



# Caistor Grammar School

A Selective Academy

Church St. Caistor

Lincolnshire LN7 6QJ

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Alistair Hopkins M.A. (Oxon), M.Ed. Headmaster

Dear Applicant,

**Re: Head of Design and Technology, Full-time, from September 1, 2018 (TLR 2.1 £3921)**

Thank you very much for considering making an application to Caistor Grammar School. We are a small school with an outstanding record of academic achievement and support for our students. We run an enviable extra-curricular programme, which makes a large contribution to the ethos of the School. We were top of the league tables in Lincolnshire for A level and GCSE outcomes in A level and GCSE results, while our Progress 8 score of 0.61 was second best in the county and in the top 8% of schools nationally. We were also awarded the Sunday Times Parent Power Secondary State School of the Year (East Midlands) in November of last year. As I hope you can see, we live our motto 'Ever to Excel'.

We are based in the heart of Caistor, a market town standing on the edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds. Lincoln is 24 miles to the south and Grimsby 12 miles to the east. To the north, over the Humber Bridge, Hull is about 30 minutes from here and major cities like Doncaster, Sheffield and Leeds can be reached easily within an hour and a half along the M180 motorway. Property prices are very reasonable compared to other parts of the country, while to the east you can enjoy the delights of the coast in resorts to suit everyone's tastes.

The School is a special, unique place. All staff, teaching, administration and support, work hard to ensure that our students receive the best education possible. We are a small school of approximately 690 students, including 180 in the Sixth Form. We are also proud to be a single academy trust with a very supportive parental and governing body. We are keen to maintain our independence.

The School was founded in 1631 and the original school room is still in use. Most of our work, however, is done in buildings which were substantially remodelled and extended in the very recent past. Two blocks for Technology, Science and ICT were completed in July 1994. Over recent years, improvements have been made to the accommodation for Art, Music, the Learning Resource Centre and the Sixth Form, as well as the creation of an additional hard surface area for PE. An extensively remodelled Lindsey building was re-opened in 2000 and provides excellent new teaching accommodation for English and Maths. We occupy an attractive site on the side of a hill with views across north Lincolnshire, looking towards the Humber. In 2005, our Manning Building was extensively re-modelled to provide improved accommodation for Modern Languages, PE and History. We also gained an all-weather pitch and a new sports pavilion. The School has a new Food Technology Room, new Music facilities and we have extended our science provision creating the Olympic Torch Building for the teaching of Physics in 2014.

We have been actively involved in a number of partnerships with other Lincolnshire Schools and local businesses. We are a selective school drawing our pupils from the upper 25% of the ability range. All our sixth formers are working for three or four A-levels and nearly all go on to higher

education, including Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. Our students are well motivated and, to quote our last inspection, 'relishing their learning.' The atmosphere of the School is friendly, purposeful and inclusive. Colleagues are encouraged to develop their own skills and abilities in a supportive environment. The School is committed to staff development and as a head of department, you will be trusted to develop your department. There are plenty of opportunities to become involved in activities beyond the classroom and a willingness to become involved will be welcomed.

Please send the completed application form, together with an up to date CV and a letter of application by noon on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2018 to Alistair Hopkins, Headmaster, Caistor Grammar School, Caistor, Lincoln LN7 6QJ or email to [deborah.craddock@caistorgrammar.com](mailto:deborah.craddock@caistorgrammar.com).

Interviews will be held week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> March. If you have any queries about the department, please contact our current Head of Design and Technology, Graham Dobson, on [graham.dobson@caistorgrammar.com](mailto:graham.dobson@caistorgrammar.com).

I hope it will encourage you to make an application. We look forward to hearing from you.

All good wishes,

Alistair Hopkins  
Headmaster

February 2018

## **Design & Technology Department**

The Design and Technology department at Caistor Grammar School is based in the Technology Block with a multi-material workshop, a flexible design/electronics/light manufacturing room and access to two ICT rooms. With two full time teachers of D&T and the invaluable support of our technician (0.6), we work collectively as a team to cover all material areas and support the work of our students.

At KS3 we provide all students with a broad Design & Technology experience covering elements of CAD/CAM, electronics, mechanisms, resistant materials and graphics to design and manufacture high quality outcomes. We aim to develop an understanding of how materials, manufacturing processes and technologies work where students take on increasingly challenging design opportunities, as they progress through the school.

We make extensive use of 2D and 3D Computer Aided Design software and use these to make effective use of our Computer Aided Manufacturing facilities throughout the KS3, 4 and 5 curriculums.

At KS4 there are two teaching groups in Year 10 following Edexcel's new 9-1 GCSE D&T Specification with a focus on Timbers. In Year 11 two teaching groups currently follow the legacy Edexcel GCSE D&T: Resistant Materials specification and a further group follow Edexcel's GCSE D&T: Electronic Products Specification.

At A Level we follow the Edexcel Product Design Specification with teaching groups of ten and five in Year 12 and Year 13 respectively.

We are proud of the extensive level of support available to all our students including lunchtime and after school workshops when the need arises. We enjoy and value very positive relationships with our students which makes this a wonderful teaching and learning environment. Our examination results have consistently been some of the very best in this high achieving school and we are proud of the work and outcomes achieved by the D&T students.

At all key stages of the school, we like to encourage creativity and strive for quality. This includes detailed design thinking and the development of concepts into high quality prototypes. We celebrate the work of all our examination students at the annual, week-long, Design & Technology Exhibition in mid-March. This is a particular highlight for our students and the Design and Technology department. We celebrate the considerable efforts of our D&T students inviting parents, governors, clients and friends of the School to view the work during an open evening. Industrial links help us to enrich and contextualise our school based curriculum. We are currently developing a new link with Skanska UK and our Year 13 recently visited the local RPC plastics manufacturing site.

Each year a number of our students are encouraged and supported to apply for the prestigious Arkwright Scholarship scheme and we are regularly delighted by their success in achieving this award.

In July 2017 we entered our first student for the national TDi Challenge and were delighted by his success achieving third place overall. A short YouTube clip of our student's entry can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63W3b6SZd2g>