



Dear Applicant

### **Class Teacher (Complex Needs Resource Base)**

Welcome to Wansdyke School and thank you for your interest in this post. We hope the information enclosed in this pack inspires you to apply for this role.

### **The Acorn Education Trust**

Acorn Education Trust was established in 2014 to provide a local solution to a national strategy. Our mission: to “prepare young people for their world in their time” through excellent leadership, excellent teaching and excellent learning 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 School 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 4 nurseries. The schools are organised into 3 hubs – 2 are primary and each one is led by an Executive Headteacher. The third is the secondary hub overseen by the CEO; consisting of Kingdown School, Warminster and Clarendon Academy in Trowbridge.

The Trust is led by Sara Edwards CEO. Finance and HR are centrally organised and led by Fiona Simpson (Head of Finance) and Anna Williams (HR Director) respectively. 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 the Headteacher focuses on leading teaching and learning, so the business element is mainly managed by Trust staff. Reducing back office staff by sharing resources, 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 a key priority and we hope that whoever joins a school in the Trust will see the potential career opportunities within Acorn.

While Directors are very keen for all schools to develop their unique identity and serve their community, there are key areas where the Trust expects to see standardisation or alignment. Within the primary school context this relates to: assessment; health and safety and various policies.

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.

Wansdyke School Academy Council works collaboratively with the Senior Leadership Team to ensure high challenge and support.

Letter, to applicant

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Acorn Education Trust, a private charitable  
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Company Number 7654902.

## **The School**

Wansdyke School is a vibrant primary school which is committed to continually raising standards and achieving excellence through providing exciting and memorable learning opportunities for every child. In our most recent inspection, we were graded as good. We have fantastic children and an engaged school community. Located on the outskirts of the delightful market town of Devizes, Wansdyke School is a thriving academy, within the Acorn Education Trust. Situated in the heart of beautiful, rural Wiltshire, Devizes has excellent access to routes to Chippenham, Swindon and the M4 to the north, and the A303/M3 to the south.

Wansdyke School is a single form entry school with a 20 place Complex Needs Resource Base, so we have 230 pupils on roll. We have no mixed aged classes and our maximum class size is 30 pupils. The resource base brings an atmosphere of inclusion and tolerance and we are very proud it is a part of our school.

At Wansdyke we aim to encourage all our children to achieve their fullest potential, not only in what they learn in the classroom, but across the whole spectrum of school life. We aspire to enable all children at Wansdyke to make outstanding progress and leave the school at least the national expectation in Reading, Writing and Maths. In the Complex Needs Resource Base we aim for outstanding progress against the upper quartile targets in the progression guidance. As the most recent academy to join the Acorn Education Trust, we are excited by the prospect of working collaboratively to provide exciting opportunities to improve local education.

We would like to hear from you if you:

- Have experience of working with primary age children, preferably EYFS/KS1;
- Have some experience of working with SEND children;
- Can challenge, inspire and support children in their learning;
- Can provide outstanding learning opportunities for our children;
- Are dedicated to and have high expectations of children and a belief that all children can succeed;
- Are committed to teaching using a creative, cross-curricular approach;
- Have excellent communication and inter-personal skills;
- Are able to create a high quality stimulating, interactive and creative learning environment;
- Are able to work effectively within our hardworking, talented and friendly team on whole school issues and can share good practice.
- Lead an area of the curriculum across the school

For the successful applicant we can offer:

- An ambitious and vibrant place to work, with enthusiastic staff and children who are keen to learn and deserve the best;
- Well-resourced classrooms with up to date technology for every teacher;
- A highly organised and very supportive team;
- Wonderful opportunities to work and plan collaboratively with experienced colleagues across the Trust;
- A clearly defined and supportive induction procedure;
- High quality professional development opportunities

## **Your application**

We strongly encourage prospective candidates to visit our school to experience our friendly community first-hand. To arrange a visit or informal discussion please contact Janice Maund, School Business Manager via the School Office on 01380 725234 or by email at [office@Wansdyke.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@Wansdyke.wilts.sch.uk).

To apply please visit the TES website and click the apply button and send your letter of application by email to [office@Wansdyke.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@Wansdyke.wilts.sch.uk).

With many thanks for your interest in Wansdyke School.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Middleton', with a horizontal line underneath.

**David Middleton**  
**Chair of Acorn Education Trust Directors**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sara Edwards'.

**Sara Edwards, CEO Acorn Education Trust**