

Teacher of Geography

Candidate Application Pack



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"A caring and supportive ethos permeates the school. Relationships are exceptionally strong between pupils and staff. Pupils behave extremely well. They are polite, articulate and considerate." (Ofsted October 2022)



Message from Nicky Archer, Headteacher

Thank you for showing an interest in the role of **Teacher of Geography** here at Fort Pitt Grammar School. This is a really important appointment for us and the successful applicant will be integral in ensuring our high educational standards and expectations are met.

Recently described as a **"remarkable place to learn"** (Ofsted 2022, to read the full report please click <u>here</u>), Fort Pitt is also a wonderful place to work. Our staff are proud to work here and we have strived to ensure workload and the wellbeing of staff is a key priority.

Our aim is a simple one; to be the best school in the country, and by that we mean that all of our students receive a better education here than they would if they went to any other school in the whole country. Fort Pitt is a vibrant and dynamic school with high expectations and great ambitions for all of our students.

As a grammar school, academic rigour is part and parcel of our teaching, and we believe that the biggest factor influencing students' success is the quality of the learning experience they receive both in and out of lessons. We are looking for an outstanding person with the drive, tenacity and commitment to help ensure that student wellbeing is a key focus for the school moving forward.

As a school our popularity continues to grow year upon year, and as a result there will of course be future promotion opportunities for the right candidate. At Fort Pitt the happiness of students and staff is central to what we do. This application pack will only give you a little flavour as to what 'we are all about' but it gives a good indication. I believe in all of us working together to ensure the best outcomes for the young people we have been entrusted with. They get one chance to get it right, so it is vital we help them every step of the way. I do expect everyone to work hard, but I also want people to enjoy themselves whilst doing so!

You will find further information on Fort Pitt Grammar School in this pack, on our website, and via our social media channels, visits are also encouraged and warmly welcomed, and will of course follow COVID-19 protocols. If you wish to visit please contact my PA Mary Burling, on 01634 842359 or headteacher@fortpitt.co.uk.

I believe that Fort Pitt is a fantastic place to work and hope that having read the information, you agree and decide to make an application.

I look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Archer Headteacher





About Fort Pitt

At Fort Pitt, our values run through everything we do, and reflect our culture of ensuring our girls' happiness is at the heart of all our decisions; they are a set of core beliefs devised by both students and staff, which we feel encapsulates what we wish our students to strive towards during their seven years with us.



Fort Pitt opened as a grammar school in 1984 and is one of the remaining 163 out of 3109 secondary schools. Prior to this it was the first technical school for girls in the country and opened in 1926 serving the communities of Rochester and Chatham. Our history is deep rooted in the local area with its oldest building dating from 1853 when it was a military hospital during the Crimean war and Florence Nightingale's first teaching hospital. Visited three times by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, the buildings, estate and school continue to be of national historical significance.

The school's values of 'aspirational, resilient, collaborative, respectful and successful' pervade all aspects of school life. (Ofsted October 2022)



Teacher of Geography 4 of 19 We are not a 'super-selective' school and accept any student who has passed the Medway 11+ test. We do not rank students according to test scores when awarding places, differing from most other grammar schools. Our oversubscription criteria are very inclusive. The Trustees and Governors are committed to keeping the entry criteria as they are so that more students, including boys, have the opportunity to benefit from a grammar school education at KS5, even if they did not have this opportunity at KS3 and KS4.

We are known for having a strong supportive ethos providing an individualised approach to both pastoral care and academic support. We have a thriving Sixth Form, which became co-educational in September 2013. The school is comprised of five forms of entry in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and four in Year 11. The Fort Pitt community is comprised of six houses: Aderin, Angelou, Attenborough, Kahlo, Mandela and Turin. House names were put forward through surveys from both staff and students, and decided through a whole school vote.

At the centre of all that we do is high-quality learning and teaching, whilst maintaining the wellbeing of both staff and students. We have worked tirelessly to ensure teacher workload is as balanced as possible, and that everyone can focus their skill and time on delivering excellent lessons.

Most importantly, Fort Pitt is a supportive, caring, nurturing, challenging and fun place to study and work.



In addition to this we are members of the Beyond Schools Trust, a Trust with a strong belief in the value of lifelong learning, and one that fully prepares children, so they have the skills, knowledge, values and character to be successful in the world beyond our doors. Everything we do is aimed at providing our staff with the resources and leadership to achieve their best. We believe that a happy, supported and motivated team create the best environment and opportunities for students to achieve their full potential.



Welcome from our Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to Beyond Schools Trust

We are an ambitious organisation of 5 schools, serving the educational needs of nearly 4,000 children and young people aged 3 to 19.

Our academies are based in a tight geographical area drawing students and employees from Kent and Medway in the Southeast of England.

We employ around 600 people in a range of roles designed to support children to be successful when they leave the Trust. We also rely on the time and commitment of over 70 volunteer Trustees and Governors, who share our ambitions for our schools and our students. These are expressed in our vision, our mission, and our values.

We have a strong belief in the value of lifelong learning and in this plan, we set out to develop a Trust that fully prepares children, so they have the skills, knowledge, values, and character to be successful in the world beyond our doors. We also believe that our greatest asset as an organization, is our people, and we are privileged to be involved with such courageous, committed and child-centred employees. Everything we do is aimed at providing our staff with the resources and leadership to achieve their best. We believe that a supported and motivated staff create the best environment and opportunities for students to achieve their full potential.



Andrew Minchin - CEO



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About the Beyond Schools Trust

Our vision is simple:

To be the most respected family of schools - trusted to provide the highest quality of educational experiences in our communities.

We believe that by working together, rather than in isolation, we can accelerate school improvement and embed our vision in our academies. In working and collaborating towards our common strategic objectives, we can create more opportunities for lifelong success for our students.

The fundamental philosophy behind the Beyond Schools Trust's vision and strategic plan is all about thinking beyond the present day; looking at what is right for our students and staff both now and in the longer term.

Put simply we strive to:

- Develop and retain the best employees that know how to provide the best educational experience
- Support, motivate and reward our employees to go above and beyond for our students
- Be responsive to our students' and employees' needs so they are prepared for a rapidly changing world.

Our Values

Everyone in our Trust has a part to play in bringing the ethos and culture of our values alive. We are committed to ensuring everyone knows why we should value each other and how we should value each other, so we can create a community where we all aspire to succeed. Our values are not the static states of play but things we are always striving to develop and uphold as part of our culture.



Our Mission

To provide opportunities for everybody to be the best they can be.

We want every one of our students, teachers, or Governors to be the best that can be. We will work tirelessly to support them to reach their potential.



Beyond Schools Trust, Fort Pitt Grammar School, Fort Pitt Hill, Chatham, Kent ME4 6TJ 01634 888115 www.beyondschools.co.uk hello@beyondschools.co.uk



Job Description – Teacher of Geography

Overall Responsbility

- To support the leadership team to ensure excellent levels of student progress and attainment
- To support the leadership team to faciliate and develop all students' personal development, confidence and esteem

General

- Carry out the professional duties of a teacher as circumstances may require under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher.
- Perform, in accordance with any directions, which may reasonably be given to you by the Headteacher from time to time, such particular duties as may reasonably be assigned to you.
- Promote the general progress and well-being of individual pupils and of any class or group of pupils assigned to you.
- Promote the Fort Pitt Values

Learning and teaching

- Delivering excellent lessons
- Support the Head of Geography in increasing achievement in both subject areas
- Promote students' learning and progress Geography
- Deliver an engaging and broad curriculum to all students

Progress and achievement

- To support the Head of Geography in delivering exceptional outcomes
- To support the Head of Geography in securing high-quality teaching resources for all students

Wellbeing

- Help celebrate student successes in Geography
- Support students' mental and physical wellbeing

Guidance and Support

- Work as part of a team to aid the curriculum development of Geography
- Help develop a culture of high expectations and aspirations
- Help develop a successful student extra-curricular programme

Team

Work collaboratively with the Trust Geography teams



Section 1 – Geneal Teaching Duties

A teacher must:

1. Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge Pupils

- establish a safe and stimulating environment for pupils, rooted in mutual respect
- set goals that stretch and challenge pupils of all backgrounds, abilities and dispositions
- demonstrate consistently the positive attitudes, values and behaviour which are expected of pupils.

2. Promote good progress and outcomes by pupils

- be accountable for pupils' attainment, progress and outcomes
- plan teaching to build on pupils' capabilities and prior knowledge
- guide pupils to reflect on the progress they have made and their emerging needs
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how pupils learn and how this impacts on teaching
- encourage pupils to take a responsible and conscientious attitude to their own work and study.

3. Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge

- have a secure knowledge of the relevant subject(s) and curriculum areas, foster and maintain pupils' interest in the subject, and address misunderstandings
- demonstrate a critical understanding of developments in the subject and curriculum areas, and promote the value of scholarship.
- demonstrate an understanding of and take responsibility for promoting high standards of literacy, articulacy and the correct use of standard English, whatever the teacher's specialist subject

4. Plan and teach well-structured lessons

- impart knowledge and develop understanding through effective use of lesson time
- promote a love of learning and children's intellectual curiosity set homework and plan other out of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired
- reflect systematically on the effectiveness of lessons and approaches to teaching
- contribute to the design and provision of an engaging curriculum within the relevant subject area(s).

5. Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils

- know when and how to differentiate appropriately, using approaches which enable pupils to be taught effectively
- have a secure understanding of how a range of factors can inhibit pupils' ability to learn, and how best to overcome these
- demonstrate an awareness of the physical, social and intellectual development of children, and know how to adapt teaching to support pupils' education at different stages of development
- have a clear understanding of the needs of all pupils, including those with special educational needs;



• those of high ability; those with English as an additional language; those with disabilities; and be able to use and evaluate distinctive teaching approaches to engage and support them.

6. Make accurate and productive use of assessment

- know and understand how to assess the relevant subject and curriculum areas, including statutory assessment requirements
- make use of formative and summative assessment to secure pupils' progress
- use relevant data to monitor progress, set targets, and plan subsequent lessons
- give pupils regular feedback, both orally and through accurate marking, and encourage pupils to respond to the feedback.

7. Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning Environment

- have clear rules and routines for behaviour in classrooms, and take responsibility for promoting good and courteous behaviour both in classrooms and around the school, in accordance with the school's behaviour policy
- have high expectations of behaviour, and establish a framework for discipline with a range of strategies, using praise, sanctions and rewards consistently and fairly
- manage classes effectively, using approaches which are appropriate to pupils' needs in order to involve and motivate them
- maintain good relationships with pupils, exercise appropriate authority, and act decisively when necessary.

8.Fulfil wider professional responsibilities

- make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school
- develop effective professional relationships with colleagues, knowing how and when to draw
 on advice and specialist support deploy support staff effectively take responsibility for
 improving teaching through appropriate professional development, responding to advice and
 feedback from colleagues communicate effectively with parents with regard to pupils'
 achievements and well-being

Section 2 – Personal & profession Conduct

A teacher is expected to demonstrate consistently high standards of personal and professional conduct.

The following statements define the behaviour and attitudes which set the required standard for conduct throughout a teacher's career.

- teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by:
- treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position
- having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions
- showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others
- not undermining fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs



- ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law.
- Teachers must have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school in which they teach, and maintain high standards in their own attendance and punctuality
- Teachers must have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.

Generic duties relevant to all members of staff

It is expected that all staff work collaboratively as members of the Trust to share good practice, resources, and ideas and realise the Trust's visions and aims. All staff should act with professional integrity at all times, following the "Code of Conduct".

Equality and Inclusion

The Trust is dedicated to creating an environment free of bullying, harassment, victimization, and unlawful discrimination, promoting dignity and respect for all, and where individual differences and the contributions of ALL staff are recognised and valued. It is therefore the responsibility of staff to conduct themselves to help the Trust provide equal opportunities in employment, and prevent bullying, harassment, victimisation, and unlawful discrimination. All staff, as well as the Trust, can be held liable for acts of bullying, harassment, victimisation, and unlawful discrimination, in the course of their employment, against colleagues/staff, pupils, contractors, stakeholders and members of the public.

Safeguarding

Beyond Schools Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and all staff must ensure that the highest priority is given to following the guidance and regulations put in place. All staff are to have due regard for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and to follow the child protection procedures as set out by Beyond Schools Trust. Any safeguarding or child protection issues must be acted upon immediately by informing the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the site where you are located.

ICT

All staff will be expected to utilise ICT and to improve communication and reduce paper use where possible. Security procedures must be followed when using ICT systems and particular care and attention should be taken with any communications that may result in a breach of GDPR. All staff are expected to follow (and ensure students follow) the procedures as laid out in the Trust's Acceptable Use Policy. Staff are also expected to ensure that they follow Trust policies with regard to professional conduct when using ICT systems or Trust ICT equipment.

Health and Safety

Employees are required to work in compliance with the Trust's Health & Safety Policies and under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (as amended), ensuring the safety of all parties they come into contact with, such as members of the public, in premises or sites controlled by the Trust.



In order to ensure compliance, procedures should be observed at all times under the provision of safe systems of work through safe and health environments, including information, training, and supervision necessary to accomplish those goals.

Teaching and Learning

This is our core business and therefore it is an absolute priority. Although this role is not a direct teaching role, you are expected to support all teaching staff, irrespective of seniority, to ensure they concentrate on the core business. This may mean undertaking tasks outside of your area of responsibility where required.

This job description forms part of the contract of employment of the person appointed to the post. The duties, responsibilities and accountabilities highlighted in this job description are indicative and may vary over time at the discretion of the Trust and the Head of People. This job description will be reviewed annually and is an integral part of the Appraisal and line management process.



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Person Specification

Qualifications	
EssentialQualified Teacher StatusGood Honours degree	DesirableEvidence of further training
Experience	
 Essential Evidence of successful classroom teaching Ability to motivate students Ability to stretch and challenge students Ability to inspire parents, staff and all other stakeholders 	 Desirable Involvement in extra-curricular activities including but not limited to school productions
Professional Knowledge and understand	ing
 Essential Good understanding of pedagogy and strategies to raise attainment Ability to listen and foster positive relationships Good levels of emotional intelligence Awareness of child protection and safeguarding 	 Desirable Successful record of working with high ability students Up-to-date knowledge of current educational developments
Skills and Attributes	
 Essential Ability to enthuse and engage all students Ability to work successfully as part of a team, sharing good practice ICT and computing skills 	 Desirable Experience of raising student aspirations and ambitions
Personal Qualities	
 Essential Drive, grit, innovation and creativity Enthusiasm, positivity and a sense of humour! Honesty, integrity and a desire to put students at the heart of all you do A willingness to 'get stuck in' and help make the school exceptional! Commitment to inclusion, diversity and equality 	 Desirable Ability to be reflective, adaptable and self- critical Ability to empathise



Summary of Terms & Conditions

Start date:	Easter or September 2023
Contract Type:	Full-time, permanent
Place of Work:	Fort Pitt Grammar School Fort Pitt Hill, Chatham, Kent ME4 6TJ
Hours & days of work:	32.5 hours per week Monday to Friday
Salary:	Main pay scale/Upper pay scale
Induction Period:	This post has a 6-month induction period.
Pension:	Membership of the Teacher Pension Scheme for teaching staff
Notice period:	As per Conditions of Service for School Teachers – Burgundy Book
Car insurance:	Trust employees who use their private vehicles in the course of their duties must be covered with their insurers to cover business liability



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Benefits

Benenden Healthcare:	Non-contributory membership of B	enenden Healthcare Scheme.
Continuing Professional Development:	A comprehensive induction prograr commitment to continuing profe Trust.	
Staff Wellbeing:	Whole Trust approach to well-being	g.
Pension Scheme:	All teachers will automatically be enrolled into the Teachers' Pension Scheme . Contribution bandings are based on actual salary. Contribution rates from 1 st April 2022 are as follows:	
	Annual Salary Rate from 1 st	Member contribution
	April 2022	Rate
	Up to £29,187.99 £29,188 to £39,290.99	7.4% 8.6%
	£39,291 to £46,586.99	9.6%
	£46,587 to £61,742.99	10.2%
	£61,743 to £84,193.99	11.3%
	£84,194 and above	11.7%
Other Benefits:	Two-week, half-term break in Octo	ber
Family Friendly Policies:	The Trust offers generous family friendly policies including maternity, paternity, shared parental leave and adoption.	
Cycle Scheme:	The Trust is a member of the Cycle	to Work Scheme.
Car Parking:	Free onsite parking	
Catering:	On site catering at affordable price	'S
Employee Discounts schemes:	Details available upon joining	



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The Recruitment Process

Interview date: Week commencing Monday 12th December 2022

We reserve the right to bring forward the closing date where interest and applications received are high, therefore we encourage early applications.

To apply please complete an application form which can be found on the Trust's website - <u>Our</u> <u>Vacancies | Beyond Schools Trust</u> Completed application forms should be returned by the closing date to <u>headteacher@fortpitt.co.uk</u>

If you wish to discuss the role, please contact <u>headteacher@fortpitt.co.uk</u> or Mary Burling on 01634 842359

The application form:	Please complete the application form as fully as possible. Gaps in employment do need to be explained, therefore please provide as much information as possible. For example, if you undertook a gap year or had a period of unemployment, please state this.
	All applications will be acknowledged, and you will be contacted thereafter of next steps.
Right to work in the UK:	Unfortunately, if you do not have right to work in the UK, we are unable to process your application. If you are invited to attend an interview, you will be asked to produce original and up-to-date documentary evidence of your right to work in the UK.
Safeguarding:	Safeguarding is our highest priority; therefore, pre-employment checks will be undertaken prior to a successful candidate joining. This includes references from current or most recent employer, an enhanced DBS with children's barred list check, and original certificates of qualifications will also need to be provided. It is an offence to apply for a role if you are barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children. If you are shortlisted for interview, you will be required to complete a self-disclosure form this will be sent with your invite to interview and must be completed, signed, and returned prior to interview. The Trust will also undertake an online search as part of its safeguarding duties at offer stage. The schools safeguarding Policy can be found <u>here</u>
CV:	We do not wish to see your CV so please do not include it.
Cover letter:	A cover letter can be provided, though not essential. Do keep to a maximum of one page.



Supporting Statement:	Your supporting statement is important and will be the basis of our shortlisting and progressing your application, therefore you need to ensure you answer the following as concisely as possible:
	 Why you believe you are a strong candidate for the position. Set out impact you have made in your current/previous positions. Make reference to the job description and person specification to set out how you meet the criteria.
References:	Do provide referee details as outlined, please ensure you indicate whether references can be taken up before interview.
Additional skills:	Aside from your professional skills relevant to the role you are applying for we are interested in you as an individual, therefore do share with us any additional skills, hobbies, and abilities that you would like us to know about
Equal opportunities monitoring:	This will be kept separate from your application and used only for monitoring purposes by the HR department
Special arrangements:	Please do set out in the application form any special arrangements we should try to make if you are invited to interview.
Retention of Personal Information:	Any information supplied by an unsuccessful candidate will be destroyed six months after date of shortlisting.
	Any data about you will be held securely with access restrict to those involved in dealing with your application in the selection process. By signing and submitting your application form, you are giving consent to the processing of your data.
	Our Privacy policy is available on our <u>Our Vacancies Beyond Schools</u> <u>Trust</u>
Equality and Diversity:	We recognise the benefits of a diverse workforce. We are committed to eradication discrimination in the workplace, becoming an employer of choice, for all staff to believe that they have a voice and be empowered to make a difference.
Criminal Convictions:	All education establishments in the UK are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. In practice, this means that all applicants must inform on all spent and unspent convictions on the application form and when completing a Discloser and Barring form. Failure to provide this information may result in dismissal. List 99 is also obtained on anyone who will be working on or coming into contact with children; and must be received by the school before employment can commence



Teacher of Geography





We are seeking a passionate Teacher of Geography to join our outstanding, happy and vibrant school.

You will be an inspirational teacher with excellent subject knowledge and the ability to deliver high quality teaching and inspire a life-long love of learning.

To be successful at Fort Pitt, you will:

- Teach to a high standard at GCSE and A Level
- Be passionate about the learning and teaching of Geography
- Have high expectations of all students
- Be a team player with good communication skills
- Go above and beyond to ensure students make great progress
- Be relentless in ensuring exceptional outcomes for all our students
- Be committed, hard-working and have a sense of fun!

In return, we will offer you:

- A happy school where all students are enthusiastic and keen to learn
- An incredibly supportive group of colleagues and leaders
- A personalised CPD programme to provide first-rate preparation towards promotion
- A two-week October half-term
- Non-contributory membership of Benenden Healthcare

Please visit <u>Our Vacancies | Beyond Schools Trust</u> for a full job description and application form. Completed application forms should be returned by the closing date to <u>headteacher@fortpitt.co.uk</u>

Visits to the school are strongly encouraged. For further information and to arrange a school visit, please contact **Mary Burling on 01634 842359** or <u>headteacher@fortpitt.co.uk</u>

We reserve the right to bring forward the closing date where interest and applications received are high, therefore we encourage early applications

Safeguarding commitment

The **Beyond School Trust** is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all staff and students. Any offer of appointment will be subject to satisfactory references, an enhanced DBS with children's barred list and online check will be required for all successful applicants.

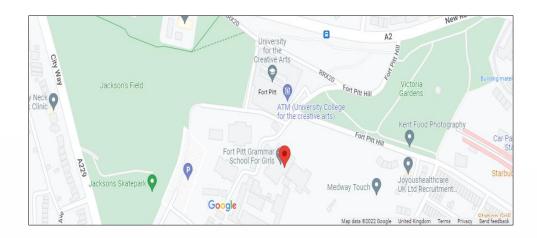
Equality & Inclusivity Statement

At **Beyond Schools Trust** we strive to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where we can ALL be ourselves. We particularly encourage applications from under-represented communities, including but not limited to those who identify as Black, Asian or from a minority ethnic background.



Our Location

Fort Pitt Grammar School Fort Pitt Hill Chatham Kent ME4 6TJ Tel: 01634 842359 Email: office@fortpitt.co.uk Website: www.fortpitt.co.uk what3words:https://w3w.co/sofa.land.mime



Living and working in Medway

On the banks of the River Medway from which it takes its name, Medway is the second largest conurbation (after Brighton) between London and continental Europe. This combined with its comprehensive transport links, makes Medway a gateway to the capital, the county of Kent and the continent.

A multi-million-pound regeneration programme is currently transforming Medway's landscape bringing 29,000 new homes, many of them stunning riverfront developments. Its ambitious vision provides economic and housing opportunities across all five major towns – all of which act as a magnet for a diverse range of businesses, property hunters and investors.

"Its comprehensive transport links make Medway a gateway to the capital, the county of Kent and the continent."

Families and commuters are attracted to Medway by the choice of accommodation and facilities in Medway and can live close to schools, railways, and town centres, including Rochester's historic high street. Not only does Medway boast the biggest regeneration zone within the Thames Gateway, but it is surrounded by award-winning green spaces and world-renowned heritage sites. Medway's housing landscape is very diverse – from Victorian period properties and cottages to newly-developed modern builds and suburban developments. There is something for everyone from families big and small to couples and individuals wanting to find their perfect home.

Medway has the lowest council tax in Kent and one of the lowest rates in the M25 corridor.

Medway is a place in which you can enjoy both living and working. A thriving business location but also within an easily commute to London and yet beautifully green with seven green flags accredited parks. It's a great place to put down roots and make a life.

More than 80% of Medway schools have an OFSTED rating of good or better and it is home to 4 universities.

