**Job Title: Finance Director**

**Location: Kingstone Academy Trust, Kingstone, Hereford, HR2 9HJ**

**Grade 12HC / Scale 45L-49L: £49,442 - £55,016 (potential for increased grade dependent on growth of the Trust)**

**Start date: January 2022**

**Contract: 37 hours per week, 52 weeks per year**

**Closing date for applications: Monday 6th December (9am)**

**Interview date: Wednesday 8th December 2021**

Kingstone Academy Trust (KAT) currently comprises of two academies in the village of Kingstone. Both schools within the Trust are designated as ‘Good’ (Ofsted 2017 & 2018) and they are situated in beautiful Herefordshire, on an extensive site with superb facilities, just a short distance from the lively and developing city of Hereford. The Trust is small but growing rapidly due to the reputation of both schools.

We are seeking a high-calibre finance professional with ambition and drive, who is fully qualified (ACA, ACCA, CIMA, or L5+ SBM qualification) and who shares the MAT’s values and passion for improving the lives and opportunities of children and young people. This is an exciting time to be joining KAT as the successful candidate will inherit a Trust in a healthy financial position whilst playing an important role as we start the journey to develop the KAT site using substantial external funds including 106 monies.

Reporting directly to the Executive Headteacher, you will provide clear financial and commercial strategy and direction for the MAT. You will need to be fully aware of all funding and legislative changes that apply to the education sector and advise the Trust Board on strategic financial information to enable them to make informed decisions. You will be responsible for managing all budgeting and accounting activity; take on executive responsibilities as part of the Senior Management Team; and the operational line management of the finance function, ensuring all systems are updated and reporting is timely and in line with required annual returns. In addition, you will coordinate the work of the External Auditor and prepare and submit audited, statutory, consolidated accounts.

The ideal candidate will be commercially astute and have excellent communication and negotiation skills. Knowledge and/or experience of the school/academy. Candidates from all sectors will be considered if they can demonstrate transferable skills and a commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in an ever-changing landscape, where ensuring the sustainability of the MAT is key. We are looking for someone who is adept at building strong, positive relationships with a variety of stakeholders and can foster respect and trust easily.

This is a post that will change over time; the post holder will be responsive and proactive in the context of strategic priorities. Benefits include: LGPS Pension Scheme, 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays, plus a flexible approach to work life balance.

For an informal discussion about the role, an application pack or a visit to the school, please call or e-mail, Mrs Sally Spreckley on 01981 250224 ext. 264 or sspreckley@kingstoneacademy.co.uk Visits to the school are most welcome. CVs alone will not be accepted.

*The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All vacancies that involve working with vulnerable adults and/or children will be subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service check at Enhanced Level, along with other standard pre-employment checks.*