

SJT/LG/caw

August 2024

Dear Colleague

We are delighted that you are considering applying for the position of Principal at The Stephen Longfellow Academy.

We seek an outstanding professional who will ensure that children struggling most to succeed in mainstream education in the south of the Leeds city region and beyond reach their full potential by focusing relentlessly on academic progress and attainment combined with the highest standards of therapeutic and psychiatric support. The successful candidate will work with Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and the trust's leadership team to create a truly outstanding academy which is transformational in its impact upon the Leeds city region.

The Stephen Longfellow Academy is an alternative provision based in the South of Leeds that has changed the face of alternative provision, both locally and nationally. Opened in September 2017, the academy serves schools across Leeds to support some of the most vulnerable young people in the city to re-engage with education by following a bespoke curriculum offer that reopens the doors of opportunity that were, at one point, firmly closed. This is because our exceptional team of staff create personalised pathways that combine an academically rich curriculum with personalised therapeutic support. This allows significant numbers of pupils to re-engage in mainstream education or to successfully enter further education, employment or training.

The Stephen Longfellow Academy offers approximately 200 alternative provision places. It is divided into 2 areas, one focusing on primary aged pupils and younger pupils in Key Stage 3, whilst the second focuses on the final three years of a young person's compulsory education.

In any given week all pupils have access to high quality and intensive therapeutic support. Some of those sessions are one to one, others are conducted in very small groups appropriate to the needs of all of the pupils involved.

Schools and local authorities commission places at The Stephen Longfellow Academy at a daily rate and all pupils are dual registered. Some pupils spend only a very short period of time at the academy, for others a much longer stay, possibly more than a year, is required.

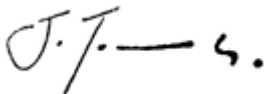
The Stephen Longfellow Academy has as its motto 'We will never give up on you'. It processes no permanent exclusions. The academy continues to ensure that children from some the most troubled and challenging backgrounds in the Leeds city region enjoy and benefit from a fine academic education whilst at the same time being properly supported through psychiatric and therapeutic support which is of the highest standard.

# GORSE

Should you wish to apply you will be required to submit an application form and supporting statement. Your supporting statement should be no longer than 2 sides of A4 and should explain why you are applying for this post and provide evidence of your proven experience and skills, abilities and knowledge. You also need to set out your view of the challenges facing The Stephen Longfellow Academy and how you would oversee its journey to becoming an outstanding institution over the next three years.

We look forward to hearing from you

Yours sincerely



**Sir John Townsley**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Leanne Griffiths**  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer