



The Federation of Antrobus St Marks and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School

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A letter from the Chair of Governors

Thank you for your interest in applying to the position of Headteacher for our Federation. We are two small Church of England schools based just over 2 miles apart in the heart of rural Cheshire. Our current head is leaving to retire, following a period of exceptional service to our school communities. We are now looking for someone who will excel in leading us forward. You will be building on strong foundations – we are in a good position financially, we have a committed staff team and have been judged Outstanding and Good by SIAMs and Ofsted respectively. Our governing body is experienced and supportive and we believe wholeheartedly in living out both schools' Christian mottos in the way that we guide, challenge and encourage the Head, the staff, the pupils and their families.

This is an exciting and unique opportunity for an individual who would like to progress their career, heading up two schools. Whilst our Federation underpins our strategic planning, each school has its own identity and our pupils, along with their families, feel a strong attachment to their particular school community. Many of our parents have chosen our schools over and above a school closer to their home. They see the appeal of our picturesque rural settings, our close links with the parish churches, our high staff to pupil ratios and our strong family feel, as very attractive. Our parents are engaged in their child's learning and have high expectations.

Our pupils are friendly, articulate and keen to learn. They thrive on the varied curriculum and additional experiences that our staff team work so hard to provide. The children are keen to live out their understanding of the Christian faith. They respect each other, the staff and their immediate and wider environment. We are particularly proud of how well they make the extra effort to welcome new pupils, including them straight away without question. They are thoughtful when mistakes are made and quick to say sorry and forgive. We are not the most diverse of schools, but our children are keen to learn about the wider world and to see other people in the light of Jesus' words to "love your neighbour".

Each school has its own strengths, but also has areas that would benefit from a fresh pair of eyes. We hope that you will be able to lead, motivate and challenge with gentleness to bring out the best in every member of staff and to help each pupil

achieve to their full potential in as wide a range of subjects as possible. Our current Head has led with a grace filled heart when dealing with staff, pupils and parents and we value the opportunity that has been given for each child and staff member to learn and develop through their experiences.

If you feel that you can balance the demands of managing and growing two schools, building on the strengths of the Federation and keeping everyone safe, whilst not losing sight of the unique feel that each school has, then we would really like to hear from you. Please complete the application form and covering letter, which should be no more than three sides of A4, in Arial point 12. As it is not currently possible to visit our school buildings, we hope that we have provided sufficient information for you. However, if you have any questions, we would be happy for you to contact us. All candidates who are shortlisted for interview will, subject to restrictions at the time, be able to visit both schools prior to the interview days.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Mrs Teresa Nixon
Chair of Governors