



Letter to Applicant – Assistant Principal

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for showing interest in this key leadership responsibility. Birchwood high school is a fantastic place to work and I have the great privilege to lead an inspired team of staff who are dedicated to the education of our 1450 students. We are proud of our inclusive and non-selective ethos, with some students progressing on to the very best universities in the country and other students needing significant support to help them progress. They all matter to us, with our 3 key performance indicators defined by individual academic success, welfare and support and enrichment. The Ofsted judgement in 2019 accurately describes us as a Good School' with some Outstanding features – but more than anything, it is the school's relentless focus on continuous school improvement that is, for me, its most outstanding feature.

The Senior Leadership Team have a broad range of skills and experiences so we are, therefore, looking for someone to join our team who has a proven track record in middle leadership, and an emerging talent within whole school leadership (see Job Description and Person Specifications). The current SLT comprises of a Principal, 2 Deputy Principals, 2 Assistant Principals. They are ably supported by a Finance Director to ensure that, as a Single Academy Trust, we are effective in terms of our financial robustness and resource deployment. This post would suit someone with either a curriculum or pastoral background and is not dependent on teaching subject background.

We are fortunate to have excellent facilities and the school is open from 8am to 10pm with a full Community Programme in the evening (once Covid has abated). We also have a number of other key post-holders including the Head of Sixth Form and Heads of English, Maths and Science who form a wider SLT team. A strong Head of Year team look after 240 students each along with Heads of Humanity, PE, Technology, Expressive Arts, MFL. Our Sixth Form is also growing with an expected enrolment of 290 students in September.

This is clearly a significant position in the school's organisation and is an exciting opportunity for someone with an appropriate school leadership background. If you are interested in applying, the closing date is **Monday 19th April** and interviews will be held on **21st and 22nd April**. If you would also like to make an informal visit, please contact Fiona Walker, HR Manager on fwalker@birchwoodhigh.org.uk

If you are successful, you will have the opportunity to help the school improve further at this important time for our students and staff and in return, we will ensure that we support you professionally and personally to succeed and further your career.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Chris Ingate
Principal