Dear Applicant

**Re: French teacher maternity cover role for The Fells Federation**

Thank you so much for expressing an interest in the vacancy for a French teacher within The Fells Federation. We currently have a twelve month maternity cover vacancy for a French teacher. The role would commence from February half term holiday. The role will require the delivery of lessons to Key Stage 3 and GCSE at Key Stage 4, in John Ruskin Secondary School. The successful applicant will also offer French at Coniston Church of England Primary School; if you feel this is something you would be interested in, please make reference to this in your letter of application.

The bulk of the teaching timetable will take place at John Ruskin School which is a small school with a dedicated staff who closely support each other. We are oversubscribed in four year groups and have been highly successful in league table and Ofsted inspections. It is a great place to work! ‘Be You’ is at the heart of our John Ruskin School (JRS) vision and, over the last eighteen months particularly, our students have continued to amaze and make us proud whilst, due to the pandemic, education at JRS has been very different. The resilience we encourage in lessons and through events like our annual fell race and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, meant students could rise to the challenge of online learning and continue their education even when schools were closed.

Another part of our JRS vision is ‘be ready for your future’; we continued to make sure students accessed work and lessons throughout the pandemic. However, we couldn’t wait to welcome students back to lessons where collaboration and discussion are an integral part of learning. The speaking and listening we value at JRS was recognised by Ofsted when they visited us in 2019 and said ‘Pupils are confident and can express themselves well. They question and challenge each other’s opinions.’ It’s been great having the students back with us again!

We are proud of our GCSE results – prior to the pandemic we had regularly been at the top end of the Cumbria league tables – however, the pandemic presented new challenges and we continued to make sure our Year 11 students were ‘ready for the future’. We asked our Year 11 leavers in summer 2021 how they felt – here is a comment from one of them which tells you all you need to know about life at John Ruskin School: ‘I felt the school helped me in every way it could have done – the teachers went above and beyond to help prepare me for my GCSEs.’

In 2019 we built on our long history of collaboration with Coniston CofE Primary by formally federating the two schools. The primary is a similarly small school with a distinctive Christian ethos built on the key principles contained in its school vision.

Please note that The Fells Federation is committed to safeguarding and protecting all children and young people by implementing robust safer recruitment practices. As part of this we will identify and reject applicants who are unsuitable to work with children and young people and ensure all new staff and volunteers participate in an induction which includes our child protection policy and procedures.

If you are interested in the role advertised then please phone the school and ask to speak to myself with any questions you may have; better still, we are welcoming visitors on site again and I am more than happy to arrange a time to show you around the buildings.

Best wishes

Mr P Blackburn

Head Teacher