May 2021

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy for a Teacher of Mathematics. I hope that the provided information is helpful in encouraging you to apply for what is a vital role in our successful school.

As headteacher I am passionate about evidence-informed pedagogy. If you join us, you will be joining a school that believes in investing in you so you are able to develop your skills as a teacher. We are also a growth mindset school and believe that our motto (*Believe. Strive. Achieve.*) captures our philosophy and energy.

De Aston is a successful and vibrant 11-18 school, with excellent facilities and a genuinely comprehensive intake. We are a rural school that takes from a geographical catchment but is also very much at the centre of the local community.

At KS3, students are taught in broad ability bands based on KS2 prior attainment. Regular summative assessments are used to review setting arrangements as necessary. The Year 7 and 8 schemes of learning are currently based on National Curriculum programmes of study, but following a mastery approach. We have recently completed an overhaul of our KS3 schemes of learning to ensure that they provide a solid foundation for KS4. There are also a number of enrichment tasks that can be utilised throughout Years 7 and 8 to promote our learner’s awe and wonder. We endeavour that lessons will contain the opportunity to solve more open-ended problems. In Year 9 the formal teaching of GCSE mathematics begins for all students, with our scheme of learning continuing to follow a mastery approach. The successful applicant will be encouraged to take a full part in our continuing curriculum development. The post offers the successful applicant the opportunity to support the newly appointed Head of Department to make a significant contribution to De Aston’s journey to being an outstanding school.

At KS4, students are taught in one of up to eight ability sets across two bands and work towards the Edexcel GCSE mathematics specifications.

At KS5 students follow the Edexcel A-level syllabus. The department has had a good track record in supporting students with applications to study mathematics or mathematics-based degree courses at university and each year helps prepare students, where appropriate, for STEP papers.

Every year a cohort of students enters the UKMT individual and team challenges. We have close links with the local Advanced Mathematics Support Programme and have taken part in many of their latest G&T mathematics enrichment events. The mathematics department is housed in a dedicated area which contains seven well-resourced classrooms each with an interactive whiteboard, a shared computer suite and a staff working area.

De Aston is a school with a total commitment to comprehensive education and has an outstanding academic and pastoral record. There is also a well-regarded Special Needs Department within the school which caters for a genuinely wide range of pupils of varying backgrounds and abilities. Visitors almost always comment on how friendly and pleasant the students are.

We are proud of our success at receiving Artsmark Gold and Careers Mark Gold. This reflects not only the commitment to and from a dedicated and hardworking staff, but also the enthusiasm and involvement of pupils, and the significance of the school to its locality, which it supports through a number of social, cultural and sporting activities at a level which is surprising given the relative small size of the town.

The successful candidate may be assured that they will be working as part of a committed team and will find a good programme of professional support and career development within the department, the school and the Lincolnshire Schools Teaching Alliance.

Lincolnshire, as a county, offers excellent value for money in the housing market and consequently our standard of living is higher than in other areas of the country. The countryside around Market Rasen is outstanding as we are situated on the edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds which is fast becoming a popular choice as a holiday destination and a good place to live, whilst also having the benefits of the historic city of Lincoln 30 minutes’ drive away.

Please contact Neil Huddlestone, Assistant Headteacher – Professional Standards, should you require any further information or you would like to arrange a visit.

Yours sincerely

Simon Porter

Headteacher

*De Aston School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment*. *All postholders are subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS disclosure.*