



Dear Applicant

Thank you very much for your interest in Poole High School. I hope that you find the information in this pack useful and are drawn to work in this thriving school.

This vibrant 11-19 school has a roll exceeding 1,800 serving some families throughout the historic town of Poole. The school benefits from an extensive programme of new buildings and refurbishment and is set within a very attractive landscaped site at the centre of the town. We are proud of our comprehensive ethos and we are committed to ensuring that all excel. We are also very proud of our students, and the paradigm shift in our culture which is enabling all to strive and achieve. Unlike some schools, we know that quality teaching is at the heart of successful learning outcomes. That's the reason our focus on professional development in a caring learning environment makes working at Poole High so attractive.

We were inspected in 2016, and the HMI described Poole High School as a good school that is 'rapidly improving'. In addition, the school achieved the best GCSE results for a non-selective school in the area this summer yet again. In addition, our Advanced Level progress placed the school in the top 25% of schools nationally, bearing out the inspector's claim that 'standards across the school have risen, teaching is good overall and particularly strong in mathematics... and improved rapidly in other subjects including English, history and science'.

Since my appointment in September 2015 - my third Headship, I have been really impressed by the caring, friendly and committed community of Poole High School. There are many hugely positive traits in the school, and I am confident about our future success. If you have a social conscience, great interpersonal skills, a strong work ethic and love creating new insights within your specialist subject, then I would very much like to hear from you. One of my favourite quotes from a student who joined us from another school- "The difference between Poole High School and my last one is that staff here smile and laugh". We are serious about standards, but there is humanity to our ethos, and this is very precious to us. This year, students and staff confirm that the culture and shift in the school is rapid and significant. We take enormous pride in the fact that our colleges frequently comment that they receive more support in this school than in any other. When I say 'learning is sacrosanct' we mean it. Students say this experience is consistently borne out too.

My personal principles for education are quite straightforward. I believe that everything that we do in school should be centred upon improving students' life chances for the future. Also, that our infectious enthusiasm in the classroom and genuine sense of care for every individual student, should be evident in great 'day to day' teaching.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Gray  
Headteacher