



## Welcome Letter

Dear Applicant

Thank you for taking the time to consider applying for the headship of Upperthong J. and I. School. As chair of the governing body, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about the context of our school.

We are situated six miles outside the centre of Huddersfield. It is a rural area that is beginning to be a lot more culturally diverse. There are 207 pupils currently on roll, in an area of declining birth rate.

There is a huge strength in the ethos of our school., developed by our Head Teacher of 18 years who is retiring. Staff stay because they feel valued, work collaboratively as a team, with the children at the heart of everything that they do.

The leadership team has been particularly strong for a long time now and the SLT work hard to ensure that they model the expectations of all staff as leaders. They are incredibly ambitious for the school in all senses, the staff, the children, and the community.

The school is recognised by parents and the wider community for the exceptional work they do in ensuring inclusivity. Support for children with different SEND needs is seen as a very great strength of the school. Outcomes for children with SEND are strong, making very great progress from all their differing starting points.

Relationships are a large focus in the building of our positive ethos, and they are strong across all aspects of school life. The school mission statement of Proud to Learn, Achieve and Belong is tangible throughout school. Teamwork is exceptional, including collaborations with Governors.

Our main challenge is to continue to raise the standards of achievement of our pupils by capitalising on the existing strengths of the school, and the extensive curriculum development already in place.

We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic, inspiring, and dedicated leader who will take the school forward building on our strengths in order to meet our challenging targets.

When you visit our school, you will find children who are eager to learn and a dedicated and professional staff team who want the very best for the school community.

I hope I have given you a flavour of Upperthong School. We have every confidence that we will successfully recruit a Headteacher who will help us to continue to develop our vision to provide the best possible educational provision for the benefit of our pupils, their families and the community in which they live.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Patel

Chair of Governors