

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for taking an interest in an opportunity unlike any other. Steyning Grammar School (SGS) has many unique features: it has three separate school campuses, three boarding houses, a four hundred year old Foundation and is one of the largest schools in the country.

In December 2020, SGS became the eighth secondary school and first Church School to join the Bohunt Education Trust (BET). Currently the School is led by two co-headteachers who were asked to 'act up' on the departure of the substantive headteacher before the academy process had been confirmed. The co-heads are supported in their work by an experienced interim executive headteacher from BET who is facilitating the School's induction into the BET partnership whilst supporting the current leadership team.

SGS has boarding provision for 128 students and provides an extra dimension to our offer; previous experience of boarding is not essential but a commitment to engage fully with this important and evolving aspect of school is pre-requisite. Additionally the traditional head's residence, a grade II listed four bedroomed cottage in central Steyning, is provided rent free, if required.

We define our curriculum as the totality of learning experiences students encounter whilst with us – required practicals in Science, bushcraft in the Outdoor Classroom and fieldtrips should all be enjoyable opportunities for learning and challenge with equally high expectations. To do this consistently requires our schools to be exceptional learning environments, not only for our students, but also for our staff.

Our leaders inculcate a culture of innovation through the development of psychological safety, the encouragement of professional collaboration and a deep engagement with the learning process in their school. This approach gives our students unparalleled opportunities and aims to develop them as 'game changers': immersion language teaching in multiple languages, including Mandarin, research for CERN in Greenland, 1-2-1 iPad schemes and, we hope, AI informed interventions!

Another key tenet of life in BET is our disadvantaged student Virtual School, led by its own headteacher. The Virtual School is an innovative and impactful approach to accelerating progress and transforming life chances of disadvantaged students across our schools. Its mission is summed up in four words: 'every child, same chance'. The Head of Virtual School works within the headship team to ensure that all students, regardless of starting point, are able to develop the knowledge, skills and cultural capital that will enable them to achieve highly, through a curriculum that is challenging, engaging and appropriate, and at least equitable with their advantaged peers.

If you feel excited by what SGS has to offer, please do arrange a Covid-secure visit to the School, or virtual meeting with me to discuss the opportunity further as we recognise this job prospect has truly national appeal.

This is a game-changing opportunity for the right person to assume a truly demanding but inspiring headship, and an instrumental place in the BET family.

Please include a covering letter detailing how you meet the requirements. We look forward to hearing from you.

With very best wishes



Neil Strowger
Trust Leader