December 2020

Dear Applicant

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join a successful and growing Multi Academy Trust. Trustees are looking to appoint a Senior Head of School with experience of successful strategic headship/leadership in the primary sector.

Established in 2016, Discovery MAT consists of three primary academies across the Plymouth area: Oakwood Primary Academy, Beechwood Primary Academy and Weston Mill Community Primary Academy.

We aim to be one of the South West’s most vibrant collaborative educational establishments. Our staff work to provide a rich, challenging, imaginative and inclusive environment for learning, where all children are able to excel through quality learning experiences, irrespective of their starting points. Earlier this year we celebrated being named the first Trust in the UK to win a ‘Mentally Healthy Organisation Award’ for its commitment to pupil and staff mental health and wellbeing. The award was presented by The Centre for Child Mental Health and Trauma Informed Schools UK.

We are a truly collaborative, values led Trust, thriving on positive relationships. This newly created role is an exciting opportunity for an exceptional and inspirational primary school improvement professional who has aspiration, integrity and ability to help support the ongoing improvements across the Trust’s schools.

We are looking for a Senior Head of School who shares our Discovery values: **Inclusive, Excelling, Democratic and Collaborative** and who has the drive and resilience to achieve our strategic vision. They will be committed to implementing educational excellence across our Trust, supported by the CEO, the Trust Leadership Team and a committed Board. I hope you share our sense of excitement at the opportunities that lie ahead to further build and grow our successes.

We would encourage candidates to contact Alison Nettleship, Chief Executive Officer by emailing her PA, Helen Hawkes, at [h.hawkes@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:h.hawkes@discoverymat.co.uk).

Visits to the school are challenging in the current climate but we recognise the importance of a visit when considering an application. We will offer socially distanced visits with a face covering worn on Thursday 14th January 2021, Tuesday 19th January 2021 and Wednesday 20th January 2021 all at 2pm. Please contact Helen Hawkes at the email address above to arrange this.

**Applications**

Applications are to be received by **10am on Monday 25th January 2021**. If you would like to apply for the post, please download a copy of the application form from our website [www.discoverymat.co.uk](http://www.discoverymat.co.uk). Please return your completed application by email to [info@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:info@discoverymat.co.uk).

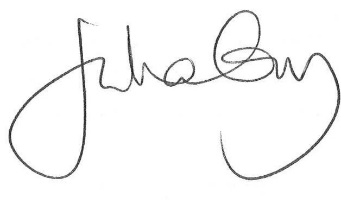
**Shortlisting**

To ensure the fairness of the selection process, shortlisting will be based on the information which you provide in your application and assumptions will not be made about your experience or skills. We will look for demonstrative evidence that you meet the criteria set out in the person specification.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the shortlisting process no later than Tuesday 26th January 2021.

The interview process will take place on **Thursday 4th February 2020 and Friday 5th February 2020**. Further details regarding the interview process will be communicated at the time applicants are invited for interview. The appointment will be subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks.

Yours sincerely

Julia Guy Alison Nettleship

Chair of the Board of Trustees Chief Executive Officer