

THE CASTLE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Executive Headteacher: Sarah Watson



The Castle Partnership Trust
ACHIEVE | BELONG | PARTICIPATE



THE CASTLE SCHOOL

Wellington Road, Taunton,
Somerset TA1 5AU
Tel: 01823 274073
www.castleschool.co.uk

COURT FIELDS SCHOOL

Mantle Street, Wellington,
Somerset TA21 8SW
Tel: 01823 664201
www.courtfields.net

The following post is available at **Court Fields School**:

Teacher of Mathematics

Dear Colleague

We are delighted that you are interested in applying for this post. We are looking for an inspiring Teacher of Mathematics, committed to the success of every child. This is an exciting time to join Court Fields School and be part of a rapidly improving school within a Multi Academy Trust. The Maths results have improved significantly over the past 5 years improving from 48% A*-C in 2012 to consistently achieving 65%+. We have a team of 6 Maths teachers in a school of 765 students who are friendly, motivated and growing in academic confidence.

The Castle Partnership Trust is currently made up of two schools within the Trust itself; The Castle School and Court Fields School and we look forward to welcoming you to our school sites for a visit if you can, so that you can see first-hand what we are about and what we can offer you. Our schools are friendly and welcoming and our parents and students are always very appreciative of what staff do for them. We frequently have appreciative compliments from parents and members of the community, which I like to read out in staff briefings so people get the recognition they deserve. This builds a positive and warm school community where everyone is valued.

At The Castle Partnership Trust, we value teachers. We have an outstanding record of training teachers and investing in our staff, believing that potential, enthusiasm and good subject knowledge leads to great learning. Our excellent CPD programme supports that; even the best teachers need to keep refreshed and interested, and to be given opportunities to develop themselves. We are serious about education for our students AND our staff.

We love diversity and richness in our school so we welcome teachers at the beginning of their career, as well as teachers who are further on in their careers, perhaps looking for something different and who wish to bring up their families in beautiful Somerset landscapes, enjoying a better quality of life. We are committed to reducing workload and are determined to reduce class sizes so that teachers too can have a quality of life. This is part of our Resilient Classrooms strategy that seeks to ensure good mental health for staff and for children.

An exciting new opportunity for our staff is to deliver the International Baccalaureate (IB) at the Bridgwater and Taunton College site which is our closest neighbour. We are very interested in candidates who have experience of delivering the IB or A levels. The Castle School and Court Fields are natural catchments for the IB and we have many students who already progress onto the IB at the various Post 16 providers in the area.

Whatever stage you are at now, whether you are focused on your classroom practice or if you are looking to further your career, we have a superb CPD programme for everyone through our Teaching School. If you are ambitious to progress in your career, we will give you opportunities to develop leadership and management, to work with some of the best teachers in the country and to learn leadership from some of the best in the profession. We are aligned to the LSSW who are the providers of the NPQ programmes and many of our leaders will be delivering these programmes. We also have internal programmes for school leadership, Head of Department or Faculty, Pastoral leaders, Aspiring Strategic Leadership and our Exemplary Teacher programme. 80% of the 20 participants on the school leaders' course went on to gain promoted posts either within or beyond the Trust. We regularly offer secondments to SLT for those interested and the Trust is a growing and thriving community where there are joint faculty meetings and CPD so that we all learn together and serve all the children in our Trust. There are increasing opportunities to develop leadership across the Trust and across phases as we open our first new primary school in 2019.

I hope you will understand from this our commitment to your professional development. As a result of our belief in investing in staff, we have a thriving and successful Teaching School and

work closely with other Teaching Schools. I do hope that the successful candidates will find this interesting and exciting.

Staff at all levels have a strong visible presence and are responsive to students. I want students and parents to know that if there is a problem, we will deal with it quickly - within one working day- and will take any action quickly and fairly. There must be no child invisible at The Castle Partnership Trust and incidents must be dealt with quickly and effectively so children know and trust that we will take care of things and will go the extra mile with them. We are also committed to widening participation so that every child participates in learning and enrichment and all members of the school community are expected to pursue these aims.

Court Fields School

Court Fields has been working closely with The Castle School since January 2013 and some staff have moved to Court Fields, including leadership positions, to ensure the progress of students is as good as The Castle. Court Fields is now the most improved school in Somerset. The progress was recognised by the monitoring inspection team in November 2013 and in an unprecedented move, the lead inspector decided to make the monitoring visit a full section 5 inspection and took the school out of special measures in recognition of its dramatic improvement. Court Fields is well on its way to 'good' and, like The Castle School, the students at Court Fields are the best thing about the school. They are motivated and keen to learn but they are proud of their school and want to see it improve. Staff say that you never have to open a door for yourself, and there is never any litter.

The Castle School

The Castle School is an outstanding school; it is good to have this recognised by OFSTED but it is more important that our students continue to receive the best education we can give them. Our students achieve some of the best exam results in the UK. We continue to achieve the top attendance rate in Somerset and that seems to me to be a good indicator of how much students enjoy school. We have been one of the top schools nationally for a number of years and are heavily oversubscribed with about 550 applications a year for 240 places.

This doesn't just happen of course. We work hard for our students and instil a positive learning ethos that is appreciative of others and supportive. Students have high aspirations and expectations of us as we do of them. Students will tell you the best thing about the school is the teachers and teachers will say the best thing about the school are the children and the staff who they work with. Children here achieve more than expected progress but it is critical to me that every child has a sense of belonging and worth, and that every child participates in enrichment and learning. We all know that exam results matter, they allow our students to progress in their education and to embark upon careers, but no less important is the kind of person they become. This leads to happy positive relationships, good health and to go on and live happy, prosperous (in every sense) and fulfilled lives. That is what we want for every single one of our children.

This is an exciting stage of our growth as a Trust. If you wish to be involved in any of this, you will be very welcome. For those of you who are ambitious to progress in your career, this is an excellent opportunity to build up skills and experience that will prepare you for promotion at the right time. Equally, we want teachers who want to focus on their own practice and enrich children's lives and give them opportunities to become happy, prosperous adults with a strong moral compass and self-esteem, to contribute to society and participate.

The most important thing for our children is their safety. We foster a culture of vigilance amongst staff, students and parents. We always listen to children and take their concerns seriously. The Castle Partnership Trust is committed to safeguarding and all staff have a duty

of care towards our young people. All complaints and concerns are fully investigated. Please note that for posts working with children the successful candidate will be required to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service checks in line with the Local Authority and School Child Safeguarding Policy.

Somerset

Somerset is a beautiful county. It is full of pretty villages and bustling market towns. It sits perfectly between Exeter and Bristol, both excellent shopping and entertainment centres, and between the Blackdown Hills, an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and Exmoor. Taunton itself is a thriving market town with superb connections to other parts of the UK. The M5 and railways connect us to London, with the average journey time by rail taking a little over 2 hours. According to www.trainline.com, on an average weekday there are 36 trains per day travelling from Taunton to London Paddington, and Bristol airport is an easy 50 minutes' drive.

Wellington is a rural town that sits conveniently between Junctions 26 and 27 of the M5 motorway. International factories Swallowfield and Relyon are the main sources of employment. The Fox family have been a huge part of Wellington's history and the textiles company of Fox Bros, is still an important employer. The town's population is growing, thanks to new housing developments. There are 4 primary schools in the town, plus 3 in outlying villages, that all feed into Court Fields. Due to the new housing developments, another primary school will be built within the next few years, which will be part of The Castle Partnership Trust. It is a friendly town, with many sports clubs, including rugby, football, cricket and bowling. There is also a very popular sports centre, with swimming pool. The Oake Manor Golf Club is between Wellington and Taunton, and is a venue for live entertainment, as well as golf. The Wellington Monument is situated 2 miles away, on the Blackdown Hills, which is a popular walking area.

Whether you are looking for a change of pace to bring up a family, or for a great centre for outdoor pursuits and exciting cities, Taunton is a perfect location. There are plenty of options for sports enthusiasts, with the Rugby Club, Somerset Cricket Club, as well as Taunton race course. There is even a Polo Club as well as water sports clubs for those who really want to branch out into new sports. Music is very important in Taunton and it is a venue for lots of acts where it feels like the whole of Taunton turn out. An unmissable local cultural event is the Carnival, especially nearby Bridgwater Carnival which claims it can be seen from space! Bright it certainly is but we're not sure it can be seen from space. Property prices are reasonable and there is an increase in the available housing market with attractive new developments in the local area.

Further information about the post

All staff are appointed to the Trust and are welcome to express a preference for a school but are encouraged to explore both schools. Teachers are also allocated a tutor group.

The successful candidate will be privileged to work with highly professional and enthusiastic teachers. You will:

- Be highly motivated and committed and support the leadership in the Department and Trust
- Be expected to initiate new ideas and take calculated risks
- Enjoy high quality professional development that will support you to be outstanding and exemplary. Our aim is to help every teacher not already on UPS, to achieve that.
- Have opportunities to progress in your career should you wish, including opportunities to apply for special school projects at Strategic Leadership level, and participation in a variety of excellent programmes for your development.
- Have opportunities to work with and in other schools.

- Enjoy the positive atmosphere and supportive ethos of The Castle Partnership Trust.
- Work with some of the best staff in the UK who are here to help and support you. We believe we are a team and all want the best for our children and each other.
- Have a teaching load of 22 lessons per week as a main scale teacher. NQTs have a reduced load.
- Enjoy the friendship and interaction with a vibrant and dynamic staff.

On a personal note, this is a fabulous Trust and it is a pleasure and privilege to work for our students and with our staff. They willingly give up time and invest enormous energy in educating our young people. We want people to join us who are similar and who have very high expectations of themselves and those they work with. In your application, tell us why you think you are the right person to join our Trust and how you will inspire our children.

We are currently looking to appoint a Teacher of Mathematics. NQTs and experienced teachers are equally welcome to apply.

Please see the attachments for further details about the post.

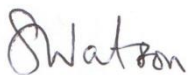
Applications should be emailed to Recruitment@castle.somerset.sch.uk or posted to

Mr Rob Trowbridge
Assistant Business Manager
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Taunton
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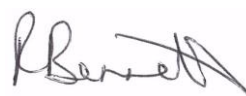
The closing date for applications is **Monday 27th November at Noon**, however early applications are encouraged as shortlisting will take place as applications are received enabling candidates to maximise their preparation time. Interviews are expected to take place later in the week.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Watson
Executive Headteacher



Rachael Bennett
Headteacher – Court Fields School