redundancies are a last resort when budgets necessitate changes.

Transparent and clear pay progression policies and collective bargaining with Trade Union colleagues in respect of national and local agreements.

Support for the childcare voucher scheme for eligible employees.

Employer rate and arrangements for deduction from employee's pay through payroll for health care e.g. Westfield Health.



Workload Charter

Our Workload Charter sets out our commitment and offer to support the workload and work/life balance of our staff.

Culture Matters

We all have a responsibility to manage our own workload and that of others. Line management meetings exist to discuss concerns and find solutions.

Line Managers are encouraged to ensure fairness across teams of the delegation of tasks and workload.

The need for change is well planned for and effectively communicated to key stakeholders. Training and time is allocated to ensure that the change is successful.

The Trust / School Calendar is planned with workload in mind and the timing of tasks and projects are adjusted during busy periods.

Opportunities are provided and time is given to support school-school collaboration and reduce the replication of effort.

Research-informed teaching methods are embraced. Staff are empowered to deliver learning that meets the needs of our students in line with teaching and learning principles.

Additional provision is strategically planned for revision sessions with an identified need in mind.

Our schools are calm and safe places to work and learn. A strong behaviour policy is in place in all schools which is consistently applied. Staff, parents and students are aware of the policy and expectations.

TIME Matters

No expectation of staff to respond to emails outside working hours. Except relating to serious safeguarding or other matters.

Staff are encouraged to set an 'Out of Office' and to not access emails outside of their working hours.

Restrictions are set on who can send whole staff Trust and school emails.

Data collections are kept to a maximum of three data drops per year group in any one given academic year. Meeting time is allocated so staff can accurately analyse and discuss.

Student assessments are strategically planned for the academic year to allow time for effective marking and feedback.

Responsive teaching and live feedback are utilised to provide guided instruction and identify common misconceptions so that gaps are quickly closed.

Schools do not roll over the timetable during the second half of the Summer Term, this time is used to work on core priorities and vital staff training.

Duties, including detentions, are shared equally amongst staff.

Meetings start and finish on time with well-structured agenda and, staff should not feel pressured to stay late.

PPA will be distributed throughout the working week to allow time for colleagues to plan and prepare throughout.

CPD Matters

Department time is prioritised and focuses upon sharing expertise, distributing workload and enhancing knowledge.

Inset and twilights are strategically mapped to the strategic objectives of the school and the professional development needs of staff.

The Performance Development Reviews focus upon how staff feel about their current role, how they would like their role to evolve, their career aspirations and any CPD needs that they have.

All staff are given equal access to the Trust ROUTES CPD programme and coaching and mentoring provision. Staff are supported to undertake this during the school day.

Department development time during the last term of the year to support strategic planning and development for the year ahead.

CPD time for strategies to manage workload and how to manage what we expect from ourselves.



Communication Matters

Weekly staff bulletins for key messages to decrease the amount of email traffic from different personnel.

Briefings focus on training staff and sharing key/important messages.

Consultative Forums for staff to raise issues/ or concerns; especially where any significant change is planned.

Capture staff voice on workload.

Regular meetings with Union representatives to ensure that all is well across the school.

Meet the needs of family life, ensuring emotional and family wellbeing is supported.

Trust Wellbeing Ambassadors in every school/team who champion all workforce developments.

Wellbeing Committees within each school/team encourage to monitor and discuss workload issues.



Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

The professional development of staff, including opportunities for research, is a key priority of the Trust. As such, we seek to enrich employee capability and maximise the strength and contribution of everyone who works with us. We believe in investing in the learning and development of its employees through a range of opportunities which are aligned to the needs of the organisation and its young people.

Access to our internal ROUTES CPD programme, Minerva Leaders of Education Coaching Programme, leadership training, coaching, mentoring, external CPD programmes, ECT training, ITT development, apprenticeships, networking opportunities and access to external courses are just a taster of the wide range of opportunities on offer to all our staff. Our strong collaborative community networks for Headteachers, senior leaders, subject leaders and variety of support staff roles support the culture of collaborative generosity and sharing of good practice across our organisation.

As a Trust we strongly believe in the power of growing our own leaders and the importance of succession planning and talent management. Many leaders within our organisation have been developed through this route.

This is underpinned by our new approach to Performance Development Reviews, rather than Performance Management, which supports a move away from performance related pay to one which focuses upon the personal and professional developments needs of all individuals to ensure the best possible outcomes for all our young people.

Occupational Health Support and Counselling

The Trust accesses Occupational Health services via Indus Occupational Health and Counselling services via Collins Donnelly Consultancy and Zurich Municipal. A range of services can be provided. Further information can be made available upon request.

DSE Eye Tests

Staff who work with Display Screen Equipment (DSE) continuously and intensively for more than one hour per day on most days as a significant part of their normal day to day work can access pre-paid eye examination vouchers, which they can use at Specsavers. Staff should speak to Central HR or the school Business Support Manager to access a voucher.

Pension Schemes

All employees of the Trust are automatically enrolled into either the Teachers' Pension Scheme or the Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS). Further information and terms and conditions can be found on their websites.

Salary Sacrifices Schemes

Employees of the Trust can access the Government's Cycle to Work Scheme, which offers the opportunity to buy cycles and cycling equipment. Further information can be made available upon request.

Section 6: Job Description



Minerva Learning Trust Job Description



STOCKSBRIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL
— This is Just the Start —

Minerva Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

POST TITLE	Assistant Headteacher
GRADE/SALARY	Leadership Pay Range, L13 to L17
HOURS/WEEKS	Permanent, full time
LOCATION	Stocksbridge High School
RESPONSIBLE TO	Headteacher
RESPONSIBLE FOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic leadership and management of the assigned portfolio of responsibilities to continually the quality of educational provision. • Driving up standards in all aspects of school life to enable us to fulfil our mission. • Line management of employees at the school in accordance with allocated responsibilities.
PURPOSE OF THE JOB	To perform the duties of Assistant Headteacher in accordance with the conditions of employment as set out in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, the National Standards of Excellence for Headteachers and the policies and procedures of the Minerva Learning Trust. To deputise in the absence of the Headteacher.
RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate with Qualified Teacher Status. • Evidence of leadership preparation through Continuous Professional Development (e.g. NPQH).

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The post-holder, must at all times, carry out his/her duties and responsibilities within the spirit of Minerva Learning Trust and School policies and within the legislative framework applicable to academies.

Core Purpose:

- To perform the duties of Assistant Headteacher and School Teacher in accordance with the conditions of employment as set out in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, the National Standards of Excellence for Headteachers and the policies and procedures of the Minerva Learning Trust.
- To support the Headteacher in providing vision and dynamic and professional leadership for the school to ensure high quality, inclusive and comprehensive education for all its students.
- To model and uphold the school and Trust's mission, vision, values and beliefs and ensure they are embedded in all areas of the school.
- To contribute to effective strategic planning, self-evaluation and whole school improvement of the school.
- Assist the Headteacher in the day-to-day running of the school and ensure the strategic planning, delivery and evaluation of events in accordance with the school calendar.
- To inspire, challenge, motivate and empower all members of the school community to contribute to carry the vision forward.
- To contribute to the effective management of the school's resources and cultivate a safe environment that secures and promotes the highest achievement of both pupils and staff.
- To promote the school in the wider community and to work across the Minerva Learning Trust to improve outcomes for all children educated in our schools.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Work with the Headteacher and Chief Executive of the Minerva Learning Trust to influence the strategic direction of the school, share good practice and establish the school's position within the Trust.
- Work with the Headteacher and the Local Governing Body to establish a clear vision and strategy for the next phase of the school's development and ensure this is clearly articulated, shared and acted upon by the whole school community via an effective School Development Plan.
- To assist the Headteacher in the day to day running of the school and ensure the strategic planning, delivery and evaluation of events in accordance with the school calendar.
- Create partnerships with other leaders across the Trust.
- Direction, management and professional responsibility for staff as allocated in accordance with the responsibilities of the post including recruitment, performance management and management of HR issues.
- Developing and leading on a strategic plan to further develop the quality of education of the school, including effective methods of stakeholder engagement.
- Play a leading role in developing new and supporting existing strategies that enhance student experiences in all lessons and promotes positive learning attitudes to school; especially the hardest to reach.
- Analysing and utilising of quality assurance data to identify trends and target successful, research based, intervention and support to improve student outcomes.
- Successfully line manage allocated subjects and leaders.
- Coaching and mentoring staff in order to develop their professional skills and knowledge.
- Monitoring, observing and evaluating lessons and teaching and learning standards.
- Lead by example to foster an open, fair, equitable culture where alternative perspectives can be expressed and considered.
- Promote an environment characterised by outstanding teaching for learning where pupils take pride in their learning journey and respond positively to the high standards expected of them.
- Play a role in safeguarding and promoting the health, safety and welfare of pupils providing a secure and inclusive climate where all pupils feel safe, valued and secure.

- Manage finance and resources astutely to maximise their use and value, including effective budgeting, applying resources to deliver the curriculum and needs of the school and ensuring accountability for public funding.
- Develop and sustain effective relationships with the Local Governing Body and produce high quality reports to ensure effective governance of the school.

Strategic direction and development of the school

- As part of the Senior Leadership Team, provide inspiring, creative and purposeful leadership for the staff and pupils/students.
- To co-create and implement a School Development Plan which will secure continuous school improvement and support the principles of the Minerva Learning Trust.
- To monitor and evaluate the performance of selected areas of the school and respond and report to the Headteacher, and the governing body as required.
- To lead on developing selected policies and practices and ensure that they take account of national, local and academy requirements and apply sound educational practice through evidence-based pedagogy.
- To regularly monitor, evaluate and review the impact of selected policies, priorities and targets and take action if necessary.
- To inspire all those involved in the school to commit to its aims, stay motivated to achieve them and involved in meeting long, medium and short-term objectives to secure the educational success of the academy.
- Commit to your own professional development and proactively identify opportunities.
- Lead by example to foster an open, fair, equitable culture where alternative perspectives can be expressed and considered.
- Promote the health, safety and welfare of students providing a secure and inclusive climate where all students feel safe, valued and secure.

Teaching and learning

- As part of the Senior Leadership Team, continue to maintain an environment that promotes and secures outstanding teaching, effective learning and high standards of achievement, behaviour and attendance.
- Determine, organise, implement and monitor selected areas of the curriculum and its assessment and ensure that statutory requirements are met.
- Meticulously plan and teach engaging, and challenging lessons, to exemplify high standards of teaching and learning.
- Exemplify excellent practice in delivering inclusion, diversity and equality of access.

Leading and managing staff

- Plan, allocate, support and evaluate work undertaken by groups, teams and individuals, ensuring clear delegation of tasks and devolution of responsibilities in a manner consistent with conditions of employment.
- Promote and monitor the continuing professional development of staff.
- Hold selected staff to account for their professional conduct and practice, as specified in the Terms and Conditions of Service of teachers.
- Undertake line management of and have professional responsibility for staff as allocated in accordance with the responsibilities of the post.
- Performance development reviews of allocated middle leaders and staff, including carrying out appraisals, providing professional development opportunities and holding staff to account.
- Develop and sustain effective relationships with the Local Governing Body, and the Chair of Governors in particular.

Efficient and effective deployment of staff and resources

- As part of the Senior Leadership Team, recruit, retain, deploy and develop staff of the highest quality.
- Monitor appropriate expenditure, allocation of funds/resources and effective administration for selected areas of responsibility in order to improve the quality of education, pupils' achievements and ensure efficiency and secure value for money.

Accountability

- As part of the Senior Leadership Team, continue to develop an organisation in which all staff recognise that they are accountable for the success of the school.
- Present a coherent and accurate account of the school's performance in selected areas in a form appropriate to the range of audiences, including the Headteacher, governors, parents, OFSTED and others to enable them to play their part effectively.
- Ensure that parents/carers and pupils/students are well informed about the curriculum, attainment and progress and about the contribution they can make in supporting their child's learning.

Carry out any such duties as may be reasonably required by the Headteacher.

Safeguarding

- To be aware of and work in accordance with the school's child protection policies and procedures in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and to raise any concerns relating to such procedures which may be noted during the course of duty.

Other Specific Duties

- To actively promote school and Trust policies.
- To engage in personal professional development as agreed and engage actively in the performance review process.
- To undertake any other reasonable duties in-line with the nature of the post not mentioned in the above.
- Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified.
- Employees are expected to be courteous to colleagues and provide a welcoming environment to visitors and telephone callers.

General

- To be aware of, and comply with, Trust and school policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
- The above duties are not exhaustive, and the post-holder may be required to undertake tasks, roles and responsibilities as may be reasonably assigned to them by the Chief Executive Officer and Local Governing Body.
- This job description will be kept under review and may be amended at any time via consultation with the individual, Chief Executive Officer and Local Governing Body as required. Trade Union representatives will be welcome in any such discussions.

Section 7: Person Specification



Minerva Learning Trust Person Specification



STOCKSBRIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL
— This is Just the Start —

Post title: Assistant Headteacher

Minimum Essential Requirements

Method of Assessment

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Graduate with Qualified Teacher Status.

AF

Evidence of leadership preparation through Continuous Professional Development.

AF

Experience of secondary school(s) as a Senior Leader.

AF

Experience of having secured on-going student progress through own teaching.

AF

Direct experience of:

Motivating, inspiring and leading a dedicated and highly professional staff.

AF/I

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare and wellbeing of all students.

I

School strategic development planning and self-evaluation.

AF/I

Raising standards in learning and teaching and improving outcomes.

AF/I

Developing and delivering effective and impactful quality assurance processes.

AF/I

Developing and quality assuring a high-quality curriculum intent that meets the needs of all learners.

AF/I

Effective assessment, analysis and intervention to raise achievement.

AF/I

Inclusion, including strategies to raise engagement in education.

AF/I

Recruiting and developing skilled, effective teams through the school.

AF/I

Coaching and developing others.

AF/I

Effective change management.

AF/I

Development of effective and sustainable relationships, respect and credibility, working with key stakeholders including staff, pupils, families, Governors, other schools, the wider community and other external partners and organisations.

AF/R

Experience of effective management of people and financial resources.

AF

Understanding the Ofsted framework.

AF/I/R/AA

QUALITIES AND KNOWLEDGE

Having vision and ambition with the ability to implement it strategically.

AF/I/R

Able to build and communicate a coherent vision of excellence and equality, empowering all pupils and staff to contribute and achieve their full potential.

AF/I

Recent evidence of planning and leading whole school improvement initiatives and policies which have a demonstrable impact on pupils' attainment, behaviour and attitudes.	AF/R
Ability to demonstrate a secure understanding of the relationship between self-evaluation, performance management, Continuous Professional Development and sustained school improvement.	AF/I/R
Knowledge and understanding of and ability to respond to current educational policies and practices, including statutory requirements and the legal framework in which academies operate.	AF/I/AA
Political insight and knowledge of national trends that could impact upon both the school and the Minerva Learning Trust.	AF/I/R
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Evidence of a commitment to Continuous Professional Development.	AF/R
Willingness to actively participate in professional learning.	AF
Willingness to stay abreast of national developments in education and contribute to developing resources and pedagogy to reflect the changing landscape.	AF/I
PUPILS AND STAFF	
Ability to implement strategies to celebrate diversity and to ensure inclusion, access and equality of opportunity so that all students are able to achieve their full potential.	AF/I
Practitioner with a clear understanding of what makes good and outstanding learning, teaching and assessment, leading by example.	AF/I
Track record of the professional development of teams and staff to raise the quality of teaching to improve outcomes.	AF/I
Commitment to provide a rich and varied curriculum to meet the needs of all pupils.	AF/I
Ability to develop, empower and support individuals and teams, to recognise and promote excellence and the skills and resilience to challenge poor and under performance across the school.	AF/I/R
Commitment to and ability to implement an ethos of the highest standards of pupil behaviour, standards and welfare.	AF/I
SYSTEMS AND PROCESS	
An understanding of how to create whole community accountability systems and implement them with the support of the Senior Leadership Team, combining data from a range of sources in order to maximise the achievement of all pupils.	AF/I
Commitment and proven experience of effectively implementing procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students and staff.	AF/I
Ability to develop and maintain effective relationships with the Local Governing Body to ensure effective governance and successful implementation of the Governor's responsibilities.	AF
Effective people management capabilities, including understanding of the role of Appraisal and Performance Management in staff development and school improvement.	AF/I
SELF-IMPROVING SCHOOL SYSTEM	
An understanding of, and sensitivity to, the needs of all members of the school and wider community.	AF/I
The ability to build trusting relationships and inspire commitment to support both the academic, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.	AF/I
Ability to engage the school community in systematic and rigorous self-evaluation, combining the outcomes of this with external evaluations to support the continuous development of the school.	AF/I

Commitment to collaborative working both internally and with other schools to improve outcomes and the ability to develop opportunities, initiatives and partnerships to derive maximum benefit for the school and its stakeholders.	AF/I
SKILLS	
Capacity to motivate, inspire and challenge young people.	AF/I/R
Ability to communicate a vision and inspire others.	AF/I
Celebrate excellence and challenge poor performance.	AF/I
Capacity to manage the learning environment and student behaviour in a manner, which is conducive to productive learning for all students.	AF/I
Ability to inspire confidence in and establish excellent relationships with pupils, teachers and parents.	AF/I
Ability to build positive relationships with colleagues, students and parents.	AF/I
Ability to prioritise, plan and organise themselves and others, using time effectively.	AF/I
Ability to effectively deploy a range of teaching and learning styles to suit the nature of the course content and the ability and attainments of students.	AF/I
Ability to teach Key Stage 3 and 4.	AF
QUALITIES AND ATTRIBUTES	
Passionate about education, inclusion and success for all, leading by example with optimism, empathy and integrity to inspire, motivate and generate trust in others.	I
Highly effective and creative communicator (oral and written).	I
Has the skills and confidence to negotiate and consult across a wide range of decision makers and partners.	I
Ambitious, driven and resilient with a collegiate approach. High expectations and good judgement to recognise and reward professional excellence and recognise and deal effectively with poor performance.	I
Ability to generate commitment and develop strong teams to manage change effectively.	I/R
Have a visible and positive presence around school.	I
Ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively.	I/R
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SAFEGUARDING	
An understanding of safeguarding issues and promoting the welfare of children and young people.	AF/I
A commitment to safeguarding students.	AF/I
Suitability to work with children.	AF/R
A commitment to equal opportunities.	AF
Ability to recognise discrimination and willingness to put Equality Policies into practice.	AF

Key: AA = Assessed activity
AF = Application form
I = Interview
R = Reference

Section 8: The Appointment Process

These notes are intended to guide you when making an application.

- The Application Form
Complete the application form neatly, fully and accurately, including exact dates. The form may be typed or handwritten but if you do write it by hand please make sure that it is legible and that you use black ink. Indicate clearly on the front page the post you are applying for. You are requested to submit a concise application.
- Education and Training
State your qualifications and any training you have undertaken relevant to the post.
- Present Appointment
Make it clear what your present post is, which establishment you work in and who your employer is.
- Previous Appointment
When completing this section, it is important that you offer a continuous record, or an explanation of any gaps to allow full account to be taken of your experience, for example, child raising, voluntary work.
- Referees
Suitable referees are people who have direct, recent experience of your work and who are in responsible positions. We may need to contact them at short notice so please be specific with regard to contact addresses including e-mail and telephone numbers.
- The Supporting Statement/Letter of Application
The supporting statement or letter is regarded as a very important part of your application. You should make statements that demonstrate how your qualifications and experience match the post. You should take particular care to demonstrate how you meet the person specification included as part of these details. **Please limit your supporting statement to two sides of A4 in size 11 font.**
- Arrangements for Interview
Shortlisted applicants will be contacted as soon as possible after the closing date. Referees are contacted prior to the interview stage for teaching and some support staff posts. We would ask that all shortlisted applicants read the safeguarding information on the school website prior to attending the interview.
- The Interview
Candidates will be invited to spend a day visiting the school during which time they will have the opportunity to meet staff and students and see the school at work. Interviews are likely to take place in the afternoon.
- Feedback
Feedback is offered to those candidates who are shortlisted and not recommended for appointment. It is hoped that this information will help you with future applications.
- Selection for Appointment
Selection is made conditional upon the successful candidate meeting the Trust's requirements for health, physical capacity and conduct.
- Arrangements for Applications
When you have completed your application, the completed form and covering letter should be e-mailed to Hannah Taylor at htaylor@stocksbridge-mlt.co.uk by the closing date.