Lytchett Minster School

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Headmaster: A P Mead MA (Hons) (Oxon)
Deputy Head: K B Catchpole BSc (Hons)

Teacher of English
Full-time, permanent
September 2019 start

Thank you for your interest in the post of Teacher of English at this school.

This information aims to give you an insight into the culture of the school and the specific role being advertised. Full details including application forms and general school details can be found in the Vacancies section on the school website at http://www.lytchett.org.uk/.

This is an excellent opportunity for a well-qualified and inspirational teacher and would suit either a newly-qualified teacher, or an experienced teacher.

The English Department

English is a thriving department; colleagues are student-centred, passionate about their subject and ambitious for students. The department comprises a good balance of young and experienced graduate specialist teachers and is committed both to the timeless aspects of good English teaching and to a willingness to innovate and explore new directions. Over the years, it has established a sound record of examination success across all Key Stages and levels of student ability. It is inclusive in attitude and ambitious in what it seeks to achieve. The dominant ethos of the department is one of team work and co-operation. Sharing resources, ideas and approaches is central to its success. Members of the department have an enthusiasm for their subject which is translated into lively and motivating lessons. The department has a strong commitment to developing literacy skills across the whole curriculum.

We have agreed upon a core vision, summarised in the phrase 'English is Electrifying.' We aim to open students' minds to the magic of words, exploring literary and non literary books so that they become independent learners with a thirst for knowledge. In addition, we wish to teach literature in such a way as to illuminate students' minds with flashes of insight into the world around them so that they become thoughtful, wise and tolerant. Finally we would like to give children a love and an aptitude for communication and creativity.

We have generally been very successful at GCSE and the whole Year 11 intake is entered for both English and English Literature; last year we entered students for EDUQAS GCSES in English Language and Literature. Historically, results have been maintained at between 65% and 78% of the entry gaining A* - C over the last four years: in 2018, 83% attained the equivalent of a C in either Literature or Language, whilst 71% attained a grade 5. At A level, we currently offer two courses (English Literature and Media). The number of A-level candidates has been stable over the last few years and this year we have around 30 students following English Literature courses; we anticipate around 20 students to be taking English Literature next year. Results at A level English Literature have been good over the years and last year we were ranked '3' on ALPS. We are all passionate about teaching Literature at A level and currently study the AQA 'A' spec. Media courses developed originally from the enthusiasm and interest of English department colleagues and have now grown into an extremely successful affiliated department.
The department makes a significant contribution to the extra-curricular life of the school. In recent years there have been many successful trips to theatres, excursions and conferences within the department, sixth form study days, Book Weeks, a poetry picnic and author visits to Key Stage 3. Year 13's most recent theatre trip was to see 'Othello' at 'The Globe' in London last month; y11 are about to visit the Barbican to see 'Romeo and Juliet'. We

also celebrate 'National Poetry Day' and 'World Book Day' and hold a yearly 'Readathon.' The junior library provides opportunities for students to be fully involved in national reading and story writing competitions.

The English centre houses seven spacious classrooms, and three fully equipped ICT/Media rooms for the use of the department. Classrooms are arranged around a central open space which provides a superb, flexible teaching space enabling team teaching, lead lessons to groups etc. All rooms are networked. There is a spacious staff workroom for English colleagues and the team are also supported by an excellent support staff colleague who provides extensive administrative support to the team. Excellent Media technicians also support teachers and students in the area.

Post Details

This is an exciting opportunity for a gifted English specialist eager to develop their career within a well-equipped department in a beautiful school. We are looking for a well-qualified, enthusiastic and energetic teacher capable of inspiring and challenging students across the full age and ability range as well as contributing to a thriving department. The successful candidate will be familiar with all aspects of English teaching as well as the latest developments and initiatives. They will be able to demonstrate a genuine love and enjoyment of the subject and skill in working with other members of the faculty. The teaching commitment will potentially be to all ages and levels of ability and it is important, therefore, that the successful applicant is well aware of the curriculum at GCSE and at post 16 level. An abiding passion for English and English Literature is the overriding requirement as is an abiding commitment to the very highest standards of academic performance and the ability to sustain good discipline within their area.

English is a supportive and welcoming Department and will ensure that the successful candidate receives appropriate induction, training and support. We pride ourselves on our strong induction systems which new colleagues always value highly. We also have well developed performance management systems, and a range of professional development opportunities are available such as leadership training and twilight inset sessions.

All teaching staff will be expected to support our lunchtime duties scheme.

Person Specification

Essential:

- Qualified Teacher Status and a degree or equivalent in a relevant subject
- An outstanding understanding of English to support students' learning
- Knowledge and proven success of a range of strategies to promote outstanding progress and attainment in English at Key Stage 3
- Successful experience in embedding engaging programs of study, standardising assessment and practice to ensure maximum opportunity for student success at Key Stage 3
- A genuine enthusiasm for young people and an ability to engage them in learning
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work co-operatively as a team member
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

Desirable:

- A thorough understanding of national education policies and guidelines relating to English

With all of our appointments, we look for excellent teachers who:

- Understand the importance of their role as tutor
- Ensure that all our students feel valued as individuals, have a real and meaningful sense of their own worth and can aspire to the best that they possibly can be
- Enjoy working closely with colleagues, are able to argue a convincing case, are able to listen carefully to their views and are content to rest with, and promote, collective decisions
- Are motivators, inspirers but tough enough to establish clear expectations

- Have a holistic view of education that values the role of extra-curricular school life by promoting the development of the whole child and a willingness to get involved in and help provide a wealth of opportunities to students
- Are eager to innovate and develop their careers

All employees at Lytchett Minster School receive a thorough and personalised programme of induction and support.

If you would like to informally discuss this post prior to applying, please contact Joe Brake, Head of English, at brakej@lytchett.org.uk. If you wish to apply for this role, please complete the Teaching Staff Application Form found on the school website https://lytchett.careers.eteach.com/#/ . In the letter of application, you will need to demonstrate that you possess the above qualities and give a clear statement of the particular contribution you would be able to make to the school. You should also refer to your areas of expertise in the field and any previous relevant experience.

Please note that the deadline for this application is Wednesday 20th March 2019

When filling in the application form, please make sure that you include

- **The size of the schools in which you have taught**
- **The telephone and email addresses of your referees.**

Please note that Lytchett Minster is committed to safeguarding & promoting the welfare of children & young people. All appointments made are subject to an Enhanced DBS check.