

HEAD OF DANCE – Maternity Leave – Fixed Term Contract**To start: 29th October 2018****Salary: MPS / UPS****1. THE COLLEGE**

Comberton Village College was opened in 1960. As a Cambridgeshire Village College, it was designed to be a centre for the life of its community and to provide quality education for pupils aged between 11 and 16. This remains the case today.

In 1974, the school became fully comprehensive and, in April 1993, it became grant-maintained. It changed to a Foundation School and more recently became a Foundation School with a Trust: the Comberton Educational Trust. In February 2011 the school became an Academy overseen by The Cam Academy Trust. The pupil roll is around 1,800 while over 2,000 adults use the college for a wide range of continuing education and leisure activities. A £7 million building programme was completed in 2003 that significantly enhanced a whole range of the school's facilities, including major new leisure facilities. A further £4 million building project provided further specialist teaching and learning facilities across a range of subject areas and has been in use since September 2009.

A new Sixth Form opened in September 2011 following the completion of a £9.5 million building project. It offers a strong suite of academic courses, across the subject areas in conjunction with The AQA Baccalaureate, as well as applied courses. This exciting development has enabled students from Comberton to complete their sixth-form studies with us as well as providing opportunities for students from other local schools. There are already more than 360 students in the Sixth Form and this is set to expand further.

2. THE CAM ACADEMY TRUST

In 2011, The Comberton Academy Trust (CAT) was formed. It enabled Comberton Village College to convert to Academy status in 2011. Following this, the Trust has taken on further Academies and was renamed The Cam Academy Trust in 2016:

- Melbourn Village College, an 11-16 Academy in Cambridgeshire. This Academy joined the Trust in September 2013.
- Cambourne Village College, an 11-16 Academy in Cambridgeshire, close to Comberton Village College. This was opened as a new Free School by the Trust in September 2013, initially with an intake of Year 7 students only. It serves the new and developing community of Cambourne which was formerly in the catchment area of Comberton Village College.
- Gamlingay First School (now a full primary school) and St Peter's, Huntingdon, both joined in September 2016.
- Hartford Infants and Hartford Juniors joined in January 2017.
- Jeavons Wood Primary School, Cambourne, joined in July 2017.

There is the possibility that the Trust could develop further, with other schools currently holding discussions about joining. We are seeking to ensure that all Academies in the Trust work in effective partnership with each other and that there are opportunities for staff to share ideas and resources. For some staff, there will be opportunities to work in more than one Academy.

3. DESIGNATIONS

Comberton Village College has worked significantly with other schools and in outreach projects from 2001 onwards. This dates various of the designations the school received between 2001 and 2007:

- Specialisms in Sport, Languages and Applied Learning
- Training School and Leading Edge Status

Associated with this, 15 teaching staff were designated as Advanced Skills Teachers and have worked in different ways with other schools.

In July 2011, Comberton Village College was designated as one of the first wave of Teaching Schools in the country. It now works with a number of other schools, including other designated Teaching Schools, as part of the Cambridge Teaching Schools Network to provide:

- Initial Teacher Training. We are significantly involved with ITT, including through partnership with the Faculty of Education, Cambridge and through our own SCITT.
- Continuing Professional Development. We provide a number of activities relating to CPD. Many staff in the CAT Academies are able to benefit from these.
- School-to-school support. Staff are involved with supporting achievement in other schools. This includes those designated as Specialist Leaders of Education.
- Research. Many staff are involved in research, including studying for higher level qualifications.

4. STANDARDS

Comberton Village College has received a full Ofsted inspection on three occasions since 2000: in 2004, 2007 and 2013. On each occasion, the overall effectiveness grade has been 'outstanding'. In the latest inspection in 2013, every aspect of the school's provision was judged to be 'outstanding'. This included the first judgement on Sixth Form provision, where both teaching and achievement were both clearly deemed already to be 'outstanding'. The short summary was:

"Comberton Village College is a highly successful school which enables its pupils to achieve not only academic excellence but also to become mature, confident, thoughtful and rounded individuals with clear goals for their future lives."

Pupil achievement is consistently high. Typically at KS4, 80% of pupils have achieved at least 5+ A*-C grades, including English and Maths, at GCSE or equivalent with 40% of grades at A*/A. In 2017 79% of pupils achieved grade 4+ in English and Maths. Value added measures indicate excellent progress for all types of students; the progress8 figure for 2017 was +0.58. Achievement has been excellent from the outset in the Sixth Form with the significant majority of all grades achieved by students being A*-B. University admissions are very strong including students gaining places on competitive courses at the most selective universities, including Oxbridge.

5. BROAD EDUCATION

The school's formal day runs from 8.30am- 2.50pm with six timetabled lessons of 50 minutes. Pupils see their tutors daily and have a weekly assembly.

However, we believe that true education is broad and should develop character and individual interest. Given this, there is also a very full and wide-ranging extra-curricular programme that runs each day from 3.00pm. There are also many school trips and visits, both national and international. We have significant school partnerships that involve exchanges in Europe, Peru, South Africa, Japan, China and Mozambique.

We consider the following as very important:

- Our major Duke of Edinburgh programme. Most pupils do the Bronze award with many continuing to Silver. Some now also progress to the Gold award in our Sixth Form.
- We have held the Arts Mark Gold Award for a number of years, a symbol of our commitment to excellence and breadth in Arts education and provision.
- We have been accredited as a British Council International School since 2002, a sign of our commitment to the international dimension of education.

6. AIMS AND VALUES

At the heart of what we do are fundamental aims and values relating to education. The Cam Academy Trust has five core principles that must be central to all Academies in the Trust. These have been at the heart of Comberton Village College for many years:

- The Excellence Principle. Education must be of highest of standards and lead to high achievement.
- The Comprehensive Principle. Excellent education must be for all pupils of all types and abilities.
- The Community Principle. Education should be rooted in and serve its local community.
- The Partnership Principle. We should always look to work in effective partnership with others for mutual benefit.
- The International Principle. There must be a clear international dimension to education.

Within these over-arching principles, we seek to ensure that all of our pupils reach their full, positive potential and become:

- **CAPABLE** in the skills relevant to their future lives and in having the knowledge which will increase their understanding, appreciation and interest in the world in which they live.
- **CARING** of others and considerate of the mutual dependence human beings have on each other.
- **CONFIDENT** of their worth because they have developed their strengths, understood their weaknesses and learnt that they can achieve success.

7. THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The College was for ten years a specialist Sports College. Whilst all specialisms now no longer exist, CVC's commitment to the Sports College aims continues in three main areas:

- Whole school improvement
- The Community, including partner Schools
- The Physical Education Department

The Physical Education department remains the core element of the initiative. The advent of the status has meant major changes to PE and school sport at CVC. This includes advances in facilities, staffing and the teaching and learning of Physical Education.

Department Ethos

The fundamental beliefs of the department are based upon: *Participation and Attitude, Leadership and Teamwork, Health and Wellbeing and Excellence for All*. As a department we aim to build a legacy of: *Life-long Activity and Enjoyment while developing Employability Skills*.

The department is committed to providing high quality Physical Education and School Sport through outstanding Teaching and Learning.

Facilities

The department is able to teach in first class facilities. The school has a dance studio, multi-purpose performance hall, sports hall, two gymnasiums one of which includes two integral sports laboratories, climbing wall, one fitness suite and separate free weight facility, a high performance full sized astro turf football pitch, eight tennis courts, four netball courts, redeveloped playing fields (space for two full sized hockey/rugby/football pitches). The school is also able to use three on site squash courts and an outdoor swimming pool.

Staffing

The department currently has four part time and nine full time teachers. This includes the Head of Department, an Assistant Head of Department, a Head of Dance and four members of the senior leadership group within the team. The department also has a PE administrator and PE technician, a specialist teaching assistant and a full-time PE specific cover teacher. In addition to the teaching staff there are several coaches linked to the college, specializing in Squash, Tennis and Cricket. The coaches are used to assist in the delivery of high quality PE and develop the provision of extra-curricular activities. There are a high number of non-specialist teachers who assist in the extensive extra-curricular programme offered to all students.

The Curriculum

At KS3 pupils are taught 5 x 50 minute periods of PE in the two week time table. Lessons are taught in doubles every week, with an additional single lesson once every two weeks. Currently, the department follows the national curriculum requirements teaching a variety of activity areas; Games, Gymnastics, Dance, Swimming and Athletics. Health Related Fitness, Mountain Biking and Leadership are also taught in Yr 9. All Year 7 pupils take part in a week long OAA residential trip.

Pupils take part in Inter-form competition throughout KS3. During one year a form group will take part in at least 6 competitions, including two inter-form fitness runs that take place off school site. The competition culminates in the annual 'inclusive' Sports Days.

In addition to the 'The Core' PE programme during Key Stage 4, pupils can opt for the full course GCSE PE, Dance and BTEC Sport and Exercise options. These continue to be very popular options. Pupils gain an additional six lessons over the two weeks.

At Key Stage 4 there is a pathway structure, which gives students the opportunity to tailor PE to their needs and interests. Students can opt into Performance, Adventurous, Healthy Active Lifestyles and Leadership pathways at the beginning of year 10 and year 11. Each pathway is unique in what it offers students.

The department successfully offers level 3 courses allowing students to progress beyond the age of 16 at Comberton Village College. The department offers students an A Level PE progression, alongside a BTEC level 3 in Sport and Exercise option and A Level Dance.

The department is committed to an inclusive approach. A significant number of pupils are selected to attend Sports Skills, a programme that develops self-confidence and physical competence in a caring and sensitive environment. Opportunities have been created for our Gifted and Talented students in addition to on-going support and mentoring for our very talented athletes competing at a significant level. The department has also run a long standing programme named the Adventure Club, which supports the less confident students along with more confident and challenging students in an outward bound setting.

Extra-Curricular Physical Education and School Sport

The department provides a flourishing after-schools programme. Our 'Sport for All' ethos encourages all pupils to attend the clubs that take place between 3 and 6 pm. Activities offered include Football, Netball, Rugby, Hockey, Basketball, Rounders, Dodgeball, Cricket, Badminton, Tennis, Squash, Running, extensive Dance clubs, Table Tennis, Gymnastics, Trampolining, Rowing and Handball. The broad menu of after school Dance opportunities culminate in a showcase event at the end of each term which allows families to view the progress of the many Dance disciplines completed beyond the school day.

School teams compete against other district school in a series of friendly and competitive fixtures and tournaments. In addition to these, pupils compete in county and national competitions in a range of sports. The competitive opportunities have more recently been extended by the competition management structure, of which one full time representative is based at Comberton Village College.

Partnerships & Further initiatives

The department has worked hard to be part of a range of key partnerships. Comberton Village College is part of the CAM Academy Trust. Comberton have continued their partnership with the Youth Sports Trust (YST) as a premium member. This has given the department the opportunity to be represented on assessment working groups and attend the recent YST Conference. Other partnerships, led by the PDM and specifically employed Primary Specialist staff work closely with our feeder primary schools and partner secondary schools. Other links in the past few years include work with a number of Higher Education institutes, including Cambridge, Northampton and Essex Universities. The department has been heavily involved in various projects, such as the SKY Living for Sport project.

8. THE VACANCY

We are looking for someone who is passionate about Dance and Physical Education.

- Someone who will contribute to the outstanding teaching and learning within the Dance and PE department.
- An enthusiastic person who does not mind working hard.
- An excellent practitioner.
- Someone who has initiative and good communication skills.
- Someone who will contribute to an extensive extra-curricular programme.
- Someone who demands high expectations from the pupils in their care.
- A team player who wants to contribute to the success of the department.
- Someone who has Sixth Form experience and experience of teaching GCSE and A Level Dance.

| Head of Dance |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to teach Dance across KS 3-5 to an exceptional standard • The ability to teach examination Dance at KS4 and KS5. • Organise and lead all dance programmes of study across KS3-KS5, conducting exam analysis where necessary. • Line manage the dance admin assistant. • The ability to teach Physical Education would be desirable, although not essential. • Full commitment and the ability to organise the dance extra-curricular programme is essential. • The ability to lead and organise dance department events such as 'dance week', curriculum extension day and termly dance showcases including the Bodyworks Outreach show. • Choreograph the school musical and work alongside the drama and music dept • Co-ordinate the dances for the annual Dance Share and final assemblies. • Co-ordinate the students and programme for open even, GCSE options eve and the A-Level open evening • Organise trips to support the study of the GCSE & A-Level • The ability to drive a mini bus is desired but not essential. |

The successful candidate will need to meet the requirements of the general teacher job description and person specification on the college website.

We believe the College can offer you a very good professional environment and a lively and friendly place in which to work. If you like what you have read and would like to be part of Comberton Village College, we would welcome your application.

All staff are inducted in child protection processes and have a responsibility to operate within the school's framework in this.

If you would like to join us, please return your completed application form and covering letter to com-personnel@combertonvc.org, or via the post, by **midday on Friday 5th October 2018**. **Interviews will take place on Monday 15th October 2018**. If you wish to discuss the post further, please contact Jane Clarke, Head of PE, at the College via email jaclarke@combertonvc.org.

Stephen Munday,
Executive Principal

The Governing Body 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 (DBS) check will be carried out for the successful candidate.