



Meanwood Church of England Primary School

Headteacher's
information pack


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John 15:12 My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you.





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Welcome to Meanwood!

Thank you for your interest in becoming our next Headteacher.

In this pack we aim for you to gain a sense of our school and local community.

We would welcome you to visit us to find out more and get a real taste of life at our wonderful school...

Our C.A.R.E ethos

Meanwood Church of England Primary School exists to enrich the lives of children through the teachings of Jesus Christ. We will enable children to flourish emotionally, physically, spiritually and academically: providing the best opportunities and experiences through our wide and varied curriculum. The vision will be lived out through our CARE values.

COOPERATE: Share and learn together.

ACHIEVE: Try your best, always.

REFLECT: Value everyone and everything.

EMPATHISE: Stand in someone else's shoes.

John 15:12 "My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you."



Welcome from our Chair of Governors, Verity Stewart

On behalf of the governing body, I would like to thank you for your interest in the position of Headteacher at Meanwood Church of England Primary School. We are very proud of our school and the wonderful young people and community it serves. We believe that this is an exciting opportunity for the successful applicant to join our wonderful school. I hope the enclosed information will encourage you to come and visit school and find out more about us.

We are a one-form entry, voluntary-aided Church school and Christian values are very much at our core. Relationships lie at the heart of our school as we live and learn together. Due to the small size of the school the children experience a close-knit community where they guide and nurture each other. We want every member of our school community to recognise and develop their gifts.

We are ambitious for both our staff and children. We are looking to appoint a head teacher who inspires and motivates others through their own innovative and unique leadership. One who inspires high expectations in all the children as well as the staff. One who can truly deliver our school vision and CARE values: Cooperate, Achieve, Reflect and Empathise.

In return, we offer an unbeatable opportunity to develop your career in a school that benefits from a valued and motivated teaching staff, a strong leadership team, supportive parents, encouraging governors and most of all, receptive children who want to learn and succeed in a warm, caring and welcoming environment. We are committed to personal development and training of all staff, including our new Headteacher. We do not underestimate the challenges ahead in an ever-changing educational landscape but we strongly believe we have all the pieces in place to continue to achieve great success.

Our school is set in the beautiful suburb (and former village) of Meanwood a few miles north of Leeds city centre. The school is in a tranquil, rural setting on the edge of Meanwood Park and close to Meanwood Beck. This gives our children a unique and exceptional learning space, incorporating all the amazing countryside views and wildlife habitats to explore and learn from, on our doorstep. Meanwood is also a vibrant area with a true sense of community.

As we are a small school, there is a real sense of collaboration and respect between staff and pupils to make the school an amazing place to work and learn. We have created a calm and happy atmosphere where everyone, staff as well as children, are encouraged to reach their full potential. We are blessed with an active School Council, several after-school clubs, a strong and supportive Parent Teacher Association and a committed and professional Governing Body.

As a Church of England school we work closely with the Diocese and other Church schools within the Diocese of Leeds. We also benefit from valuable collaborative partnerships with local schools in our cluster.

The School currently holds an 'Outstanding' rating from Ofsted from 2013 and in 2019 we were graded 'Outstanding' in our SIAMS report.

We believe that this is an exciting opportunity for an established leader to work with the governors to ensure we provide an outstanding and enriched learning environment for the children in our care and a place where everyone – children and adults – can flourish both in school and beyond.

You are welcome to contact me via admin@meanwood.leeds.sch.uk for an informal discussion if you have any questions or would like to discuss the role further. Contact details for HR can also be found in our Job Advert and at the end of this pack should you have any questions about the process. If you are interested in finding out more about our school please contact Janine Docherty, School Business Manager and arrange a visit to see our school for yourself.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Verity Stewart
Chair of Governors



Welcome from our Reverend, John Rogers

Thank you for considering applying to be the next Head Teacher of Meanwood CE Primary School. I greet you as Vicar here in Meanwood Parish, and ex-officio Foundation Governor of the school.

The school was originally founded in 1840 by Christopher Beckett a member of a local benevolent family. After he died in 1847 Holy Trinity church was built in memory of him by his two sisters Mary and Elizabeth. The land and buildings of the school were given in trust to the first Vicar of Meanwood Rev George Urquhart and his successors for the benefit of the people of Meanwood. Since those early days Meanwood CE Primary School has maintained a long healthy partnership with Holy Trinity church and the local community.



I came to Meanwood in September 2019 and the close relationship between church, school and community was a crucial part of my decision to apply for the role of Vicar of Meanwood. I have a deep passion for working alongside the school and I desire to see every child reach their full potential in the excellent educational environment of the school which is underpinned by its strong Christian identity. I often lead Collective Worship in school and I am always delighted to have the whole school visit church for regular services, or individual year groups for educational visits to church throughout the year.

Although Meanwood is part of the vast urban sprawl of Leeds, it retains an excellent community identity, with Holy Trinity church playing its part as stated in our mission statement "At the Heart of the Community". The church is very much involved in the community which includes the school. The school's Admission Policy encourages families to be part of the church and my relationship with families begins long before any of their children are ready to start school.

Holy Trinity church is very proud of the long relationship it has forged with "our school". We have recently developed our main Sunday morning service to become more accessible for families with young children. We also provide a dedicated KidzChurch group on a Sunday morning for children of school age and we have just committed to employing a shared youth worker for older children in the school and local community. Holy Trinity also supports the school financially by contributing towards the school minibus and with other capital projects where it can.

There is much more to say about the strong relationship between church, school and the local community, but I hope this small glimpse helps towards understanding our commitment to enabling our partnership to flourish. I would hope to see a desire in the next school Head Teacher to strengthen our existing partnership and building on the strong Christian ethos of the school.

I pray for everyone concerned in the appointment process and look forward to continue working closely with our next Head Teacher.

Rev John Rogers

Vicar of Holy Trinity, Meanwood



The Community of Meanwood

Verity and Rev John have already given a glimpse of our superb location and the wider community life in Meanwood, building on that key highlights of the area include:

Situated in North Leeds, and benefiting from all the amenities this brings, Meanwood is a pleasant residential suburb with a unique sense of community.

Only 2 miles from Leeds City centre and in walking distance of Headingley Meanwood is a thriving area and home to the Meanwood Valley Trail.

The 'Village of Meanwood' is centred around our Church, CofE primary school, local park and many facilities; including a flagship Waitrose store, Aldi, a community-minded cafe in the park, local pubs and many new and upcoming bars and restaurants.

Meanwood is a diverse, caring community and is home to a franchise of The Local Pantry. Run by Interact and local volunteers, it provides local residents with access to affordable food support and connections.

Valley Urban Farm with the Barn Coffee Shop are nearby.


Meanwood's strength has always been the community which is evidenced in the many activities and organisations including Meanwood Village Association, Meanwood Valley Partnership, numerous music, sports and dance groups, church and secular choirs, walking groups and youth groups.

Annual highlights include the Meanwood Christmas lights switch on and summer festivals.

There are many ways in which the school and community can work together providing enrichment for the children who take pride in their local surroundings.

The Community of Meanwood





About us – a warm, friendly and welcoming school

We are a faith-based, single form entry school providing an environment in which children are nurtured, challenged and as a result thrive.

We offer a unique school setting and a historic building with lots of character, providing a lovely working environment - we are passionate about conserving our school for future generations.

As a school we have strong links to the church and community- this is something to build on providing our children with a sense of involvement and pride in our area.

We are a vibrant, inclusive school with a strong Christian ethos.

We have a committed and experienced governing body who will provide robust governance, hold the school leadership team accountable and be an active part of the school community.

A full Induction programme for our new Head Teacher and support for ongoing continued professional development.

We have an active PTA which raise funds for the school through a range of events and initiatives and encourage all parents to be involved in the school community.

The whole school have regular services in church. The vicar, John, is part of the Governing body and a key member of the RE committee which is focused on the development and implementation of a strong RE curriculum. RE goes beyond classroom learning to collective worship and ensuring Christian values are central in all the school does.

As a faith school, over half the governing body are Foundation Governors appointed by the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

The school manages its own admissions' and is oversubscribed year on year.



About us – a warm, friendly and welcoming school





About us – Pupil voice

What would our most important stakeholders in our school like from the new Head Teacher? Here is what they had to say:

We would like a headteacher who is...

Knowledgeable about education

Kind, generous, friendly and trustworthy

Confident and enthusiastic

Caring and sincere

Firm but fair

Accepting of everyone and treats everyone equally

Responsible

Organised

Gives out CARE points and prizes

A good listener

Creative

Able to have a laugh

Wants the best for the children

Gives children lots of opportunities

Not content with their 'Requirements List', our inquisitive children also wanted to find out more information about their new Head Teacher.

They wanted to know...

What would you change about the school?

What would you do to give the children the best education?

What is your talent?

Why do you want to be a headteacher in our school?


What does the word headteacher mean to you?

How do you want to appear to the school/ students/ parents?

Why do you think you are good for the job?

How long do you plan on staying as our headteacher?

What football team do you support?



About us – A thriving PTA

Meanwood C of E Primary School has a thriving Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

The PTA aims to facilitate fundraising, participation and community spirit within the school. Here at Meanwood, we are fortunate enough to have an active PTA who are dedicated to raising valuable funds to help resource the school for the benefit of ALL the pupils.

Regular fundraising events include summer and Christmas Fairs, year group bun sales, fun runs and movie nights. The PTA has a relationship with local businesses who support their fundraising efforts. PTA meetings are well attended and each class in school has parent representative who feeds back from the meetings. Events are popular and very much a part of the school calendar.

The PTA has close links to the school staff team and SLT and events are planned together and with the school calendar in mind. School staff regularly volunteer their time and attend PTA events as part of the school community.

Money raised by the PTA has been used in several ways to support the school including contributing to the rental of the school minibus and to fund coach hire for school trips. In addition, the PTA recently funded books for the school library, child first aid training for the whole school and some of the new classroom furniture.

The PTA would love to continue to work alongside the new headteacher to support the school and its pupils. We would welcome a candidate who values the PTA and would strive to continue to develop the positive working relationship.

Many thanks,

Joanne White

(Chair of the PTA)

About us – A thriving PTA



What we are looking for

We have given careful consideration to what we are looking for and have outlined the key requirements in the job advert – elements of which are noted below. We also want someone who lives and breathes the Head Teacher's Standards and leads by example.

We are looking for an **inspirational** and **entrepreneurial** school leader; who...

Can embrace the principles outlined in the Church of England's vision for education.

Is inclusive, can demonstrate Christian love, respect, care and compassion for the school environment and the community it serves, and makes a difference.

Is committed to CPD and enabling people to advance in their careers.

Can adapt to change and manage change.

Has strong interpersonal skills and ability to communicate clearly with all stakeholders.

Will maintain and build on the effective partnerships, with the diocese, Holy Trinity Church and cluster of schools to support our community.

Promotes diversity and inclusion.

Has energy and creativity to drive curriculum innovation.

Innovative, supportive and empowering leadership and communication skills with a vision that inspires and motivates.

An ability to turn challenging situations into positive outcomes.

A demonstrable track record of developing a team to meet the high expectations required.

Next steps and how to apply

Thank you for taking time to consider the position of Head Teacher at Meanwood Church of England school.

We strongly encourage potential candidates to visit the school to experience what we have to offer, although we understand that this may not be possible for all.

When considering your application please review all the information provided in the recruitment pack.

Please contact our School Business Manager, Janine Docherty, on 0113 275 5883 or admin@meanwood.leeds.sch.uk to arrange a visit on Monday 27th March 2023. We will also try and accommodate 'out of hours' visits.

The application form and details about how to submit your application can be found in the appendix.

Key dates:

Closing date: 12/04/23

Shortlisting: 17/04/23

Assessment dates: 24/04/23 and 25/04/23

Appendix

- Job description
- Application form and information



John 15:12 "My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you."