

Richard Coates CE School

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Headteacher: Mrs Heather M. Cape

13 February 2017

Dear Applicant

Re: Early Years Leader Post with TLR 2.1 (currently £2,640)

Thank you for your interest in the post of "Early Years Leader" at Richard Coates CE School in Ponteland. This is an exciting and unique opportunity and we very much look forward to hearing from you. Ponteland is located on the outskirts of Newcastle and has excellent public transport links, yet it enjoys the countryside benefits of being located within the picturesque county of rural Northumberland.

The school is facing an exciting time of change. We are currently in the process of transitioning into a Primary School as part of the Ponteland restructure of schools. In 2019, we not only look to celebrate our 300th birthday, we will also be relocating to our new school site next door (currently housing Ponteland First School).

As part of our change from middle to primary education, we are looking for an outstanding and highly motivated teacher with a passion for developing children's learning across the Early Years. The successful candidate will work with the senior leadership team and Governors to take responsibility for setting up and leading an Early Years department in the school. We are committed to the belief that outstanding early years' provision is the key to successful learning throughout the primary school and we are looking to appoint a practitioner who will release this vision into action. Professionalism, positivity and a relentless commitment to school improvement are essential personal attributes.

Richard Coates is an incredible place to work. The pupils' behaviour is exemplary (Ofsted 2013) and the staff are a dedicated team of professionals who work closely and supportively with each other. The school is currently a large middle school of 480 pupils with a team of teachers (26) and non-teaching staff (15). From September 2017 we will be welcoming children into our Nursery and Reception classes, as well as pupils into Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. We will continue to provide education for 3 – 13 year olds until a new secondary school is built in Ponteland in September 2019. At this point we will move sites and operate as a 3 – 11 primary school.

If you are excited by the challenge of leading across a new early years phase, and would like to have the opportunity to influence pedagogy and practice, we would love to hear from you. The successful



candidate will begin in post in June 2017 in order to develop transition opportunities and make preparations for our new starters into Nursery and Reception in September.

The closing date for applications is noon on Monday 20th March 2017. It is anticipated that interviews will take place on Thursday 6th April. As part of the recruitment process, we will be looking to carry out observations in short listed candidates' current settings before interviews. If you would like to discuss the post in more detail, or would like to visit the school for a look around, please do not hesitate to contact me either by phone or email.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Heather Cape Headteacher