



Recruitment Pack



Head of Ethics

Main/Upper Range £25,714 – £41,604 FTE

TLR2B £4,786 FTE

Commencing Sept 2021





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Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Colleague

Thank you for your interest in joining Newfield School. This is an excellent opportunity to join our great school and to play role in shaping the provision of education and lifelong learning opportunities for our students. We believe that 'Achievement Leads to Opportunity and Choice' and our three core values underpin and drive all that we do for our students;

- We are high performing because we are curious and have a thirst for knowledge;
- We are considerate and value our community;
- We succeed through commitment and relentless ambition.

Irrespective of starting point, family background or ability each and every child that walks through our school doors deserves a quality first education. We are passionate about the numbers of students who are classed as disadvantaged making the same as, if not more, progress than their advantaged peers. Therefore, we lead a high functioning school that gives children true social justice and the opportunity to make the best of their education ensuring no doors are closed in their future. Achieving qualifications alongside our commitment to exciting and engaging extra-curricular offer means our students have opportunity and choice following their rich education at Newfield School.

Newfield School is a truly special place to work. The core business of teaching and learning is at the heart of all we do. We have high expectations of our staff but we also value and look after them. We balance hard work with meaningful and tailored professional development, great practice every day with a manageable workload. Our school has a proven consistent record of success and we will continue to make exceptional progress with our students this year and into the future.

We believe that our students are future scholars in their chosen fields and that teachers are the experts in the classroom who should impart their knowledge to students. We use the best evidence to lead our approach to learning and teaching and follow approaches that are supported by cognitive science. As a result, lessons are structured around the explicit teaching and assessment of knowledge. They are characterised by rapid progress, whole class drills, repetition of facts, teacher led instruction and high performance regardless of ability or background.

The climate for learning in our school is very positive and this is underpinned by very high expectations of behaviour, dress and attitude to learning. Our students are well-behaved and ambitious. All staff are consistent in their high expectations and approach to discipline and the Senior Team have a high presence day in day out in our school.

Newfield School is a valued partner and driving force within the Mercia Learning Trust, a local and ambitious Trust that is dedicated to improving the life chances and careers of its students and those professionals working within it. The Trust is one of the most successful Trusts in the Yorkshire and Humber region and changes the lives of over 3000 children and young people in Sheffield and is continuing to grow.

This is an exciting time for us as we move towards being a truly exceptional school. Our reputation is growing and our challenge now is not just to sustain but to surpass our recent GCSE performances, to lead the way on pedagogy, to deliver effective and exciting learning at the highest level and to become a beacon school for training, research and professional development.

We support applications from candidates who understand and support our approach to teaching and learning. Imaginative and committed, you will have a passion for your subject, high standards of professionalism and high expectations of students.

For an informal and confidential discussion, please contact officemanager@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk.

If this excites you and you believe you have the necessary skills for this role, I would welcome your interest and application.

I look forward to meeting you.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma Anderson', written in a cursive style.

Emma Anderson
Headteacher

Rates of progress have improved significantly. In 2016, by the end of Year 11, pupils' progress in a wide range of subjects was well above that of other pupils nationally with similar starting points

Our School

Newfield School is an 11-16 school in Norton Lees, Sheffield. The current roll is around 1010. The school's catchment area covers Norton Lees, Meersbrook, Heeley and the west side of the Gleadless Valley, giving the school a broad socio-economic mix of students. There is a very positive and friendly atmosphere in the school and our students are polite, well behaved and keen to achieve their best. Most of our students go on to sixth form and academic study. Our parents and carers have high aspirations and expectations for their children and the school.

We believe that achievement leads to opportunity and choice and our values are:

- We are high performing because we are curious and have a thirst for knowledge
- We are considerate and value our community
- We succeed through commitment and relentless ambition

Newfield is one of the top performing schools in the city and given our trend of school improvement, our outcomes have been consistently some of the best in the country.

40% of our cohort are eligible for free school meals, above the national average and the starting points of many of our students is below average when considering KS2 scores. Despite this, our students make very good progress.

These are exciting times for the school. Our Consistent Discipline Model ensures that the climate for learning in lessons and around school is excellent.

Our students have formal assessments throughout the year and all year groups take formal exams at the end of the year.

Newfield School was inspected in March 2017, judging the school as 'Good' in all key areas. The report accurately reflects the positive direction of the school.

- *Highly effective leadership has led to better teaching, improved behaviour and attendance, and higher attainment for pupils.*
- *Middle leaders are an emerging strength of the school. Like senior leaders, they are highly ambitious for their pupils.*
- *The school's systems to promote positive behaviour and attitudes to learning are highly effective.*
- *Teaching is good overall and the progress made by pupils has improved considerably over time*



Ofsted Said

Teaching is good and the progress students are making has accelerated. Teachers know their students well.



Our Students

Our many visitors are impressed by the purposeful atmosphere and they remark upon the friendliness of our school community – students and adults alike. We value positive relationships at all levels. Good behaviour, hard work, pupil participation and a real desire to learn and improve are central to achievement and this was acknowledged in our recent Ofsted Report.

At Newfield the student is at the centre of everything that we do. We have high aspirations for all our students and our goal is to improve the life chances of every learner irrespective of their starting point. We take the business of teaching and learning extremely seriously. Students are valued as individuals and we are passionately committed to their achievement, personal growth and excellence in everything we do. Students are encouraged to thrive in all areas of learning, in the classroom and beyond.

A wide range of clubs and activities take place outside normal lesson times. These include sport, drama, music and outdoor activities. Field trips are organised by the geography, history and science departments each year, and many other subjects also run visits to museums, galleries, theatres and so on. A range of residential experiences including trips abroad are offered.

Our Staff

There are currently 125 staff in school. Both teaching and support staff are dedicated and committed to supporting high quality learning outcomes for all.

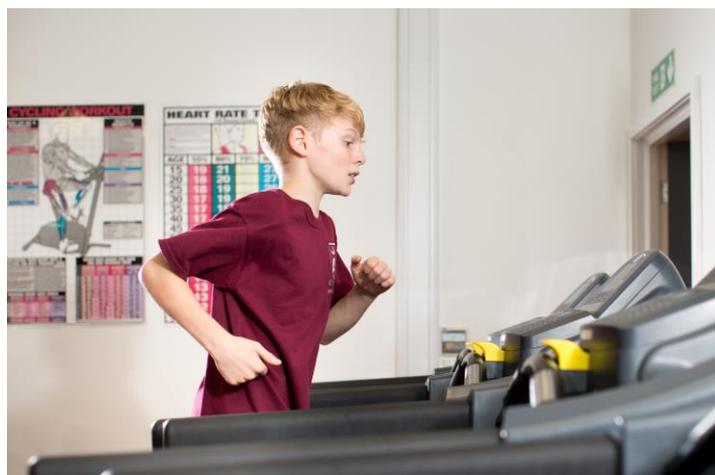
In addition to the Headteacher, the Senior Leadership Team has a Deputy Headteacher and five Assistant Headteachers.

The Senior Leadership Team provide link line management for all Heads of Department. Strong emphasis is placed on all teachers and support staff being leaders of learning and all middle leaders, TLR holders and those with a specific Teaching and Learning responsibility are expected to contribute to developing their curriculum area as well as whole school developments.

We are committed to the professional development of all staff wherever they are in their career. The Mercia Learning Trust's Teaching School enables us to support the training of new teachers through our ITT programme with Sheffield University and Sheffield Hallam University or through our partnership with Teach First. The Trust guarantees a personalised programme of CPDL based on career aspirations and school priorities.

Our Facilities

In January 2009 the school moved into a new building which provides excellent facilities for learning. There are well-equipped teaching rooms for all subjects, all with interactive whiteboards and multi-media projectors. In addition there are specialist teaching rooms for technology, science, music, art and drama. There is excellent access to ICT to enhance learning whenever it is appropriate.



Sports facilities are excellent with a full-sized Sports Hall, fitness suite, all-weather pitch, tennis and netball courts and extensive playing fields. Facilities for performances are also excellent. In addition to separate dance and drama studios, there is a large Hall with advanced lighting and sound equipment that can seat 350 for assemblies, concerts and plays.

School Organisation

The school operates a five period day and each lesson is an hour long. Students study a broad range of subjects within different grouping arrangements. Some subjects are set according to ability whereas other subjects are taught in mixed ability groups. A review of grouping arrangements and progress data takes place at regular intervals throughout the year to ensure all students are working at their very best.

We have an excellent reward system in place to acknowledge positive attitudes to learning, the school community, attendance and academic progress. Every student has a school planner that logs reward stamps from teachers and support staff and these count towards half termly rewards and the 'Top 50' Club. We celebrate all the achievements of our students at a formal Achievement Ceremony at the end of the academic year.

Governors and parents play an active role within the school. Our families are hugely supportive of the school. The school's reputation is very positive within the community and beyond and this is reflected in the number of families applying for entry to the school in year 7. Year 7 has been full with a waiting list for the last 3 years.



Ofsted Said

The curriculum is well matched to the needs of the pupils and they make good progress



THE MERCIA LEARNING TRUST

The Mercia Learning Trust is a highly successful partnership of 3 primary and 3 secondary schools located in the south west of Sheffield. We are proud that overall effectiveness, outcomes and improvement trends are amongst the strongest on any trust in the country.

Our Trust is based on a deep and shared moral purpose. We believe an exceptional education can realise the potential of every pupil, whatever their background, and truly transform lives...

Working as individual schools, and in deep partnership, our singular intention is to ensure every pupil, whatever their background, will attend an exceptional school. We believe pupils should enjoy school, feel safe and fully supported, be inspired to learn, develop character and aspiration, and realise their full potential. We are so committed to pupil success and well-being that we choose to think of every pupil we serve as if they were our own, and to measure our actions and impact against this.

The Trust was originally founded around King Egbert Secondary School. However, very quickly a multi-academy partnership formed with two feeder schools (Nether Edge Primary and Totley Primary). This was followed by further growth with a local secondary (Newfield School) and primary (Valley Park Primary). In 2018 the Trust opened a brand new secondary school (Mercia School) to meet the need for local population expansion. Currently we educate approximately 3600 students from ages 2-18+, although this will increase to around 5000 as our current schools grow in the next few years.

Our Trust has a mature definition of partnership which we call aligned autonomy. We share the same mission, values and moral purpose, have an increasing amount of common best practice (often backed by research), and benefit from our combined resources and reputation. Nevertheless, we understand that schools are unique and are best led by leaders and staff who feel fully accountable and are able to individually innovate in the light of their context. This balance between difference, sharing and commonality is what drives improvement and lies at the heart of our trust.

Alongside our pupils, our staff are our greatest asset. As such we are deeply committed to recruiting, developing, retaining and caring for our exceptionally talented and committed staff teams. This commitment is enshrined in the Mercia Pledge which is designed to ensure our staff get the very best professional experience and support on offer anywhere. The Mercia Learning Alliance sits at the centre of this strategy, alongside that to recruit new teachers into the profession, and support system leadership across the sector.

In a short period, our Trust has achieved a great deal. However, we are ambitious and forward-thinking, and fully committed to maintaining and improving student experience and outcomes, and further improving our trust.

We also believe we are well-placed to engage in careful and sustainable growth in the light of our Trust mission and priorities.

Chris French
CEO



Trust Moral Purpose

We share the same moral purpose. We believe an exceptional education can realise the potential of every pupil, whatever their background, and truly transform lives... The statement, "Realising Potential. Transforming Lives.", summarises this commitment.

Mission

Working as individual schools, and in partnership, our singular intention is to ensure every pupil, whatever their background, will attend an exceptional school. We believe pupils should enjoy school, feel safe and fully supported, be inspired to learn, develop character and aspiration, and realise their full potential. We are so committed to pupil success and well-being that we choose to think of every pupil we serve as if they are our own, and to measure our actions and impact against this.

Staff Principles

Six principles, shown in the MERCIA acrostic, underpin everything we do as staff in our trust.

- **Moral Purpose** - We exist to inspire pupils to realise their full potential and to lead happy, healthy and fulfilled lives.
- **Expectations** - We have exceptionally high expectations of everyone and pursue excellence.
- **Relentless focus on learning** - Helping every pupil learn successfully is the most important thing we do. We prioritise our time, energy and resources to ensure our curriculum and the environment for learning is exceptional.
- **Culture** - We demand consistency, kindness, tolerance and respect in all relationships; and that every member of staff goes above and beyond to achieve pupil success.
- **Impressive staff** - We are committed to recruiting, developing and retaining them, and helping them secure a healthy work-life balance.
- **Alignment** - We believe partnership brings profound benefit to each school, and that we are stronger together.

Pupil Values

We want every pupil to realise their potential and to lead a happy, healthy and fulfilled life. We expect a great deal from every pupil and these expectations are expressed in our six trust values:

- **Ambition** – we expect pupils to want to be the best they can be, to aspire to achieve success at school and in later life.
- **Strength** – we expect pupils to develop strength of character, determination and resilience to overcome the inevitable barriers to success that all people face.
- **Passion** – we expect pupils to become inquisitive and develop a thirst for knowledge and learning.
- **Independence** – we expect pupils to be organised, prepared and to develop personal responsibility.
- **Respect** – we expect pupils to show good manners, kindness, tolerance and exemplary behaviour at all times.

- **Endeavour** – we expect pupils to work hard, to fully engage and enjoy all aspects of school life: and preserve a healthy balance that maintains their wellbeing.

The Mercia Pledge

Alongside our pupils, our staff are our greatest asset. We recognise that our success, and that of every pupil, is inextricably linked to our ability to attract, recruit, develop, retain and care for our staff. Whilst we demand absolute commitment to our moral purpose, mission and staff principles; the Mercia Pledge is our commitment to *all* staff.

Teaching staff can expect:

1. An outstanding primary and secondary Initial Teacher Training offer through the Mercia Learning Alliance
2. High-quality NQT and RQT induction and support
3. Effective annual appraisal and career conversations
4. Support to improve via targeted CPD and movement through a formal CPD career development pathway
5. To be included in strategic succession planning to develop and retain them
6. A commitment to reduce staff workload and increase staff wellbeing

Support staff can expect:

1. High-quality induction into a new role
2. Effective annual appraisal and career conversations
3. Support to improve via targeted CPD
4. To be included in strategic succession planning to develop and retain them
5. A commitment to reduce staff workload and increase staff wellbeing

Advertisement



Head of Ethics

**Main Pay Range £25,714 – £41,604 with a TLR 2b
Commencing September 2021 or earlier by negotiation**

The Ethics department includes the following subjects: Religious Studies, PSHE and Citizenship. All pupils across Key Stage 3 have a dedicated lesson on Ethics every week. The Ethics curriculum provides an excellent opportunity for students to develop their social, moral, cultural ideas and understanding. A strong emphasis is placed on students' personal development, helping them to understand the multi-cultural and multi-faith world they live in and their own place in that world.

The department also focuses on students' personal and economic wellbeing. Students have an opportunity to do this through groups and class discussion of topical ethical and moral issues, often issues that are newsworthy, enabling and encouraging students to stay abreast of current affairs.

Students may approach Ethics from an atheist, agnostic or theist background, however, success in the subject is dependent on ability to understand, analyse and evaluate, rather than on personal beliefs.

At Key Stage 4 we offer Religious Studies (AQA) as a GCSE as part of our options process.

You will be leading a collaborative department, working together to ensure the very best outcomes for all students. We are ambitious for all students which is reflected in our academically rigorous curriculum. The suitable candidate will be joining an extremely committed and hard-working team. If this excites you and you believe you have the necessary skills for this role, we would welcome your interest and application.

To apply please submit a Trust application form to recruitment@merciatrust.co.uk

Closing date for applications is Friday 5 March 2021

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be required to complete a Disclosure and Barring check in line with the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 and the Police Act Regulations.



JOB DESCRIPTION

Post Title:	Head of Ethics * This post is a designated customer facing role under the fluency duty and requires a specified level of spoken English in the person specification
Salary:	Main/Upper Pay Range, TLR2B
Responsible to:	Headteacher/SLT
Responsible for:	Department Staff

The post holder must at all times carry out his/her responsibilities within the spirit of School policies and within the framework of the Education Act 2002, and School Standards and Framework Act 1998 with particular regard to statutory responsibilities of the Governing Bodies of Schools.

PURPOSE OF THE POST

- To develop and monitor schemes of work for Ethics across the whole school and ensure successful implementation which meets curriculum requirements.
- To teach designated students and undertake associated pastoral and administrative duties as well as other general responsibilities, having full regard for the school's ethos, aims and policies
- To undertake tasks related to the development of a curriculum area

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Lead, manage and develop a subject or curriculum area

- To provide strategic leadership for the development and management of Ethics throughout the school.
- To identify areas for development and improvement linked to the school improvement plan and national and local initiatives.
- To have an overview of, and contribute to the planning and delivery of continuous professional development and training related to Ethics.
- To develop strategies for the use of Ethics to promote new teaching methods and improve learning throughout the school and monitor effectiveness in raising standards of teaching and learning.
- To monitor and evaluate student progress across the school in Ethics.
- To use ICT effectively in delivery of teaching and learning.

Impact on the educational progress of students other than the teacher's assigned classes or groups of students

- To ensure the provision of an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students in Ethics.
- To identify clear, appropriate targets for attainment and/or achievement across the area of Ethics.
- To monitor and evaluate student progress and achievement against targets.
- To lead evaluation strategies to contribute to overall school self-evaluation.
- To contribute to the school procedures for lesson observations.
- To implement school quality procedures and to ensure adherence across the school.

Leading, developing and enhancing the teaching practice of other staff

- To ensure the establishment of common standards of practice across Ethics and develop the effectiveness of teaching and learning styles.
- To plan and implement strategies to improve teaching where needs are identified.
- To provide induction, support and monitoring for new staff.
- To act as a role model of good practice for other teachers, modelling effective strategies with them.
- To act as a performance management team leader for identified teachers.
- To ensure all staff in school are familiar with the aims and objectives of Ethics.

Other

- To be responsible for the overall development of Ethics throughout the school.
- To set and prepare assessments for Ethics at KS3 and KS4.
- To be responsible for the public examination results in Ethics, including analysing and reporting on results to the link member of Senior Staff.
- To be responsible for overseeing the production of written guidelines for Ethics.
- To monitor and review the Ethics curriculum throughout the school including revision of schemes of work.
- To plan and contribute to the school's enrichment programme along with senior colleagues.
- To be aware of developments in the teaching and examining of Ethics and to inform other colleagues accordingly.
- To monitor the quality of teaching and learning in Ethics, including the regular undertaking of lesson observations and work scrutiny.
- To oversee, evaluate and requisition books, materials and equipment for the teaching of Ethics throughout the whole school and to monitor the storage of equipment.
- To revise the Department Improvement Planning and SEF.
- This job description will be kept under review and may be amended via consultation with the individual, Governing Body and/or Senior Leadership Team as required. Trade union representation will be welcomed in any such discussions.

General Responsibilities

- To provide support for SLT in continuously reviewing and monitoring the aims of the school

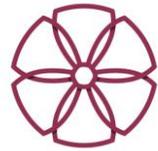
- To contribute to the formulation and implementation of school policy
- To monitor the achievements of students
- To be familiar with school policies in particular safeguarding procedures, and promote the welfare of children.
- To be accountable for the progress of students with Ethics
- To work closely with the Headteacher and other staff, within the policies of the school to ensure that every student's experience of Newfield is a positive one

PROMOTION OF TRUST VALUES

- To contribute to the overall development of Mercia Learning Trust to ensure the Trust operates on the basis of shared and collective responsibility.
- To contribute to the overall ethos, work and aims of Mercia Learning Trust.
- To support and contribute to the Trust's commitment to safeguarding all students. All schools in the Mercia Learning Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Therefore, all employees are expected to share this commitment.
- To be aware of the school's duty of care in relation to staff, students and visitors and to comply with all health and safety policies at all times.
- To be aware of and comply with the codes of conduct, regulations and policies of the School and its commitment to equal opportunities.
- All the above duties and responsibilities to be carried out in accordance with policies adopted by the School Governing Body and current legislation with an emphasis on Customer Care, Equal Opportunities, Data Protection and Health and Safety

Please note that this list of duties is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the postholder will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role.

Issue Date: Feb 2021



Mercia
Learning Trust

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Post Title:	Head of Ethics *This post is a designated customer facing role under the fluency duty and requires a specified level of spoken English in the person specification
Salary:	Main/Upper Pay Range, TLR2B
Responsible to:	Headteacher/SLT
Responsible for:	Department Staff

SPECIFICATION	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Qualifications and Training	Degree in an appropriate secondary subject Qualified teacher status essential – not suitable for NQT's Recent and relevant professional development	
Skills and Knowledge	Must have highly effective communication skills which engage students, parents, staff, Governors and the wider community Must be able to use technical resources and equipment appropriate to the teaching of KS3 and KS4 Ethics to the highest level	
Experience	Teaching Ethics to a full range of age and ability within a secondary school (desirable) Experience/knowledge of current initiatives relating to	

	<p>achievement and inclusion in Ethics</p> <p>Track record as a successful classroom practitioner (Ofsted criteria) across the secondary school age and ability range</p> <p>Track record of achieving high levels of value added at both key stages</p>	
<p>Personal Qualities</p>	<p>Must be able to demonstrate the ability to take initiative, lead, motivate, inspire and support the full range of stakeholders to achieve excellence</p> <p>Must be ambitious for self and others, showing a powerful commitment to continuous improvement and raising standards</p> <p>Must be resilient and optimistic, having a relentless focus on achieving the best for young people and being prepared to develop creative strategies to achieve this</p> <p>Must have a clear strategic vision for achievement and inclusion including providing opportunities for learning outside the school day</p> <p>Must be able to show evidence of an alignment with the values of Newfield both in words and behaviours</p> <p>Must have the capacity to demonstrate leadership of Ethics</p>	

Safeguarding

Mercia Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

The Trust pays full regard to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' guidance and we ensure that all appropriate measures are applied in relation to everyone who works for the Trust.

Safer recruitment practice includes scrutinising applicants, verifying identity, verifying qualifications, obtaining professional references, checking previous employment and ensuring that the successful candidate has the health and physical capacity for the job. It also includes undertaking interviews and checking criminal convictions.

If you are shortlisted, your suitability to work with children will be explored and this will include disclosing convictions. The information you disclose may be discussed with you during the interview.

The successful candidate will be required to complete an enhanced DBS check in line with the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 and the Police Act Regulations.

The Application Process

We hope that our recruitment pack and website provides you with plenty of information about us. However, should you require any additional information, or would like an informal discussion/visit, please contact Ruth Cressey, Office Manager or email officemanager@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk

To apply, please email your completed application to recruitment@merciatrust.co.uk or send it in the post to:

HR Team
Mercia Learning Trust
79 Glen Road
Sheffield
S7 1RB

All applications that have been submitted electronically will receive an email confirming receipt.

Please note that we do not accept CV's - applicants must submit an application form.

Please also note that in all cases written references will be taken up BEFORE the final selection stage.

An email and/or letter will be sent to shortlisted candidates with details of the interview process.

If you have not heard from us within 2 weeks of the closing date, please assume that on this occasion, your application has been unsuccessful.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 5th March 2021**

Mercia Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful candidate will therefore be required to complete a DBS check in line with the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 and the Police Act Regulations.

We are an Equal Opportunities employer.

If you have any further queries on any aspect of the application process, please contact The HR team, by emailing recruitment@merciatrust.co.uk