

Principal

Application Pack



Wreake Valley Academy

Part of

Bradgate Education Partnership



Welcome from the Chief Executive Officer



Thank you for your interest in the role of Principal at our Wreake Valley Academy.

Wreake Valley Academy joined the Trust in September 2018 from which point we have been working closely with the school on developing Wreake Valley Academy to make it a school of choice for the community. We are seeking an ambitious and energetic leader who will be committed to futureproofing the school. The Principal will be someone who identifies with our mission and values and someone who will be dedicated to working in partnership with schools and colleagues across the wider Trust.

This is not only a very exciting time to join our Trust as we aspire to be Leicestershire's leading multi academy trust but also a uniquely rewarding opportunity to lead Wreake Valley Academy at a time of real change and development.

The set-up of Bradgate Education Partnership was a unique one with 11 schools coming together on 1st September 2016 with the core vision and mission being:

'To create high quality educational opportunities for all children and young people across the partnership by developing a strong collaborative and co-operative model through which we encourage autonomy, share best practice, enhance the professional aspirations of our staff and ensure the safety and well-being of all pupils and staff.'

Since the 1st September 2016 we have grown to 14 schools soon to be 15 in February 2020. Our model is based on a through model of education and we are passionate about fostering wonderful learning experiences for the children and students in our care ensuring that each pupil has the chance to reach their full potential. We are also committed to our local community and only looking at modest growth within the locality.

All schools have equal access to the professional expertise and development opportunities through our teaching school; STEP Teaching School Alliance (Syston & Thurmaston Education Partnership). Our teaching school not only supports all staff within the Trust schools, but also the wider area across the Local Authority.

'The uniqueness of Wreake Valley Academy is the pure effort, commitment and care of the staff at the school to truly make a difference.'

The Trust provides a range of support and systems to the school, principally in the areas of Education, Welfare, Finance, Estates and Human Resources.

Wreake Valley Academy as it moves forwards needs to improve outcomes for students and set out a clear vision for developing and growing the school in the local area, the role of Principal is key to driving some necessary change forward for the school. The uniqueness of Wreake Valley Academy is the pure effort, commitment and care of the staff at the school to truly make a difference.

I look forward to receiving your application

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Nelmes".

Gareth Nelmes

About Wreake Valley Academy



Wreake Valley Academy is an 11 to 18 school which encompasses Bradgate Sixth Form. We are a school at the heart of the local community, providing a friendly, creative and purposeful learning environment.

The school has capacity for up to 240 students in each year group but this number has fallen over time and projected numbers into Y7 for 2020 look to be around 145. During this period the reputation of the school has also declined and this needs addressing. Many young people and their families within the catchment are not choosing Wreake and we need to change this. To do this we need to give them a school to be proud of and we need to ensure that more students fulfil their potential.

The school benefits from a loyal, hard-working and dedicated staff. There is also a knowledgeable and ambitious Local Advisory Board who will provide a good balance of support and challenge for the new Principal. There is huge potential. The school needs a leader who is able to harness this potential and can provide the dedication and determination which will enable the students to succeed.

Bradgate Sixth Form

With a newly appointed Head of Sixth Form the provision has recently been remodelled, refurbished and re-branded.

The Bradgate Sixth Form is successful, but as yet is relatively modest. Standards are rising and this is yet another area of great opportunity for further development and growth. The Sixth Form is the only one in the vicinity of Syston & Thurmaston.

The Sixth Form has a wide range of facilitating subjects which have enabled many of our students to follow their career aspirations into dentistry, medicine and veterinary practice. Many now attend Russell Group Universities or have followed high level apprenticeship courses with companies such as JCB, Deloitte and Nylacast. In addition, we offer a good range of vocational courses which can lead on to vocational degrees in the creatives, engineering, sports or business.



We are proud of...

- Our commitment to high standards for SEN and Inclusion;
- Our creative arts;
- The aspirations of our existing SLT and wider staff;
- Our dedicated pastoral teams.



The Role of Principal

The role at this point in time is a unique opportunity for someone to genuinely shape the future of the school and the Trust.

Ideally we would like to appoint a candidate from the start of the Summer Term (post April resignation period), this can be a flexible start date so that the Trust can focus on appointing the right candidate for the role.

The Principal will benefit from a high level of autonomy within the Trust context and will have the scope to develop and shape the curriculum and drive the school forward for the long term.

We seek a candidate who will be committed to a long term future at the school and with the Trust and someone who with relish a fresh challenge.

The Principal will be:

- Visionary whilst pragmatic
- A strategic decision maker
- Able to show compassion to students and staff
- Transparent and trustworthy
- A hardworking individual who will enable staff to develop and drive the school forwards
- An excellent teacher who knows their trade

This role is not just about being the Principal and being an employee of the Trust, the role is about being an ambassador and an inspiration to students and colleagues. It is about genuinely developing education for the future...



The Community

Syston is a small town based in north Leicestershire in which Wreake Valley Academy is located.



Syston is neighbour to the village of Thurmaston where our other secondary school is based, The Roundhill Academy. There are strong links between the two schools and we see this developing in the future.

Several of our primary schools act as feeder schools to Wreake Valley Academy providing a strong foundation for future success and the Trust itself is committed to serving the North Leicestershire area and maintaining a strong presence in the locality.

The Trust Offices are based at the school and so the Principal will benefit from close working links with the Trust.

Support for our Staff

The Trust is committed to providing our academies with the highest quality of support and challenge to ensure that our schools thrive in order to deliver high quality education.

Head Teachers and Principals benefit from the Trust Head Teacher network that takes place once a month which is dubbed as 'the engine room' of the Trust.

Each of our schools has access to the Trust's STEP teaching school. Our secondary schools currently benefit from a range of brokered school to school support services.

All of our employees have access to the Trust's Employee Support Programme as and when they require.

And our leaders also benefit from the expertise within the Trust's Central Team for Attendance & Welfare, Estates, Financial Management and Human Resources.





Applications



Our Director of Schools, Dean Pomeroy, will be delighted to discuss this role with you in further detail and is available via the following contact details:

Email: dean@bepschools.org

Telephone: 0116 478 3426

Application Closing Date: 12pm, Wednesday 22nd January 2020

Provisional Interview Date: 27th & 28th January 2020

Informal Visits

We would strongly encourage candidates to arrange an informal visit to the school prior to application and/or a telephone conversation with the Director of Schools.

These can be arranged by contacting Dean Pomeroy on the above contact details.

Applications

- Please visit our Trust website www.bepschools.org/vacancies and download the application form.
- Please submit an application form with a covering letter that outlines the following:
 - What would be the biggest challenges for you in your first year of being Principal at Wreake Valley Academy?
 - What are the biggest challenges facing today's generation of young people and how would you as Principal address these?
- Send these documents to the Trust's HR Manager, Lauren Gray at Email: lauren@bepschools.org

Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All staff and volunteers are therefore expected to behave in such a way that supports this commitment. Appointment to this post will be subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks.

Equal Opportunities

We are determined to ensure that no applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, disability, religion, belief, sexual orientation, marital status, or race, or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable.



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