July 2022

RE : Assistant Headteacher (Primary)

TERMS : Permanent, full-time or part-time. Leadership Scale 5 to 9 (£45,566 to £51,402)

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for taking the time to find out about the vacancy within our Senior Leadership Team.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a practitioner to be part of the school’s journey and work in partnership with the new headteacher (in post September 2022) and the Senior Leadership Team. We are seeking a creative, enthusiastic teacher who has a passion for teaching and learning and a resilience to ensure all children are able to make the very best progress.

Mayfield School is undergoing a period of expansion from a 1000 place secondary school to a 1540 place ‘all through school’. The key milestones to date have been:

In September 2012 we opened a 60 place pre-school and nursery on the school site which has been judged as “outstanding” by OfSTED. Staff members are guaranteed access to this very popular and highly oversubscribed facility.

In July 2013 Mayfield School secured approval from Portsmouth City Council to extend our age range from 11-16 to 4-16 and become the city’s first ‘all through’ school and one of only a handful of state, single site, ‘all through’ schools in the country. With this change in status, the school has undertaken a significant building programme drawing on over £4 million in additional capital. In September 2014, we welcomed the first intake into our primary section and became one of the most oversubscribed schools in the city, with 60 pupils joining us, many of whom were in our pre-school. Each year the school will continue to admit 60 pupils into Year R (plus 30 into Year 3) until the primary section fills by 2020 and the school reaches its maximum capacity of 1540 pupils across all phases.

In November 2021, Mayfield was inspected by OfSTED and remained a ‘good’ school. However, the evidence gathered suggests that the inspection grade might not be as high if a full inspection were carried out. The next inspection will therefore be a full (section 5) inspection. In November 2021, inspectors noted:

* *“Primary age pupils particularly enjoy their learning”;*
* “The focus on reading at primary level is not securely carried through at secondary level”.
* *“Leaders have planned the curriculum throughout the school carefully. It is broad and well sequenced. Leaders have considered how the learning from Reception through to Year 11 connects. This means there is deliberate and planned progression”;*
* “Leaders need to look again at how well the intended curriculum is delivered, particularly in English…, so that pupils learn securely and have a lasting understanding of what they learn”.
* *“Pupils’ learning throughout the school happens in a calm and orderly way”.*

Most recently, Mayfield has been successful in its bid for priority school building project (PSBP) funds which resulted in the construction of a ‘state of the art’ purpose built ‘all through’ school on the east field of the current site. Work started in November 2019 and the new, £multi-million, building was handed over in September 2021 – we are now in the final stage with the demolition of the old building and reinstatement of all outside space. All works are due for completion by Summer 2023.

The person appointed will be an experienced middle leader within an existing Primary School and able to act as a key leader developing the Reading curriculum across the Primary Section and into Key Stage 3, working with leaders to drive the improvement of standards in English across the school. A good working knowledge of the Little Wandle Phonics and Destination Reader programmes is desirable. The successful candidate will work with a dedicated, and growing, team of Senior and Middle Leaders to support the development of our (relatively) new provision.

Not only is our Primary Section very popular and heavily oversubscribed with parents, but also with staff. You would be joining a very high calibre team and therefore, successful experience of working in a school which has been graded as ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ is essential as is a demonstrable track record of improving outcomes at KS1 and/or KS2.

To apply for this post, please complete an application form and attach a letter to the Headteacher detailing:

* How do your experiences to date make you the right person for this post? (Max. 500 words);
* What impact have you had as a leader? (Max. 500 words);
* Beyond curriculum responsibilities, all members of the SLT undertake “whole school” work. What areas are you most interested in undertaking, and why? (Max. 500 words).

Please contact Mrs Lynne Hollis, PA to the Headteacher, if you wish to arrange a tour of the school from 5th September onwards. Applications should be received via email to Mrs. Lynne Hollis, PA to the Headteacher, on hollis@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk by 4:00pm on Monday 19th September.

Thank you for taking the time to find out the exciting changes taking place at our school.

Best wishes,

Mr. Ashley Howard – Headteacher