

# Candidate Brief

**Teaching Assistant**



# Welcome

Thank you for the interest in this post. EQUA Mead Learning Trust is a family of like-minded schools, that collaborate to provide mutual support, share best practice and learn from each other, whilst retaining and developing each school's individual and distinctive character. We believe every child has the right to an inspiring and fulfilling education and we seek to improve the life chances of all those we serve; therefore, we make it our mission to give **Every Child, Every Chance** of success.

At EQUA Mead, we are an inclusive, passionate and forward-looking educational organisation. We are a Trust of seventeen primary schools, two secondary schools and eight nurseries, all based in Wiltshire. In addition, we have three additional schools joining us in September 2025. Across our schools, we also have four Resource Bases that provide specialist education to children and young people with complex needs.

We believe in the power of education to transform lives and shape a brighter future. We are dedicated to fostering a strong sense of community where everyone works together to achieve their very best. At all of our schools, we do all we can to enable each child and young person to realise their full potential and to develop positive social and moral values.

We understand that successful schools are rooted in their local community. We respect and value the individual nature and ethos of each school while knowing we are more effective when we work together and support each other. We are a mixed Trust that benefits from both church and non-church-based schools and we actively celebrate this diversity. We are highly inclusive and collaborate closely to promote a culture of openness and integrity.

We thrive on providing a wealth of support to schools and seek to empower school leaders. Our CPD, NPQs, ITT, networks, training, research programmes and range of courses underpin a comprehensive development programme for all staff, whilst ensuring wellbeing is at the centre of all decision making.

We have lots more information about EQUA Mead on our website ([www.equamead.org](http://www.equamead.org)), however, If at any stage, you would like to find out more, please do feel free to get in touch.

Paul Skipp  
CEO, EQUA Mead Learning Trust



Every Child, Every Chance



# Castle Mead School

**Headteacher:** Mrs Emma Larkham

**Ofsted rating:** Good (March 2023)

**Address:** Mascroft Road, Trowbridge BA14 6GD

**Contact:** [admin@castlemead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@castlemead.wilts.sch.uk) | 01225 768641 | [www.castlemead.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.castlemead.wilts.sch.uk)

Castle Mead School was built in 2014 as a new school for the Castle Mead estate. The school continues to grow in size and when full there will be two classes in each year group with over 400 children on roll. There is a Resource Base providing specialist support for children with a range of complex needs. The school has a strong community feel and staff pride themselves on supporting children to be effective citizens in school and wider society. The school offers an exceptional learning environment, including specialist music and technology rooms, and group learning rooms. The Early Years classes have access to enclosed outdoor play areas that can be used all year round. The school also has extensive grounds and a fantastic outdoor space, which now includes a trim trail. Children grow their own fruit and vegetables and have chickens as part of the school environment.

The school was delighted to be judged Good in all areas by Ofsted in its first inspection in June 2017, and again in March 2023.

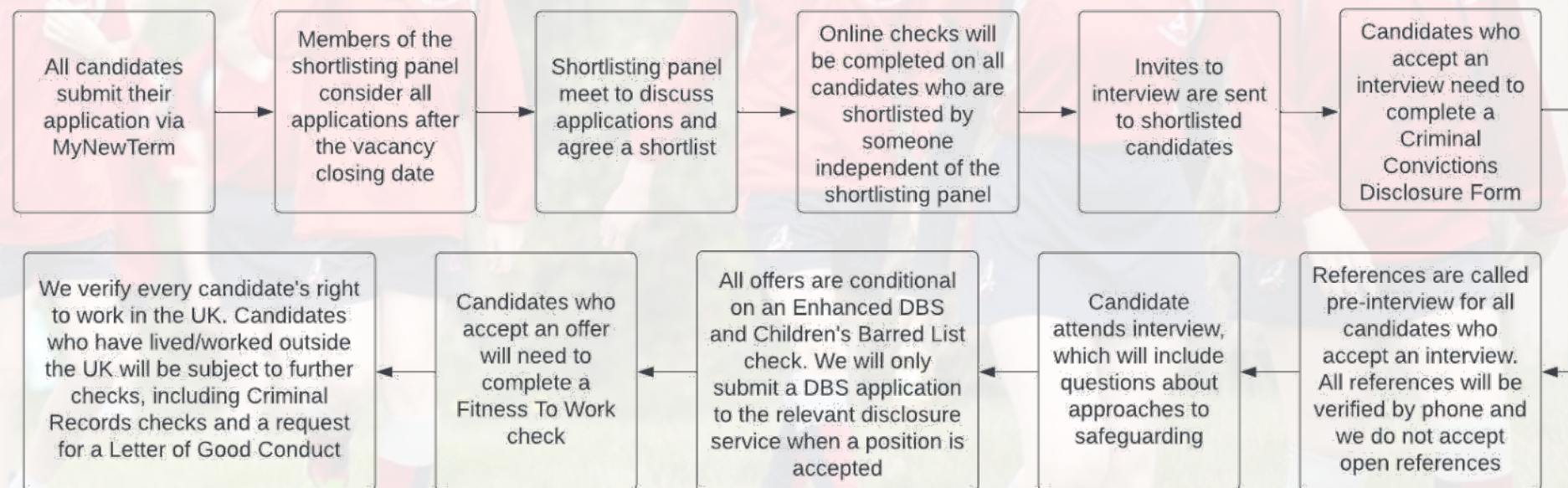
**“I like the way that Castle Mead functions and I am trusted and respected in my work”**

*Castle Mead staff member, Staff Opinion Survey, February 2023*

# Safeguarding in our Trust

Keeping our children safe is of paramount importance to us. You can read full details about our approach to safeguarding and child protection on [our website](#).

Our commitment to safeguarding includes our recruitment process, which is outlined here:



[For information on what personal data we collect as part of the recruitment process, and why, you can read our Privacy Notice for Job Applicants.](#)

The revised DBS code of practice for registered persons and other recipients of disclosure information is [here](#).

# Our Trust Leadership

The Strategic Leadership Team work closely together to focus on school and Trust-wide improvement and development. Heads also meet regularly and undertake peer support and challenge across our schools.

Our Leadership Team work together closely to improve effectiveness across our Trust. This includes coordinating the work of Trust subject teams, which meet regularly to develop provision and practice. The team also coordinates high quality professional development, including appraisal, for Trust staff and facilitates school to school support for all schools within the Teaching School Alliance.



# Vision and values

## Our Mission

Our mission is to give Every Child Every Chance of success.

## Our Vision

Our vision is to enable all learners to believe in themselves. Our children and young people will enjoy an ambitious and inspirational education that develops their character, confidence, knowledge and the skills they need to succeed in life. Our schools are places that launch interests and ignite passions, and provide inspirational learning for all; where children and young people are:

- Happy and safe
- Inspired and supported to reach their full potential
- Equipped to become resilient, independent learners
- Prepared to live responsibly and peacefully in the spirit of understanding, tolerance, equality and friendship
- Children are at the heart of our work. The Trust's role is to enable school leaders to focus on their core business of ensuring that every child thrives.

## Our Values

Our values give our organisation its purpose and direction. We believe in:

- Excellence • Collaboration • Creativity

# Key information about this role

**Main place of work:** Castle Mead School and Nursery, Mascroft Rd, Trowbridge, BA14 6GD

**Salary:**

- L3 Qualified candidates, Grade E, £25,989 – £26,824 per annum pro rata
- Non L3 Qualified candidates, Grade D, £25,185 – £25,989 per annum pro rata

**Contract:** Permanent, Part-Time

**Hours:** 28.5 hours per week. 08:45 – 15:15 daily with one additional hour for planning on Thursday (MDSA for 2.5 hours per week too)





# Our new Teaching Assistant

We would like to hear from you if you are:

- Passionate about improving learning opportunities for all children within a creative curriculum
- Able to form positive relationships and foster the characteristics of effective learning
- Committed to valuing and supporting the development of each child
- Motivated to develop your skills to support highly effective learning
- Flexible, with a strong commitment to teamwork
- Energetic, warm and caring with a good sense of humour
- Dedicated to, and have high expectations of, children with a belief that all children can succeed
- A good communicator
- Committed to raising standards through supporting excellent teaching and learning
- Able to work effectively within our hardworking, talented and friendly team
- Looking to become part of an inclusive and collaborative academy trust, where there is a rich, engaging curriculum and where individuals are nurtured and valued
- Committed to the Trust's vision, purpose and values
- Enthusiastic and able to inspire children, staff and parents
- Confident in the use of basic IT including the use of Word, Smart boards and the internet

If you would like to find out more we would love to hear from you. Please contact us at [admin@castlemead.equamead.org](mailto:admin@castlemead.equamead.org) to arrange a visit.



# What we offer

- An ambitious and vibrant place to work, with enthusiastic staff in all of our schools
- A highly organised and very supportive team
- The rare opportunity to work and plan collaboratively with experienced colleagues across the Trust
- High quality professional development opportunities from Day One
- A clear vision with purpose and values that are supported by all our staff
- Generous employer contributions to the Local Authority Pension Scheme



# Thank you for your time