



Dear Applicant,

The Kirkstead Education Trust (KET) thank you for your interest in the post of Head Teacher at Hursthead Junior School. The position has become available because our current Head Teacher is leaving us at the end of the 25-26 school year to work in education overseas.

Hursthead Junior School is a very popular, three form entry, academy school in Cheadle Hulme, Stockport. The School shares the Kirkstead Road site with Hursthead Infant School from which we receive the majority of our pupils. The two schools work closely together on key aspects of school life and ensure that there is a smooth transition for pupils moving from KS1 to KS2.

There is a stable team of staff in the school, with everyone committed to achieving the best outcomes for all pupils. Although the numbers of pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium and those with SEND and EAL remain low compared to national figures, the staff are constantly striving to improve their practice and knowledge to support these pupils to engage in all aspects of school life.

Every year at Hursthead, the percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at the end of Key Stage Two is significantly above the National and LA averages. Pupils achieving greater depth is also consistently above national and LA figures. However these test results only capture one aspect of life at Hursthead.

We are convinced that our success is due to both the quality of teaching and of leadership and the School's creative approach to the curriculum which helps children to think for themselves and to develop their individual skills to their fullest potential.

The Trustees of the KET, and the Governors and staff at Hursthead Junior School strive to develop the necessary values, knowledge, skills and understanding for both pupils and adults to become *REAL* citizens (Responsible, Enthusiastic, Aspirational, Leaders). The School's vision is for children to become well equipped for life with the skills to learn and to be good citizens representing their school community. We put the children at the heart of our decision-making process. We are also a proud Gold Respecting School where the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child are embedded across the school.

A strength of the school is the encouragement given to the pupils in extra-curricular activities which in many areas complement the creative curriculum and enhance interest in investigation and life skills. Hursthead Juniors has a heritage for achievement in sport, music, art and drama. Our sports teams achieve much success in local and national competitions in football, athletics and netball amongst other sports. Opportunities are given in music and drama which include our children performing at The Lowry in The Children's Shakespeare Festival and in the Stockport Town Hall Choir festival with local schools. We also provide the opportunity for pupils to participate in Forest Schools and residential visits such as PGL.

There is a strong family ethos in the school and family values are important. The children are expected to promote these in their behaviour and respect for each other. Parents are very welcome in school and there is an active and supportive Parents' Association that regularly provides the school with additional funds dedicated to purposes agreed with the school.

Letter from Trustees

The school also works as a Lead Programme Provider for the University of Manchester Primary PGCE course. As the Lead School for the Hursthead Junior School Alliance, we recruit, train and mentor students in liaison with a group of local schools.

While there is much more we could share, we hope this gives you a clear and balanced picture of our school. We encourage you to explore our very extensive website to gather more information about the school, its achievements, ethos and vision. Please visit the school to meet some of the children, who are truly the best ambassadors and can tell you what it means to them to be part of the Hursthead family.

We are offering an outstanding opportunity for the right candidate to join us on this journey and to help lead the School to even greater success in all that we do.

From the Trustees of The Kirkstead Education Trust.