



January 2022

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the position of Headteacher at St Ives Junior School. While information about our school is available on the school website - [www.stivesjunior.org.uk](http://www.stivesjunior.org.uk) I hope it will be useful to have a brief pen picture.

The school overlooks the beautiful seaside town of St Ives which offers a very attractive quality of life. We are within easy walking distance of the town, Tate St Ives, the stunning beaches and the woods and fields behind us. We try to make use of these resources and take pupils into the surrounding area as much as possible.

We are a two form entry junior school with 240 on our roll. We were rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted at our last inspection in 2011. We have worked hard to maintain standards in the intervening period and to provide excellent learning opportunities for our children grounded in high quality teaching. St Ives Infant School is immediately adjacent to us, but is a separate school belonging to a multi academy trust.

Our pupils benefit from wonderful, expansive grounds with great facilities including: large playground, football pitch, field, outdoor table tennis and table football, play area with climbing frames, allotment area with raised beds, a mile a day running track, car park and even our own fire pit for inspiring outdoor learning. A number of these have recently benefited from refurbishment. We also have the town's swimming pool and leisure centre on our doorstep which is used extensively by the children. The school also has a school mini - bus for transporting children off site and to sporting fixtures when these resume.

The school boasts relatively modern, well equipped and well-maintained facilities. Our ICT suite known as the Hub is equipped with desktop computers. Pupils use iPads and chrome books regularly to enhance learning outcomes, and there are interactive whiteboards and visualisers in all classrooms. We also have a wide range of reading material in our school library known as the Hive but are in the process of re-organising and diversifying this in order to cater for a wider range of abilities and interests and to reflect modern society and the world at large.

All staff are given a personal chrome book and we employ a full time ICT Technician, a part time Health and Safety consultant and a full time Site Supervisor.

We are committed to delivering the best learning experience possible for all our children, and we believe in developing the whole child as well as having high expectations for their academic development. We use a Trauma Informed Schools approach, among other things, to support the emotional and social wellbeing of our children. In addition, we employ a part time Family Liaison Officer to support families and children with a variety of presenting issues related to both social and educational needs.

The school has a very diverse level of need and ability, with a high proportion of pupils on the SEND record of need and large numbers of children entitled to pupil premium funding. As our regular pupil surveys testify (available on our website), our pupils are in the main happy and well-behaved. Similarly, parent/carers surveys reflect a high level of satisfaction with the services provided by the school. We are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School.

We have a young, vibrant, enthusiastic and extremely hard-working staff and they are ably supported by a high number of teaching assistants. We are committed to delivering an inspiring and enriching curriculum as well as many extra-curricular activities.

Previously all teachers ran a fantastic array of after-school activities for the children as well as every year group participating in at least a one-night residential school trip. These services were severely curtailed by the pandemic but are gradually being reinstated.

The school is in a solid financial position and employs an experienced finance technician on a part time basis.

St Ives is a small but vibrant community, and the school is a key focal point. The school has a close relationship with its parents/carers and as mentioned previously is generally held in high regard as evidenced by the very positive feedback captured in our annual parent surveys (available on our website). We also have an active PTA known as the Friends of St. Ives Junior School.

Governors are now looking for someone to continue and develop the success and innovation that our previous Head Teachers have inspired. The governing body is committed and supportive, and will do all we can to ensure the transition process is as smooth as possible.

I hope this gives you an idea of what our school offers but without doubt our pupils are the best ambassadors for the school. For that reason, I would encourage you to come and visit the school for yourself.

Should you wish to do so please contact our secretary Jo Bassett and we will make the necessary arrangements to show you around. Alternatively if you would like an informal conversation with me then please contact me on [chairofgovernors@stivesjunior.org.uk](mailto:chairofgovernors@stivesjunior.org.uk)

Once again thank you for your expression of interest and I wish you the best of luck should you decide to apply for the post.

Best Wishes

E.L.Nicholas