

Whitwell Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs L Duncan
Deputy Head: Mrs S Tomlinson

October 2022

Dear Applicant

Headteacher Recruitment

On behalf of the Governors of Whitwell Primary School I would like to thank you for your expression of interest in the post of Headteacher at our school. The vacancy has arisen due to the current Headteacher's retirement.

Whitwell Primary School is an average sized primary school situated in the village of Whitwell, in the North Eastern corner of Derbyshire. We have approximately 265 children on roll from Reception to Year 6, including a 52-place Nursery.

Whitwell Primary is a fully inclusive school where all the children achieve in a happy, safe environment. It is a school where children find learning fun yet where work challenges them to ensure they achieve their best. We want everyone at Whitwell Primary School to be the best they can be in all areas and aspects of life both in and out of school and this underpins everything we do to ensure children get the very best out of their time with us. Our motto is BEST - Believe, Endeavour, Succeed Together.

Our latest Ofsted inspection was in December 2019. Although the overall judgement was that the school 'Requires Improvement', we were pleased that many aspects of the school were graded as Good. We were particularly proud that inspectors identified that our children 'enjoy coming to school', 'appreciate the wide range of after school clubs', 'are well cared for' and that they 'feel safe in school, including from bullying. Pupils say bullying rarely happens'.

While the overall judgement was disappointing, our dedicated staff, Senior Leadership Team and Board of Governors have risen to the challenge and a recent appraisal by the Local Authority Senior Advisor confirms that our self-evaluation should now rank as 'Good'.

Since the inspection, whilst continuing to focus on embedding the improvements with regard to English and Maths, we have concentrated on the further development of the wider curriculum ensuring children have the knowledge and skills to progress appropriately across the school.

With very few exceptions our parents and carers all reside in Whitwell, an ex-mining village with a very positive sense of community. There are excellent community facilities, including different sport and recreation opportunities both in the village and the local area. Many parents work locally, and we are very fortunate to have excellent road and rail links serving the village.

The Board of Governors are looking for a leader who will:

- Embrace our ethos and values whilst continuing to raise standards
- Lead the team to deliver excellence for the school
- Work effectively with colleagues and continue to build relationships with the community

If you would like to take up this challenge, then please have a look at our school website:

www.whitwellprimary.co.uk

If you feel inspired to lead a strong, supportive team of children, staff, governors, and families, I warmly encourage you to visit the school and meet our wonderful children and staff. Please contact our School Business Manager, Sandra Froggatt on 01909 720251 to make a suitable appointment. Please complete and return your application form by 6 November.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Tom Munro
Chair, Board of Governors
Whitwell Primary School

