



Stanchester Academy

Dear colleague

Thank you for your expression of interest in the position of Head teacher at the Stanchester Academy. This is a unique opportunity to lead a semi-rural secondary Academy that sits in the heart of the community of Stoke-Sub-Hamdon, in the beautiful county of Somerset. I do hope that you take the time to browse both the school and Trust's websites ahead of making an application in order that you can begin to develop a sense of our setting, our culture and the values that underpin all of the activity that takes place within our schools. We are seeking to appoint a candidate with a strong moral purpose and a deeply held belief that we can make a positive change to the lives of all the young people that attend Stanchester Academy. Who you are and how you will fit into and lead our school will be equally important as your impressive track record of leading school improvement.

Stanchester Academy will have almost 800 students on roll in September 2021 and our numbers are set to continue to grow steadily in the coming years.

In 2020 The Governing Body took the decision to join the Bridgwater and Taunton College Trust to provide the school with increased capacity for School Improvement. Stanchester Academy was last inspected in the autumn of 2020 under the latest framework and is currently graded as a 'Good' school. Outcomes for students 2017-2019 were turbulent and like all schools, there remain priorities for improving standards in some areas.

Stanchester Academy is in the heart of South Somerset and is an 'average' school by many metrics. Typically the numbers of students identified as vulnerable or SEN are broadly in line with National benchmarks although the school does attract a relatively high number of children from Service families.

Stanchester Academy has the potential to become a truly exceptional school. The staff are deeply passionate about young people and have demonstrated a consistent willingness to go above and beyond to support children both academically and in their wider development. The future Head teacher at Stanchester will benefit from being able to lead an exceptionally talented and motivated staff. Our culture is one that is defined by mutual respect and trust at all levels and it is only through the extraordinary hard work and efforts of all of our colleagues in all roles across the organisation that we will be able to produce outstanding outcomes for the students.

The Trustees and the Local Governing Body are seeking to appoint a candidate that is ambitious for the future professionally, that possesses the determination and drive to continue to build upon our recent successes yet is humble enough to recognise that they cannot do this in isolation, but only as part of a successful team. If you require any further information than that which is provided here or that is available on our website, or if you would like an informal chat or would like to visit our school, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Peter Elliott
CEO



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