



February 2021

Dear Applicant,

Class Teacher Post for September 2021

Thank you for showing an interest in the vacancy at East Preston Junior School. Ours is a growing school at the heart of the East Preston village community, with a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

Ordinarily for such posts, we would encourage candidates to visit the school and find out more about EPJS. In the absence of that opportunity, I am hopeful that we can provide further information about the post and the application process both here and on our website.

About the school

The school has a long history in the village, beginning 180 years ago. In the 1950s a new school was opened on our current site, with the infants being separated out in the 1970s. In recent years the school has grown to meet the needs of the local community, changing from a 2-form to a 3-form junior school. We will have 11 classes in September 2021. The school has a good reputation among parents and the village community, and our Ofsted inspection in November 2019 confirmed that the school is a good school where pupils behave well and embrace their learning "with zest".

As a school, we are developing a broad curriculum offer, which places high value on retaining knowledge as part of building children's broader understanding of the world. We value the subjects beyond English and maths, and want to see all children have opportunities for enjoyment in excellence in every lesson. Candidates should therefore include mention of any subject expertise they can offer when composing their letter of support.

EPJS is part of Schoolsworks Academy Trust, a small MAT operating 7 schools along the Sussex coast. We use our partnership with these schools to share experience and practice, and to provide opportunities for joint professional development. The trust also has a strong secondment programme, offering opportunities for career development.

As a headteacher, I want to work in a school where staff enjoy their work, and are free to prepare great lessons and provide exciting opportunities for our pupils. Wherever possible, we work to minimise workload for teachers, and ensure that colleagues want to be here. Current teachers at the school describe a friendly and supportive team with a good work-life balance, and where we laugh every day.

About the post

To meet our growing numbers, we will have an additional class in Year 6 this year. However, the staffing arrangements for the school will be decided after the appointment of a successful applicant, and so could be

in any junior year group. Teachers work as part of a team, with shared PPA time every week. Colleagues are encouraged to make use of shared planning and resourcing, and to draw upon colleagues' subject expertise when building the curriculum.

All teachers in the school have a subject leadership role, although if a newly qualified teacher is appointed this is likely to be alongside a more experienced colleague. As we continually develop our curriculum, there are opportunities for colleagues to develop leadership skills and experience which would benefit any future progression.

About the application process

Before submitting an application, candidates are encouraged to explore the school website, including the videos and application information available on the [vacancies page](#). Here candidates will also find details of opportunities to sign up to short group discussions with the headteacher via video call. Places on these calls can be booked by emailing the school office in advance: office@epjs.co.uk.

Candidates should refer to the person specification when completing their application. Shortlisting will be based closely on the criteria marked for assessment as part of the application and supporting letter. Where appropriate, candidates are encouraged to refer to specific examples to illustrate their understanding of the criteria.

Applications should be emailed to the school (office@epjs.co.uk), and all applications received will be acknowledged within 24 hours. If you do not receive confirmation that your application has been received, please do contact us by telephone to check.

If you have any queries as part of the process, then please do get in touch with me via the school office using the contact details above.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Tidd
Headteacher