



The Ridgeway School & Sixth Form College

Candidate Information

January 2023

RESPECT - HONESTY - ENDEAVOUR - CREATIVITY - COMMUNITY

Our School Vision and Purpose

Our shared vision is that our students, colleagues and families will be part of a **FAIR** community.

We will support our school **Family** to **Achieve** their potential, and **Inspire** students to **Reach** the very best destinations.



Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in joining The Ridgeway Community. We are now seeking to appoint dynamic, inspirational staff to join our fantastic school. The following is a personal perspective of this wonderful opportunity to shape the future of our students.

The aim of the school is quite simple, we want to provide the students with an unrivalled education where individuality is celebrated and potential realised. We want our students to develop into well-rounded individuals, ready to be successful in the next stage of their lives.

The Ridgeway School is an unashamedly 'caring' school, and its ethos is a key feature. The ethos contributes significantly to the wellbeing of all members of the school community. It is the mission, of each of the schools within The White Horse Federation, to nurture the students unconditionally and provide them with an education that develops them academically and morally.

Our staff strive to build on the positive relationships that exist in school and the happy environment in which we work. We recognise that relationships are important, and everyone works incredibly hard at this while continuing to have the highest expectations in terms of work and engagement.

I truly believe The Ridgeway School is a beacon of excellence and ultimately a life-changing school for the students of the catchment it serves. If you are up for the challenge of undertaking an important role in order for us to achieve this aim, have a core belief that all students, no matter what their background or ability, can achieve and have a passion for and a clear understanding of outstanding learning, you are definitely the right person for us.

Mr A Cush

Principal



About our School

At The Ridgeway School, the education we provide is guided by values of respect, honesty, endeavour, creativity and community. These values are particularly important to us as we develop the students into lifelong learners and prepare them for a life beyond school.

We are an 11-18, non-selective school where everyone, staff and students, strive to be the best they can be. We are proud of our warm and welcoming community, in which everyone participates to make a positive contribution. The language spoken is about aiming to be the best we can be. Teachers are unrelenting and ensure there are no limits or barriers to student achievement. Students enjoy their school lives and are proud of their school. Every decision we make has the students' best interests at the core.

Expectations are high and our students' approach to the community and learning is fantastic. At Ridgeway the small things matter and it is these marginal gains that impact on the holistic educational experience on offer. We encourage participation in a wide range of educational and life-enriching activities, finding a variety of ways to celebrate success and individuality. By the time students finish their education with us, they will have been challenged academically and nurtured into brilliant young adults.



Our Academic Performance

Consistently one of the highest performing schools in the area, The Ridgeway School and Sixth Form College attracts students from 33 different primary schools. We value the development of every student and believe in a broad and balanced curriculum that focuses on creativity, innovation and developing skills that are transferable across subject areas. These values are coupled with a strong academic core. In 2022, 61% of students achieved 5+ including English and Mathematics.

The Sixth Form offers a broad range of Level 3 courses to 200 students. 2022 saw Ridgeway's best ever A level results with an A*- B pass rate of 57%. The number of A*/A grades increased to 32%. All Sixth Form students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities, including EPQ, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, Sports Leaders, Ridgeway Stage Academy or to demonstrate leadership by assisting in the classroom with younger students. Approximately 80% of our Sixth Formers regularly go on to university, with 30% studying at Russell Group universities.

In the lower school, students are set from Year 7 in English, Maths, Science, MFL and Humanities and taught in mixed ability groups for PE, Technology and Creative and Performing Arts.

The school day is structured in five sixty minute lessons. There are four thirty minute mentoring sessions a week. An extensive enrichment programme is also offered to all students for one thirty minute slot per week, in addition to the extra-curricular offering.



Our Curriculum

Our curriculum inspires learners for their future, turning aspiration into brilliant outcomes. Our curriculum is lived every minute, every day, creating a caring and inspiring learning environment where everyone's achievements are valued.

Our curriculum implementation coupled with our outstanding relationships support us in developing confident, mature and engaging young people who believe in themselves and their abilities.

 The Ridgeway Model for Curriculum Planning 					
Intent					
A -F Curriculum Statement					
Academic and ambitious			Driven by values		
Balanced and inclusive			Enriched with opportunities		
Core of literacy, oracy and numeracy			Furthered by foundation and hinterland knowledge		
Content					
National Curriculum links <i>How our curriculum links to the national framework</i>	Core Knowledge <i>What core knowledge is required?</i>	Hinterland Knowledge <i>The knowledge that lies beyond the curriculum that creates a love of the subject</i>	Cultural knowledge <i>How our knowledge deepens our understanding of the world around us</i>		
Sequencing					
Knowledge mapping <i>How our knowledge builds cumulatively across a period of time</i>	Assessment design <i>Assessment embeds knowledge, checks understanding and informs teaching</i>		Cross Curricular links <i>The curriculum supports students in making synoptic links within and across subjects</i>		
Implementation					
Do Now <i>Our lessons begin with engaging, mapped knowledge retrieval. 5 in 5.</i>	Explanation <i>Core knowledge is presented clearly, supporting students using dual coding and chunking</i>	SEN 6 <i>Our lessons incorporate the following strategies to support our SEN learners: seating plans, scaffolding, chunking, dual coding, effective use of LSAs, LEARN.</i>	I do/We Do Modelling <i>Live modelling is used to support students to apply knowledge</i>	You do - Deliberate practice <i>Students work hard and independently to apply their knowledge and develop skills</i>	Review of learning <i>Learning reviews support students to commit content to the long-term memory and informs teaching</i>
RESPECT HONESTY ENDEAVOUR CREATIVITY COMMUNITY					

Our Staff

One of the things that makes The Ridgeway School such a special place in which to work is the exceptional relationships between our staff and students. This is due in no small part to our highly dedicated, experienced, hardworking and friendly staff. Many staff have their own children at the school, some live locally and all staff are proud to be part of the local Ridgeway community. We value all of our staff and understand the way in which each of them can contribute to the further development of our school, irrespective of experience. Sharing of best practice is common place. Staff are encouraged to embrace opportunities to develop themselves and our excellent EQT, ETP and OTP programmes support this. The wide range of extra-curricular activities offered by The Ridgeway is a further indication of the committed and loyal nature of our staff working together to provide the best possible experience for our students.



What we can offer

We believe in the limitless potential of students and staff. Our staff body will have the opportunity to build something unique and lasting in Swindon. As a team we will shape a school culture that creates an environment where everyone excels. Growing numbers will mean that staff will gain a broad experience of education and develop skills as the school expands. Our CPD programme will support development and as the school grows, opportunities to lead across Ridgeway will ensure our staff career progression.

Our staff body will also benefit from:

- An exciting dynamic work environment where staff and student culture are central
- An opportunity to shape a broad and challenging curriculum allowing our students to be successful throughout their lives
- Opportunities to lead at all levels as well as career progression
- The ability to work with our partner schools across the White Horse Federation

The White Horse Federation is a not-for-profit multi-academy trust that supports and sponsors many primary, secondary, and special schools across Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Swindon, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire. Our shared vision for excellence through partnership means we are also committed to upholding and celebrating the best of what makes a local school great – in other words, the qualities and characteristics that shape the type of school every member of our federation would be proud to send their own children to.

The White Horse Federation combines a relentless drive for academic excellence with a shared moral purpose and shared values, while ensuring that fun and happiness are a key attribute of each of our schools. We genuinely believe that partnership – working with its schools, pupils, and their parents, as well as the wider community – helps to create the best possible outcomes for all children. The White Horse Federation empowers its colleagues through support, training, and career opportunities to recruit and retain outstanding staff who are leaders in their field. That way, we are able to ensure that every student achieves their full potential, regardless of their background, culture, heritage, or ability.

The Role

We are looking to recruit an exceptional class teacher to achieve our vision and work together to create a genuinely exceptional school.

We are looking for someone with sky-high expectations of what all children can achieve, regardless of barriers; someone who believes, as we do, that all children are entitled to access the full richness of a broad and often academic curriculum, and will thrive if given appropriate support to access and succeed in that curriculum.

The successful candidate will be:

- A dynamic, inspirational and enthusiastic classroom practitioner with high expectations in your own classroom
- Fully committed to learning, high quality teaching and raising standards of all students
- Passionate about your subject; able to inspire and motivate students and staff
- Committed to ensuring all students reach their potential
- Able to recognise opportunities and face challenges, whilst maintaining your sense of humour and care for young people
- Capable of promoting partnerships and collaborative working
- A role model for our students and staff

Safeguarding

The White Horse Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. If successful for this position, you will be expected to apply for a disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service before your appointment is confirmed. References will be sought on shortlisted candidates before interviews take place.

The Application Process and Visits...

We are thrilled you would like to apply to join our Trust!

Visits to the school are encouraged. To arrange an appointment please contact Zoe Vallender (PA to the Principal) via vallenderz@ridgewayschool.com

Please complete an application form via Eteach or visit our careers page:
www.thewhitehorsefederation.org.uk/careers

