Briefing Pack for Applicants
Receptionist Administrator

Ecclesfield SCHOOL

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

The school will undertake stringent and rigorous checks of identity and qualifications to ensure that we maintain the very highest standards of child protection for our students.

Minerva Learning Trust

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May we take this opportunity to thank you in anticipation of your application. If, however, you have not heard from us by the proposed date for the interview you should assume that on this occasion your application has not been successful. In that event we wish you every success in any future applications you make.

Section 1: Post Advertisement

Post: Receptionist Administrator
Salary: Grade 3, Point 5; £19,312 to Point 6; £19,698 gross per annum pro rata
Actual Annual Salary: £16,518 to £16,848
Contract: Permanent Full-time, 37 hours per week, 39 working weeks
Start date: As soon as possible

Minerva Learning Trust is an expanding Sheffield based multi-academy Trust with a vision of providing outstanding education for all the students within our schools. The Trust is passionate that all students should see their time at school as happy and fulfilling with their potential developed to the utmost. Ecclesfield School joined the Trust in December 2017 and, as a sponsored academy, is developing this partnership and making rapid improvements for our students and community.

We are seeking to appoint a Receptionist Administrator on a temporary contract. The successful candidate will be responsible for welcoming all visitors and dealing with enquiries, in person, via the telephone and e-mail. Experience of working in a busy reception/office environment is essential. You will be the face of our school providing a professional service to staff, families and their children. We are looking for someone who can work as part of a team to ensure the highest delivery of service. The successful candidate will join an exceptional team of support and administration staff. Teamwork and the community are at the heart of what we do.

The successful candidate will be expected to join our team of trained First Aiders. Working alongside the Medical Support Officer you will assist in the provision of whole school first aid, including first aid treatment for students and staff. Full training will be provided and an allowance of £104 per annum (pro-rata) paid in recognition of these additional duties.

If you have the passion to be a key part of the administration team, are able to positively contribute to our ethos and have the drive to make a difference for our school, we would like to hear from you. Candidates are encouraged to visit the school or have an informal discussion about the role with Mr Hollingworth, Business Support Manager. Arrangements for this can be made by contacting Mrs Revill, Headteacher's PA, via e-mail jrevill1@eccoschool.com

Closing Date is 09:00am on Thursday 19th May 2022 and interviews will take place on Tuesday 24th May 2022.

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Further information is available by contacting Mrs Revill via jrevill1@eccoschool.com The application form and information pack is available on the school website www.ecclesfield-school.com **Please ensure that you do not fill in a Sheffield City Council application form in respect of this vacancy as your application may not be considered**.

Section 2: Letter from the Chief Executive – Bev Matthews

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in this role within Minerva Learning Trust. Minerva Learning Trust was established in October 2014 with the vision of providing outstanding education for pupils who are from a wide variety of backgrounds across the city of Sheffield. During 2017-18 the Trust expanded and brought together four secondary schools across Sheffield to create a new partnership of schools which supports the education of over 5000 pupils. In September 2020, Chapeltown Academy joined the Trust and enhanced the post-16 provision within the Trust in the north of the city and in September 2021, we were delighted that Woodthorpe Community Primary School became the first primary school to join the Trust. We resolutely believe that we are stronger together and that each school within the MAT has individual strengths and we celebrate the diverse and unique qualities of each particular school.

As a Trust our mission, vision and values are central to our work and are the driving force behind all that we do. Our vision of Outstanding Together, Working Together and Learning Together is underpinned by our core values of Inclusion, Independence, Respect and Success. Through our values we foster an ethos of collegiality, we ensure inclusion is at the heart of all we do and we work hard to ensure that every child succeeds, no matter what their background or circumstance.

We recognise that the commitment and care shown by all our staff is fundamental to the success of our young people. As such, we work hard to ensure that staff are supported, encouraged, developed, respected and listened to within an enjoyable and rewarding working environment. Our culture is one of professional trust, respect, honesty and integrity and we want our staff and students to work and learn within an environment that enables them to flourish and to work at their best.

The professional development of staff, including opportunities for research, is a key priority of Minerva Learning Trust. As such, we seek to enrich employee capability and maximise the strength and contribution of each individual who works with us. The Trust believes in investing in the learning and development of its employees through a range of opportunities which are aligned to the needs of the organisation and its young people.

This is an exciting opportunity to join the Trust. If you choose to apply you will be choosing to work alongside a team of dedicated professionals who passionately believe in the power of education to change the life chances of young people.

If you believe you have the experience, skills and ambition to support our aims and contribute to the delivery of the very best for our pupils then we look forward to receiving your application.



Bev Matthews
Chief Executive Officer

Section 3: Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in this role and in our school. Ecclesfield School is a popular and over-subscribed all-ability, 11-16 school. Ecclesfield School joined the Minerva Learning Trust in December 2017. The school is currently experiencing a period of transformation and change.

Here at Ecclesfield School we understand the power of education to transform lives, communities and society. In everything we do we aspire to achieve individual and collective excellence through nurturing every students unique potential to make sure when they leave and enter the outside world they are ready to succeed and make an invaluable contribution to the wider society.

Ecclesfield is a happy, creative, focused and aspirational community that is built on the strong foundations of our broad curriculum, our inclusive ethos, our highly qualified and knowledgeable staff and our enthusiastic students. All our staff ensure that our students are given the very best opportunities through their education. My belief is that people achieve the best outcomes when they enjoy what they are doing, feel safe and are rewarded for their commitment and success. Our philosophy is simple and is based around our core values of Work Hard, Be Kind, Aim High, Show GRIT.

We expect the very highest levels of behaviour and attitude to learning from our students, coupled with a real focus on building positive relationships. We take every opportunity to study a wealth of subjects at both Key Stage 3 and 4. Our wider school life gives students and staff the opportunity to travel all over the world, take part in shows, give back to the local community, be a part of a team, go out into the working world, experience other cultures and meet people from all walks of life.

Support and care are equally important for all members of staff. We have a well-developed Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme at Ecclesfield School that is now supported further by the growing CPD offer from the Trust. Wellbeing is also rightly high on our agenda. We have clear well-being principles in place that guide our work in school and an annual action plan full of suggestions made by staff.

I look forward to receiving your application.



Richard Walkden
Headteacher

Section 4: About Ecclesfield School

OUR ETHOS

Ecclesfield School understands the power of education to transform lives, communities and society. We aspire to achieve individual and collective excellence in all that we do through nurturing every student's unique potential, expanding their horizons and promoting their understanding of the invaluable contributions they can make as citizens in a global society. We recognise the importance of students leading rich and diverse lives and actively pursue a curriculum and pastoral provision which enables them to flourish in this area.

By fostering our students' spirit of engagement, adventure and ingenuity, we will nurture all young people as fully-rounded individuals, providing them with the challenge and support they require to succeed.

ABOUT US

Ecclesfield School is a popular and over-subscribed all-ability, 11-16 school. Ecclesfield School adopted single academy status in April 2014 and has recently joined a Multi Academy Trust. The school is currently experiencing a period of transformation and change. When the school was inspected in January 2017 the decision was made to place the school into 'Special Measures' and a following HMI visit in October 2017 re-affirmed the 'Special Measures' status. The school is fully committed to driving itself forward along its improvement journey.

We have a truly comprehensive intake and aim to serve all of the school community in all of our work. Our intake is drawn largely from North-east Sheffield, including Ecclesfield, Chapeltown and High Green, though many students travel from further afield. Our standard student number per year is 350 and our current roll is 1750, making Ecclesfield one of the largest schools in the city. Ability on intake is broadly average. Around 25% of our students are entitled to free school meals.

The school has around 20% of students on the SEN register. The range of special needs in school is considerable; we have students with speech, language and communication difficulties, physical difficulties and some with moderate to severe learning difficulties. We also have an integrated resource for hearing impaired students who enjoy excellent support whilst accessing mainstream education. In addition, there are also significant numbers of students who have been identified as gifted and talented in a range of areas.

The Senior Leadership Team is comprised of eight colleagues – the Headteacher, two Deputy Headteachers and five Assistant Headteachers, supported by the Business Support Manager and Central Team for the Trust. Senior staff take responsibility for specific and targeted line management of key areas in the school. The school has distributed leadership model in which leaders at all levels increasingly take responsibility for raising standards of attainment and achievement.

Currently we have a teaching staff of over 100 who provide a rich balance of enthusiasm, energy, creativity and experience. Our team of support staff plays a vital part in the success of the school and all are important members of our community. We aim to involve all staff in the life of the school through communication, including daily briefings and regular meetings. Staff development is supported through a highly-effective professional learning policy, which lays emphasis on sharing

good practice internally and driving up standards in teaching and learning. All teaching staff belong to departmental teams led by Curriculum Leaders.

Student leadership in the school is well advanced. The School and Year Councils have been in place for some time and we have a senior prefect group drawn from Year 11 and also a Head Boy and Head Girl. Prefects are also in place in Years 8-10, and these developments are beginning to encourage students to take more responsibility, to share more effectively in decision-making across the school, to provide positive role models for younger students and to contribute more widely to all aspects of school life.

The School is supported by a committed and supportive Local Governing Body, ready to scrutinise and challenge the work of the school. Led by the Chair of Governors, the Local Governing Body works through a series of committees, each supported by a member of the leadership group. The governors take on 'link' roles and are beginning to work effectively with a range of key personnel within the school. The Local Governing Body feed into the Minerva Learning Trust Board who have overall accountability for schools within the Trust.

The curriculum is organised within a 50 period, two-week timetable and we aim to use this vehicle to support and stimulate all students. As a result, a large number of activities and experiences are timetabled for students. These include a two-week period of work experience for all Year 10 students. Many subject departments organise trips and visits; these include trips to local museums, field trips, visits from theatre groups and curriculum-related visits to sites around the country.

At Key Stage 3, students follow a broad and balanced curriculum including the core and foundation subjects, Drama, Information Technology, RE, Art, Music, PE and Technology. All students study Spanish, French or German (with some students going on to pursue two languages at GCSE). In Year 7, with the exception of Maths, all subjects are taught for the year in mixed-ability teaching groups.

At Key Stage 4 we offer a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science (combined trilogy and triple sciences), History or Geography, PHSCE/RE and PE with three further option subjects available. These include Art, Business Studies, Drama, Computer Science, Music, P.E. and Religious Studies. Students can opt for Technical Awards in a range of subjects including Sport, Music, Health and Social Care, CIDA and Engineering. The school is well-placed to meet the demands of the English Baccalaureate with MFL, History and Geography popular option choices. Our most recent performance indicators shows attainment in the EBacc running above the national level. We are confident that our current curriculum model, whilst under constant review, allows us to meet the needs of all students, preparing them fully for life beyond 16.

The extra-curricular life of the school is rich and varied, though this is an area we are always keen to expand. There are more than 170 homework clubs, lunch-time and after-school clubs and teams which offer the opportunity for students to develop and follow their interests and talents in music, drama, sport and academic areas. As a school that particularly values performing and visual arts there are a host of creative opportunities for students to take part in from music lessons and ceramics to the four annual school productions. In terms of sport, a wide range of teams and activities take place, achieving considerable local, regional and, on occasion, national success. There is a strong programme of residential, visits and foreign trips throughout the school from the ski trip and PGL water sports residential to language immersion trips.

We aim to enable all colleagues to fulfil their potential. We are partnered in Initial Teacher Training with Sheffield Hallam University and Sheffield University. We aim to support new colleagues, be

they NQTs or more experienced teachers or support staff, via an induction programme and mentoring scheme which can be tailored to meet their needs. We are also partner members of the Sheffield Teaching School Alliance, centred at Silverdale School, and are looking to build upon our excellent reputation for Professional Learning by taking a leading role in the development of the training arm of the Teaching School Alliance.

We are developing a vibrant learning community in which all students and staff are able to thrive. Our strategic vision is to move this school forwards by retaining a complete commitment to our ethos, our community and the principles of a comprehensive education.

We look forward to your application and thank you for your interest in our school.

Further information about the school including access to the full Ofsted Report can be found on our website: www.ecclesfield-school.com

Section 5: Job Description

Minerva Learning Trust Job Description

Minerva Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

POST TITLE	Receptionist Administrator
GRADE/SALARY	Grade 3, with associated allowances as follows: • Qualified First Aider allowance of £104 gross per annum pro rata.
HOURS/WEEKS	37 hours per week, 39 working weeks
LOCATION	Ecclesfield School
RESPONSIBLE TO	Administration Services Supervisor
RESPONSIBLE FOR	Not applicable.
PURPOSE OF THE JOB	• To provide a professional, efficient and welcoming reception service for all visitors in line with the operational needs of the school. • To provide effective and timely communication face-to-face, over the telephone and by written correspondence. • To ensure the safety of students by following appropriate safeguarding guidelines. • Under the guidance of senior staff; be responsible for undertaking administrative processes within the school to provide an efficient support service within the school.
RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS	• Good standard of literacy to GCSE/Level 2. • First Aid training desirable, however training will be provided.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The post-holder, must at all times, carry out his/her duties and responsibilities within the spirit of Minerva Learning Trust and School policies and within the legislative framework applicable to academies.

MAIN DUTIES

Organisation

- Welcoming all visitors to the school ensuring signing in procedures are followed, undertaking appropriate safeguarding checks and issuing relevant identification.
- Coordinating the arrival of visitors to the school, including groups for events and ensuring appropriate staff are advised.
- Answering the main school telephone line promptly, dealing with telephone enquiries, taking accurate messages and passing them on promptly by the most appropriate method.
- Retrieving and distributing voicemail messages and e-mail enquiries promptly.
- Being aware of all relevant school activities and current staff to ensure enquiries are dealt with efficiently and directed to the correct staff, i.e. parents evening, educational visits, extra-curricular activities and detentions.
- Receiving all deliveries to the school and notifying staff as appropriate.
- Liaising with other stakeholders including other schools, external agencies, parents/carers and members of the public.
- Keeping the reception area tidy informing the Business Support Manager of any Health and Safety issues.

Administration

- To work as part of a team providing high level administrative and clerical support to the school.
- To operate all computer based and manual administrative and information systems within the school in a secure and confidential manner, and in accordance with policy and procedures.
- Supervise, train and develop staff as appropriate.
- Be responsible for completion and submission of complex forms, returns etc., including those to outside agencies, for example, the Department for Education (DFE).

- Assist with the organisation and administration of school trips/events etc. as directed by the trip leader.
- Analyse and evaluate data/information and produce reports/information/data as required.
- Monitor and manage stationery/other stock within an agreed budget, cataloguing resources and undertaking audits as required.
- Arrange hospitality for meetings and whole-school events where appropriate.
- Be part of the team updating information on the school website as and when appropriate.
- Be part of the team of administrators for school systems such as the text messaging system.
- Operate established and new technology-based office equipment.
- A great deal of the information and work dealt with is, of necessity, confidential, and it is important that none of this information is disclosed to any unauthorised person, and that it is dealt with discreetly and with integrity.

First Aider

- To provide whole-school first aid provision for students and staff.
- To undertake associated first aid duties in-line with school policy and procedure.
- Investigate and record near misses and accidents using school systems.
- Support the management and administration of student medical records.
- Control of first aid medical supplies.

General Duties

- To contribute to whole school events as and when required.
- To ensure accurate records are securely maintained and held in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)/Data Protection Act 2018.
- Be aware of and support diversity, ensuring equal opportunities for all.
- Develop professional, constructive relationships with other agencies, schools and professionals.
- Participate in meetings, training and performance development as necessary.
- Recognise own strengths and areas of expertise using these to advise and support others.
- Be willing to undertake training and professional development as required of the post.

- Any other duties and responsibilities appropriate to the grade and role.

Safeguarding

- To be aware of and work in accordance with the school's child protection policies and procedures in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and to raise any concerns relating to such procedures which may be noted during the course of duty.

Health and Safety

- To maintain equipment and via the Business Support Manager and ensure Health and Safety requirements are upheld within the curriculum and performance areas, for example, inspection of resources, etc.
- To maintain associated Health and Safety record.
- To carry out routine inspection and support the compliance process.

Other Specific Duties

- To actively promote school and Trust policies.
- To engage in personal professional development as agreed and engage actively in the performance review process.
- To undertake any other reasonable duties in-line with the nature of the post not mentioned in the above.
- Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified.
- Employees are expected to be courteous to colleagues and provide a welcoming environment to visitors and telephone callers.

General:

1. To be aware of, and comply with, Trust and school policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
2. The above duties are not exhaustive and the post-holder may be required to undertake tasks, roles and responsibilities as may be reasonably assigned to them by the Headteacher and Local Governing Body.
3. This job description will be kept under review and may be amended via consultation with the individual, Headteacher and Local Governing Body as required. Trade Union representatives will be welcome in any such discussions.

Section 6: Person Specification

Minerva Learning Trust Person Specification

Receptionist Administrator

Minimum Essential Requirements	Method of Assessment
EXPERIENCE	
At least two years' experience of working in a busy reception/office environment.	AF/I
Practical experience of telephone network systems, Word processing programmes and other related computer systems including Microsoft Outlook.	AF/I
QUALIFICATIONS	
Good standard of literacy to GCSE/Level 2.	AF/I
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS	
The ability to converse at ease with members of the public and students and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential to the role.	AF/I
Understanding of customer care.	AF/I
Ability to deal with regular interruptions.	AF/I
Ability to maintain a positive approach while working under pressure.	AF/I
Attention to detail.	AF/I
Excellent written and verbal communication.	AF/I
Maintain confidentiality and integrity at all times	AF/I
SKILLS/ATTRIBUTES	
Excellent interpersonal skills – able to deal effectively with a wide range of people at all levels.	AF/I
Flexible and able to adapt to change. Ability to support colleagues and cover roles as and when required.	AF/I
A pleasant disposition and ability to stay calm under pressure.	AF/I
Demonstrate a positive team approach to work.	AF/I
Methodical approach to work tasks with key emphasis on accuracy.	AF/I
Ability to work on own initiative.	AF/I
To have a willingness to participate in the whole school approach to mentoring students and play an active role as directed by line manager.	AF/I
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SAFEGUARDING	
An understanding of safeguarding issues and promoting the welfare of children and young people.	AF/I

A commitment to safeguarding students.	AF/I
Suitability to work with children.	AF/I
A commitment to equal opportunities.	AF/I
Ability to recognise discrimination and willingness to put Equality Policies into practice.	AF/I

Key AA = Assessed activity
:
AF = Application form
I = Interview
R = Reference

Section 7: The Appointment Process

These notes are intended to guide you when making an application.

1. The Application Form

   Complete the application form neatly, fully and accurately, including exact dates. The form may be typed or handwritten but if you do write it by hand please make sure that it is legible and that you use black ink. Indicate clearly on the front page the post you are applying for. You are requested to submit a concise application.

2. Education and Training

   State your qualifications and any training you have undertaken relevant to the post.

3. Present Appointment

   Make it clear what your present post is, which establishment you work in and who your employer is.

4. Previous Appointment

   When completing this section, it is important that you offer a continuous record, or an explanation of any gaps to allow full account to be taken of your experience, for example, child raising, voluntary work.

5. Referees

   Suitable referees are people who have direct, recent experience of your work and who are in responsible positions. We may need to contact them at short notice so please be specific with regard to contact addresses including e-mail and telephone numbers.

6. The Supporting Statement/Letter of Application

   The supporting statement or letter is regarded as a very important part of your application. You should make statements that demonstrate how your qualifications and experience match the post. You should take particular care to demonstrate how you meet the person specification included as part of these details. **Please limit your supporting statement to two sides of A4 in size 11 font**.

7. Arrangements for Interview

   Shortlisted applicants will be contacted as soon as possible after the closing date. Referees are contacted prior to the interview stage for teaching and some support staff posts. We would ask that all shortlisted applicants read the safeguarding information on the school website prior to attending the interview.

8. The Interview

Candidates will be invited to spend a day visiting the school during which time they will have the opportunity to meet staff and students and see the school at work. Interviews are likely to take place in the afternoon.

9. Feedback

Feedback is offered to those candidates who are shortlisted and not recommended for appointment. It is hoped that this information will help you with future applications.

10. Selection for Appointment

Selection is made conditional upon the successful candidate meeting the Trust's requirements for health, physical capacity and conduct.

11. Arrangements for Applications

When you have completed your application, the completed form and covering letter should be e-mailed to jrevill1@eccoschool.com by the closing date.

Section 8: Visitors to Ecclesfield School

Approaching from the north

By car (via M1)

Visitors should leave the M1 at junction 35 and follow the signs for Rotherham/Chapeltown into central Chapeltown. At the mini-roundabout, take the first exit on the left, keeping the railway bridge to your right. This is Chapeltown Road. The school is situated on the right hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about half a mile from the center of Chapeltown.

By Train

Chapeltown station is served by regular services from Barnsley, Leeds and Kirklees. Upon leaving the station, head for the mini-roundabout and turn right, heading up Chapeltown Road. The school is situated on the right hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about half a mile from the center of Chapeltown.

Approaching from Sheffield

By Car

Take the A61 through Hillsborough and continue towards approximately 1 mile until reaching the right-hand filter from the dual carriageway, sign posted Ecclesfield. Follow this road, crossing a mini-roundabout, through the housing estate for approximately two miles, until reaching a T-junction. Turn right. Ecclesfield Parish Church will be on your left hand side. Continue for approximately 600 meters until reaching the T-junction with Chapeltown Road. Turn left. The school is situated on the left hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about 400 meters travel.

By Train

Chapeltown station is served by regular services from Sheffield central station. Upon leaving the station, head for the mini-roundabout and turn right, heading up Chapeltown Road. The school is situated on the right hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about half a mile from the center of Chapeltown.