



## LORTON SCHOOL

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High Lorton, Cockermouth. CA13 9UL

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3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

Dear enquirer

Thank you for contacting our school regarding the Maternity Leave 0.8FTE Early Years and KS1 teaching vacancy, which is available from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026, or before for handover, if possible. This is a fixed-term maternity cover position, expected to run to approximately May 2027, subject to the postholder's return from maternity leave. This really is an excellent post and it will give the opportunity to the successful applicant to make a positive contribution to Lorton School and to help develop his/her teaching career.

Lorton School dates back to the late nineteenth century. Over the years it has been updated, improved and new buildings added. It is located in the heart of the village and in one of England's most beautiful valleys. It serves a wide catchment area from the head of Buttermere to include the whole Lorton Vale and Embleton; some children from Cockermouth attend the school. The majority of children transfer to Cockermouth School for their secondary education and we have long well-established links with Cockermouth School.

The Local Governing Body is supportive and involved in the life of the school and are supported by The Good Shepherd Trust. The Good Shepherd Trust oversee the work that we do and all of the schools in the Trust benefit from a wealth of knowledge and expertise and a close working relationship.

Parents are extremely supportive and Friends of Lorton School (FOLS) play a key role and are keen to raise money and help the school in appropriate ways. Funds raised are used to provide many enrichment opportunities for the children.

Our last Ofsted Inspection held in the Summer Term of 2025 was very successful and recognised all that the school has done to maintain standards from the previous inspection that was rated as 'good'. You will find a link to the full report on our website.

As part of a small but dedicated team, the individual appointed will be very involved in continuing to shape and lead the school forward and should be interested in gaining experience in wider school development. We hope that our new colleague would contribute fully to life across the school. The key desirable qualities include sense of humour, a willingness to be part of a school team and a genuine and dedicated approach to teaching in this happy, friendly primary school. The teaching commitment is 4 days per week, currently Monday – Thursday, with appropriate PPA time on a Wednesday afternoon, and is teaching a

Executive Head: Jo Laker

Head of School: Olivia Harrison

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Company Number 9341374



mixed age class currently comprising 11 reception, 5 Year 1 and 3 Year 2 pupils, with teaching assistant support.

A job profile and person specification, along with an application form and notes on completing this are all on our school website. Please complete the application and enclose a covering letter indicating what you can offer Lorton School and return it to us by the end of the school day on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Please make clear on your application your career synopsis to date, any experience as a subject leader and leading whole school developments, as well as any curriculum interests/strengths and ensure you provide an email address for referees. We anticipate interviewing short-listed candidates on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March with the interview panel comprising Jo Laker (Executive Headteacher), Olivia Harrison (Head of School) and at least one member of the Local Governing Body. As part of the interview, short-listed candidates will be asked to teach a lesson to a group of pupils and observe our Early Years pupils in continuous provision.

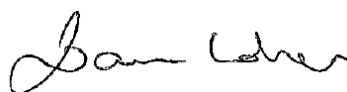
The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in its care and expects all staff to share this commitment. The school recognises that an important element in keeping children safe from harm is to ensure that unsuitable people do not have access to the school. Applicants will be required to undertake pre-employment checks which will include excellent references (to include an assessment of the candidate's suitability to work in a school), health, right to work in the UK and Disclosure and Barring Service. The successful candidate will be expected to follow and contribute to the school's policy for Child Protection (available on the school website). All disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria in the person specification will be interviewed. All applicants will be considered on the basis of suitability regardless of sex, race, gender, religion or belief, marital status or disability. The school is an academy as part of the 'Good Shepherd Trust'. The successful candidate's employment would be with the Good Shepherd Multi Academy Trust although the terms and conditions would be comparable to working for the Local authority.

We would encourage you to come and visit the school if you are able to and meet our wonderful children, who are happy, involved and responsive; please telephone or email to make an appointment. Dates and times for visits are in our advert. We look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely



Olivia Harrison  
Head of School



Jo Laker  
Executive Headteacher

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