



Ripley Junior School
Poplar Avenue
RIPLEY
DE5 3PN

July 2024

Dear Applicant

Thank you for expressing your interest in the Headteacher position at Ripley Junior School. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you more about our school and why we are so proud of everything we do here at RJS.

Ripley Junior School is rated as a 'Good' school by Ofsted. Their key findings in 2018 confirmed what we already knew: our senior leadership is strong, with leaders who are ambitious for their pupils. The quality of teaching is strong, driven by the high expectations of our staff, and the successful candidate will be expected to continue with this approach to leadership. Our leaders and staff have created a culture where the well-being of the children is at the heart of the school's work. Under the leadership of our outgoing Headteacher, we have made significant progress, moving from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Good'; we aspire to become 'Outstanding,' and with the momentum we have in place, there is a genuine opportunity for someone with fresh ideas to help us achieve this goal.

Ofsted recently visited RJS and although the findings are yet to be published, we are confident that the feedback aligns with our current views and knowledge of the school.

Pupil attendance at RJS is strong, above the national average. Maintaining this, along with the implementation of our updated Behaviour Policy, remains a key focus. We receive incredible support from the community and maintain excellent relationships with parents. Ripley Junior School is more than just a school; we are an integral part of the community.

Our Governing Body is supportive and actively engages with the school in various ways, such as setting the budget and promoting the school externally. As Chair of the Governing Body, I strive to have a good relationship with the Headteacher to promote and maintain high standards of educational achievement.

While there is no specific teaching commitment attached to the post, the Governors expect the successful candidate to lead by example and support the ongoing professional development of all staff. We are looking for someone who can recognise Ripley Junior School's strengths and build on these while identifying and promoting solutions for areas needing development. If you are someone who can motivate others to develop the school to its maximum potential, while working towards our vision of 'Inspiring Children, Moving Forward, Learning Together,' we would love to hear from you.

Thank you once again for your interest in Ripley Junior School.

Yours sincerely

Martin Donaldson
Chair of Governors