DUNSTON HILL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADTEACHER APPLICATION PACK







Letter from Chair of Governors

Dear applicant,

Thank you so much for your interest in the post of Headteacher at our school. Please find enclosed an information pack about the school and the local community that I hope you will find of interest.

This opportunity has arisen because our current Headteacher will retire after over 20 years of service at Dunston Hill.

The Governing Body is seeking to appoint a Headteacher who will build on current good practice as well as bringing a fresh perspective. You will drive improvement whilst preserving our ethos, sharing our vision and providing a safe, caring environment that will result in well-rounded individuals.

You will lead and develop our dedicated and enthusiastic staff team to move the school from our recent Ofsted grading of good (October 2017) to outstanding.

You will work alongside a very supportive governing body that care deeply about the children in our school. As the school is at the heart of the local community the new Headteacher will continue to work and extend links within Dunston and beyond.

You can only experience the warmth of our school and the passion of our children by seeing it first-hand. Therefore I strongly urge you to visit the school for an informal visit.

This can be arranged by contacting our school business manager, Louise Briggs on 0191 433 4021.

Thank you once again for showing an interest in the post and I hope to receive your application in due course.
The closing date is 23rd February
Shortlisting will take place by 9th March
Interviews will take place 27th and 28th March

Yours sincerely

Mrs Gillian McTeer
Chair of Governors





School aims and values

Our aims and values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin the school's teaching philosophy, curriculum and learning environment and help to ensure that our children become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

Self Confidence – To ensure that each child develops a sense of personal worth and is confident in his/her ability to succeed
Relationships – To help children develop good relationships with others, based upon mutual respect and an understanding of the various races, religions and cultures of present day society
Co-operation – To help children develop the ability to contribute and recognise his/her responsibility within a community group
Self Discipline – To help children understand the need for high standards of behaviour and to develop a sense of responsibility towards people and property
Attitudes to Learning – To stimulate children to be curious, alert, eager to learn, thinking and questioning in their attitudes and interested in the world around them
Basic Skills – To help children acquire the basic skills needed for learning and an ability to use and apply their knowledge in everyday situations
Aesthetic Values and Skills – To help children develop an appreciation of and ability in the creative and expressive arts

The children of Dunston Hill would like their Headteacher to be.....

- friendly and smiley
- kind and caring
- fun with a good sense of humour
- proud of our school
- firm but fair
- understanding and listen to our ideas

They would also like their Headteacher to.....

- keep our school the happy place that it is
- care about us all
- work with us in our class and teach us sometimes
- get involved in after school clubs
- get to know us and our families.

Staff at Dunston Hill would like their Headteacher to.....

- always put the needs of the children first and support us on our journey to become an outstanding school
- be a committed, passionate and strong leader
- be approachable and acknowledge what our school is already doing well
- promote staff well-being and value the importance of work life balance
- be energetic and visionary
- lead by example with consistent expectations.



Life in Gateshead

The borough of Gateshead stretches almost 13 miles along the south bank of the river Tyne and covers 55 square miles, making it the largest of the five Tyne and Wear authorities. Gateshead is very close to Newcastle, the major urban centre in the North East and has strong transport links to the city, the rest of the North East, and England. The borough has undergone rapid transformation in recent years with major physical redevelopment. There is much to discover in Gateshead, from iconic and stylish buildings, extraordinary landmarks and a vibrant, lively art scene to exciting events, blooming parks and beautiful countryside. Gateshead is fast becoming one of the biggest cultural quarters in the country capturing the imagination of the world with The Angel of the North - Britain's largest sculpture, The Gateshead Millennium Bridge - the world's first tilting bridge, BALTIC - the ambitious Centre for Contemporary Art, and The Sage Gateshead – the regional music centre designed by Lord Foster. Gateshead truly is a diverse and exciting place to live and work.



Dunston

Dunston is the most westerly part of the town of Gateshead on the south bank of the River Tyne and has a population of over 15,000
It is split into two distinct areas separated by the major A1 roadway which provides good transport links. Much of the area south of the A1 is known as Dunston Hill.
Dunston is well served local amenities. The metrocentre shopping centre is close by and the banks of the river are rich in industrial history.

educationGateshead

Raising Achievement for All



Developing school staff is one of our most important goals – we believe the school team is the cornerstone to success. We are committed to offering a wide variety of exciting and stimulating training courses and conferences that are underpinned by current research and initiatives. Our dedicated and high quality inspectors, advisors, consultants and trainers have a wealth of knowledge and expertise in their chosen fields.

We have a wide range of training programmes in a variety of subjects that are delivered centrally. These are clearly focused on major priorities in schools and informed by the latest research and current initiatives. We try hard to let you know what's new and effective in education.

We share a clear, common purpose with you to do the very best for children and young people, their families and their communities. We have significant collective experience of teaching, leading and managing schools, training and professional development, and carrying out Ofsted inspections. We are at the cutting edge of educational developments and practice through our innovative research programme and our direct involvement with many initiatives. We have established excellent links and relationships with local, regional

and national policy and decision makers. Our support networks mean that if we cannot help, we will find someone who can.

There is a thorough programme of events to support newly appointed Headteachers in their first and second years, it includes:

- Visits to a wide range of schools throughout the borough: small schools, large schools, forest schools, special schools, new schools and schools housed in older buildings.
- Question and answer, information gathering sessions with officers from safeguarding, referral and assessment, finance, audit and insurance, human resources, governance and premises.
- Support of a Headteacher mentor during the first year who is experienced in all aspects of school leadership.

"The world of Headship can be a particularly daunting confusing one. In gaining a Headship in Gateshead, however, I was fortunate enough to access a wealth of support and expertise through the Induction Programme for Newly-Appointed Senior Leaders. Gateshead's programme includes an array of sessions focusing on key aspects of school leadership: safeguarding, premises management, finance, HR, governance, admissions and more. The sessions –which are expertly crafted by a team of authority professionals – are delivered in a range of school settings, with current serving Headteachers laying bear their school communities, openly sharing their experiences of school leadership and offering advice to participants. For me, the induction programme served beautifully as a bespoke package of professional development, as well as a helping hand throughout some of the more challenging aspects of the job, and a wonderful opportunity to meet with colleagues and share experiences – positive and otherwise – in a supportive and encouraging environment."
Joe Wheatley – St Mary's Primary School

"Gateshead leadership induction programme is excellent. Each month essential topics were covered, which provided knowledge of not only the systems in Gateshead, but also key people. I looked forward to these sessions as they were enlightening and gave me the opportunity to network with other new Headteachers and Deputies. I loved the fact we were able to look around other schools and ask experienced Headteachers countless questions. As a newly quailed teacher in Gateshead some years ago, I had the very best support and was not disappointed to find that on my return to Gateshead, the quality of the service is still second to none."
Tracy Musgrove
St Oswald's RC Primary School