

November 2021

Dear Candidate

Thank you very much for requesting information for a post at Oakwood School.

Horley is a small town close to Gatwick Airport with very good transport links for the A23 and the mainline rail to London. We are also in easy reach of Brighton (about 40 minutes) and the M25 is about 20 minutes away (if the traffic is clear). Horley is currently undergoing a regeneration project with approximately 2,000 houses being built in the local community which will offer the opportunity for further improvement in the educational vision for our children.

Our website, which has been developed to include as much information as possible and has many features which will give you a flavour of our school. You will see we are a very open community which cares very much about the students' progress. To this end, we continue to work hard to ensure that students reach their potential and really enjoy their time at Oakwood. We are aspirational but nurturing in our approach to all that we do.

It is an exciting time for Oakwood as we focus on ensuring we have high quality support for teaching so that our students all make good progress. We are a motivated team of professionals all aiming to 'Achieve Excellence Together' (these words were chosen by the whole school community to show our shared vision).

Relationships are very important to us all and we really care about the students and each other. Therefore, the emphasis on learning extends to everyone within the Oakwood community. Our weekly optional training is designed around needs and we invest in a coaching philosophy and provide many opportunities for teaching and leadership development. Should you be successful, you will certainly be welcomed as part of our valued staff.

Oakwood is a large and expanding school of over 1400 students. We have split the population into 'Years' which enables the students to be cared for in smaller units. Each student also belongs to a House and we encourage a community ethos. The students are loyal and enjoy the friendly rivalry around House activities. Their personal development is central to the school ethos.

Our priority is to shape our school to fit the students' needs and aspirations, rather than fit students to the school. For this reason we adopt the Pathways Approach, where we help students 'Learn to Learn'. Opportunities for elements of vocational pathways exist as well as accelerated progress and Gifted and Talented opportunities.

I do hope that, after reading the information included in this pack, you will get a 'feel' for the school. Do look at the website, it does have some very useful information. If you require further details then please contact us at the school or email [recruitment@oakwood.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@oakwood.surrey.sch.uk)

We are proud to be a happy, safe and progressive school. I very much hope you decide to apply and look forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully



Simon Potten  
Headteacher

**Achieving Excellence Together**