

Dear Candidate

Re: About the School

The Arnewood School is a mixed comprehensive academy, the largest school within the Gryphon Multi-Academy Trust which it instigated.

We serve a compact catchment area and enjoy good relationships with other local schools. We consider ourselves fortunate to be very close to both the New Forest and sea, yet near to Bournemouth (20 minutes), Southampton (30 minutes), Winchester (40 minutes) and London (1 hour 45 minutes by train).

A successful application will place you in an enjoyable working environment, where a positive, well behaved, academic atmosphere is normal. You can expect to be well supported in your development as a professional: all our staff have an iPad.

We place our children's needs first so that they are at the core of good decision making as to what is best for our school community. Our academic record over a long period shows us to be a consistently high performing school, with impressive examination results at all key stages including in our vibrant sixth form. We continue to raise standards in all subject areas; we encourage diversity in teaching and scholarly learning across all subjects. We place great emphasis on a healthy balance between academic work and the all-round development of children. Ours is an academy with a strong commitment to very good pastoral care and a wide variety of curricular opportunities both cultural and sporting.

Typically staff show initiative and take a full part in extending the school's profile as a centre for excellent learning and teaching and support all colleagues as part of our collective emphasis on continuing professional development.

At Arnewood School we look to extend and sustain a capacity for excellent teaching. We are well organised, with clear expectations for all our community to make a positive contribution to improve learning to an outstanding standard.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

N. M. Pressnell

N Pressnell
Headteacher



About The Role

Colleagues in the English Faculty work hard to ensure students achieve very good results at GCSE, A/S and A Level in English and Media Studies. The school received a good judgement from Ofsted (2019). English was particularly praised for the exceptional promotion of achievement for students of all academic abilities.

At Key Stage 3, students are placed in mixed attainment groups. We aim to encourage debate and discussion, promote a love of reading and develop independent and critical thinking. We believe that providing a rich and varied diet of reading across our literary heritage will enable students to understand their cultural capital. We seek to inspire pupils by reading and emulating the work of wordsmiths from our literary canon – from great novelists and poets to skilful orators

For GCSE (AQA), we retain mixed attainment groups. The percentage of students achieving Grade 4 or above in English Language and Literature, despite our genuinely comprehensive intake, is in line with national averages (70% of students gained grades 9-4 in 2019 for English Language and 75% gained grades 9-4 in English Literature). In Media Studies, 73% gained grades 9-4, which is higher than the National Average.

In the Sixth Form, we offer Media Studies (AQA), English Language and English Literature (Edexcel), at A and A/S Level.

Most English lessons are taught in a suite of eight adjacent rooms on the first floor of the Main Building; resourcing for the subject is good. Clerical and reprographic support is available and staff have direct access to reprographic and I.T. facilities. All staff have laptops or iPads, just as all year groups can access and are able to buy or lease laptops/iPads. They are able to take them home as a family learning resource. We set homework through the school's virtual learning environment (FireFly).

The English Centre of Learning maintains links with Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service for Education; the department also works with the language co-ordinators of our local primary schools, particularly in view of our significant cross-phase liaison to improve literacy for all.

We are seeking an informed, energetic and enthusiastic teacher, whose classroom practice is imaginative and effective. We would welcome applications from all suitable candidates, including NQTs, who have demonstrated the potential to succeed in the teaching profession. Successful applicants will have opportunities to teach English across the full ability range. Applicants must be skilled practitioners, willing to plan and prepare to a high level; the ability to co-ordinate and participate in our extensive programme of extra-curricular activities is welcomed. The successful applicant will also be expected to contribute to the collective planning and development of the work of the school.

Applicants are invited to draw attention to their own particular areas of strengths. Successful post-holders in due course will be given every opportunity to accept extra responsibility and will be expected to support the Head of English and other colleagues in making a significant contribution to the outstanding quality of education at The Arnewood School.

We shall be happy to talk to anyone who wishes to have a preliminary conversation about the school or the vacancy. If you wish to do so, please telephone Mrs Janette Preston, Head of English on 01425 625400.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Closing date – 18th June 2021 @ 09.00.

Interview date – week beginning 21st June 2021