Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in this exciting opportunity to become Headteacher at St Helena’s Church of England School, Willoughby. The school has developed steadily over recent years with new buildings and an increasing number of pupils on roll. We educate children from the age of 3-11; many children live outside of the catchment area, choosing to travel to our school and wonderful nursery.

This post has arisen as our Headteacher will be retiring at the end of 2022. We are looking forward to appointing an aspirational, caring, positive person who has good communication skills and is able to gain the respect and trust of our children, staff and parents, whilst encompassing the school vision, aims and values.

We are eagerly awaiting a long overdue Ofsted inspection, which we have thoroughly prepared for. Each member of our dedicated staffing team has a leadership role in school, so that they can support each other in their teaching. The school is part of KYRA and LEAD Teaching School Hub which enables our staff and governors to share ideas with a wide range of other schools and maintain their passionate commitment to raising the standards in our school.

The school is in the centre of the village which gives opportunities for the children to explore outside of the grounds, such as visiting the church, local gardens, having wellie walks and using rural footpaths including following in the footsteps of John Smith, our local character of interest. There are positive links with the church, which is used for special services throughout the year, as well as the Forest Church based in the church grounds.

We believe in children learning through experience, so include both residential and day trips, sporting activities and school performances within our curriculum, as well as a wide range of extra-curricular activities available after school. We also welcome visiting poets, authors, artists and drama groups to school to work with the children. These activities help to give the pupils a wide range of experiences during their time at St Helena’s, making many happy memories for them.

Our school development plan identifies our key priorities for progress and our website and Facebook page provide a great deal of information and insight to help you understand our school.

The Governors are highly committed to the school’s Christian vision and development and will welcome and support the new Headteacher in every way possible to enable continued, excellent leadership within the school. We encourage you to visit the school and sense for yourself the very special atmosphere and the enthusiasm of our children and dedicated staff.

Yours faithfully

Margaret Fulwood

Chair of Governors