

Castleton C of E Primary School,
Back St,
Castleton,
Derbyshire,
S33 8WE

Tel: 01433 620 630

October 2022

Dear Applicant

On behalf of the Governing Body, welcome to Castleton C of E Primary School, and thank you for your interest in our Headteacher post.

Castleton is a small village with few young families, but thanks to the efforts of our current Headteacher we attract pupils from a much wider catchment area than other schools. We have families who are willing to travel a long way to take advantage of our unique offer.

Over half of our pupils attend school on a flexi-school basis. This means that they are in school 3 or 4 days per week and are homeschooled on the remaining days. As a result of this, parents are very engaged with the school and invested in their children's education. The Governors are keen to keep the flexi-school arrangement as it has contributed significantly to the recent growth of the school.

Our pupils are taught in mixed age classes, which allows them to interact and develop friendships with others in different year groups. This gives the school a real family feel, with older pupils showing care and consideration for the younger ones. We are looking for a Headteacher who will contribute to this lovely atmosphere and will get to know all of the children and their families individually.

The school is in a beautiful location in the Peak District. Our teachers make the most of the surrounding area with regular forest school sessions and walks. We have links to the local Youth Hostel and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, both of which have sites we can use for forest school.

Our staff team is small but strong. We have a teacher for each key stage, plus several teaching assistants. We have invested in our staff to ensure excellent adult : pupil ratios in every classroom. As a result of this we have minimal behavior problems, and pupils make good progress. The Headteacher's role includes some time in the classroom, so our new Head will be an outstanding teacher as well as a highly organised leader.

Many families come to Castleton because their children were not having their needs met in other schools. We have a higher-than-average proportion of pupils with SEND, but their needs are met very well by our experienced staff. We place a focus on creating a nurturing environment, and we have a Nurture Manager who leads this area.

We encourage you to visit the school and see for yourself what makes it so special. Our retiring Headteacher, Mrs Nancy Lees will be delighted to show you around and answer any questions you have about the role. Please phone the school to make an appointment.

Once again, thank you for your interest in Castleton C of E Primary School. We look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely

Helen Webster
Chair of Governors