



Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School

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Headmaster: Mr A B Porteous M.A.(Cantab)

Dear colleague,

Thank you for considering applying for this post at Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School. I am well aware of the amount of time and effort an application for a job will take, so I hope that the information in this pack, and on our website, will encourage you to complete your application to us.

Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School is situated in the Rossendale Valley, a beautiful rural area, but is easily accessible from Manchester, Preston and the Ribble Valley, and the Yorkshire Dales. The school has an excellent reputation in the local area, drawing students from a wide catchment area, although its primary focus remains as a grammar school for the valley.

Entrance to the lower school is by selective entrance exam and we regularly receive more than 500 applications for 180 places. Many of our Year 11 students choose to stay on into our sixth form, which ranks among the best in Lancashire. Post-16 entry requirements are based on GCSE performance and around a third of the sixth form join us from other schools to study a broad range of traditional A-level subjects.

GCSE and A-level achievement is consistently very high. Our most recent Ofsted judgment, in January 2016, rated the school 'Outstanding' in every category, of which we are understandably, very proud.

The school is very fortunate to have an enthusiastic, hard-working and committed body of staff (both teaching and support staff), and we are committed to recruiting and retaining outstanding practitioners to ensure our students achieve their very best and develop into truly rounded, independent, mature young people. The school has a very positive ethos and receives excellent support from governors and parents. Students are both keen to learn and positive about the process of learning. They are overwhelmingly polite and warm in their interactions with each other and with adults.

As part of our commitment to all staff, we ensure ongoing training relevant to the post, and there are opportunities for professional development at all levels, including a strong support programme for NQTs. We offer a supportive and friendly working environment, with a strong focus on staff wellbeing, and benefits including childcare vouchers and cycle to work scheme.

The school has a strong focus on the personal development of students, and there is an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities including: a D of E programme that is one of the largest in the NW of England (over 200 participants); a wide range of sports and musical opportunities; international visits in recent years to China, USA, Iceland, Indonesia and various parts of Europe; and a weekly enrichment timetable for all Year 12 students offering over 40 different activities beyond the A-level curriculum.

The school prides itself on its heritage and celebrates its traditions, but alongside this, seeks to embrace positive change and innovation. BRGS remains at the forefront of educational

excellence for teaching and learning, promoting and cultivating an ever-increasing amount of innovative and outstanding practice.

I hope the above has given you a flavour of the BRGS community. If you would like to find out more about the school, please feel free to e-mail my PA, Mrs Hughes ajh@brgs.org.uk and we can arrange a phone conversation.

If, having considered the information in the supporting documents, you feel that you have the qualities that we are looking for, I would be delighted to receive your application.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Porteous". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Alan Porteous
Headmaster