Kingdown School
Believe | Aspire | Achieve

Teacher of Physics

Dear Applicant

Welcome to Kingdown School, and thank you for your interest in this post.

Kingdown School

Kingdown School is an exceptional place to work. It is a co-educational, non-denominational academy for students aged 11-18 years, situated in Warminster in Wiltshire. There are currently approximately 1575 students on roll, including 265 in the Sixth Form. The school employs approximately 120 teaching staff, ably supported by almost 90 business staff. We are a true comprehensive school; as the only state school in the town we serve students of all abilities, aptitudes and backgrounds. The school has a very strong reputation within the community, which has been built on an unswerving focus on the quality of teaching and learning and great pastoral care. These have led, over time, to very positive student outcomes. The school has an incredibly positive ethos, built through the dedication and hard work of the staff. We truly are a 'child-centred' organisation; staff regularly go the extra mile to support students' learning, both inside and outside the classroom. The science department is a fantastic team within the school, and has a long track record of academic success at all levels. All students study Science at GCSE level, with around 40% of the year group (100+ students) opting to take the separate sciences. This evolves extremely healthy numbers post-16, with numbers in the mid-20s to mid-30s each year opting for Physics at A Level.

Kingdown is full of exceptional staff and wonderful students. "Believe, Aspire and Achieve" is the school motto and, alongside the Kingdown crown, creates a great sense of belonging for our students and the community. This is further enhanced through the pastoral system; the school has six houses (named from our time as a specialist Sports College: Lords, Millennium, Silverstone, Twickenham, Wembley and Wimbledon). Each house is split into 12 tutor groups which each contain students from Years 7 to 13. The vertical tutoring system within the school has helped secure that sense of family and belonging for our students. The students are intensely proud of their house – inter-house competition can be fierce!

Building on the very successful Ofsted inspection in March 2017, we want Kingdown School to continue to be exceptional and extraordinary, to serve the local community and beyond, and maintain its reputation as a school that everyone is proud to be associated with. This is an exciting time in the evolution of Kingdown School.

The Acorn Education Trust

The Acorn Education Trust was established in 2014 to provide a local solution to a national strategy. Our mission is to "*prepare young people for their world in their time*" through excellent leadership, excellent teaching and excellent learning; this is at the heart of all that we do. In every Acorn school you will see:

- active and visible leadership
- care, support and challenge
- opportunities for all
- respect, recognition and resilience
- needs of all are paramount.

Kingdown is the founding school alongside Dilton Marsh Church of England Primary School and The Avenue Primary School. Acorn now serves 12 schools (2 secondary and 10 primary) and four nurseries. The schools are organised into three hubs – two are primary and each one is led by an Executive

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Headteacher. The third is the secondary hub includes Kingdown School and Clarendon Academy in Trowbridge and is overseen by the CEO.

The Trust is led by Sara Edwards (CEO). Finance and HR are centrally organised. Shared services in IT, premises, catering, PE/Sport (primary) and SEND are developing across all schools. One of the Trust's main operational objectives is to ensure that each school focuses on the quality of teaching and learning; the business element is mainly managed by Trust staff. Reducing back office staff by sharing resources and improving IT and school to school support is keeping each school financially healthy, and directing as much money as possible into teaching and learning. As mentioned in the acrostic above, professional development is also a key priority within the trust.

The Directors maintain overall responsibility for all Trust schools, however they delegate many tasks to each school Academy Council of Governors through the scheme of delegation. The latter are the guardians of:

- the standards in the school
- the safety of the students and staff
- the management of the finances and assets
- the school's identity and community ethos.

The Kingdown Academy Council are a highly effective body, who work collaboratively with the Senior Leadership Team to ensure high levels of challenge and support.

Your application

We hope that you are as excited about the potential that this role offers as we are. We are passionate at all levels within the school about Teaching and Learning; as a consequence, standards both in the classroom, and in terms of student outcomes, are consistently very strong. The person we are looking for will have a passion for working with young people and be an outstanding practitioner. If you feel you have the drive, ambition and attributes to fulfil this role, we would love to hear from you.

Please complete the TES application form and submit via the "apply" button on the TES website. In addition, please write a letter of application (no more than 2 sides of A4) outlining your philosophy of education and how your career to date has lead you to apply for this role, and send to Rebecca Krzyzosiak (Headteacher's PA, email rak@kingdown.wilts.sch.uk), by 12 noon on the closing date of **Monday 24th February 2020**. We are currently planning to interview for this role on **Thursday 27th February 2020**. Please note that if you have not heard from us by **Friday 29th February 2020**, please assume that your application has not been successful on this occasion.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and, expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Certificate is required for this post prior to commencement.

With many thanks for your interest in Kingdown School.

Yours sincerely



Dave Locke
Headteacher, Kingdown School