



Dear Applicant,

RE: Application for temporary teacher post – information for candidates

We are delighted you are considering applying for a post at our school. Recruiting new members of staff into our team is always an exciting time; the Sticklepath journey has been built around the passions of our staff and their dedication to our children and community and we know any new member of staff, whatever their experience or role, will impact with fresh ideas, energy and enthusiasm.

Sticklepath is a wonderful school with a huge sense of belonging and the children and school community are warm and welcoming. The children are taught from the very earliest age about the brainology of learning and the importance of hard work, perseverance and resilience in achieving success. We seek to empower our learners and each other to be critical, curious thinkers and our work around oracy and the dialogic classroom is making a huge difference to all our children and especially our most vulnerable. We encourage our staff to seek out the latest thinking in the field of learning and some of our most exciting initiatives have started off as informal action research in the classrooms.

This post is for a KS2 class teacher (year group is flexible depending on the appointed candidate's experience). This post is initially temporary for one term to cover a maternity leave but with the likelihood that this will be extended.

Our school is on the outskirts of Barnstaple on an estate called Woodville. The catchment is very mixed including areas of social housing, old and new and private housing. There is a rapidly expanding estate called Roundswell nearby and the school has increased in size over time to a two form entry. We joined a new Multi Academy Trust in September 2018 - Tarka Learning Partnership - so there is potential for career development and professional development across a number of schools in the future including the new free school built at Roundswell which is part of the Trust and Eden Park Academy which the two co-headteachers of Sticklepath have been leading since September 2021. We currently have approximately 470 pupils on role (including our nursery) with a waiting list in many year groups.

One of the school's and the area's greatest challenges remains the low aspirations of many in the community but we are tackling this successfully in many ways; motivating and engaging our children to be aspirational for themselves is a key part of the work we do.

Some of the other strengths of the school are:-

- ✓ An ambitious and determined leadership and teaching staff, uncompromising in their commitment to every child succeeding within a rich, holistic curriculum designed around our vision for learning
- ✓ A warm, friendly staff who are committed to change and improvement and support each other wholeheartedly
- ✓ A creative and thoughtful approach to curriculum design that puts the school values at the heart of its curriculum and with a huge focus on oracy
- ✓ A long tradition of outstanding inclusion and safeguarding work with an exceptional reputation working with SEND
- ✓ A school with a passionate commitment to collaborative working and developing people supported by a Trust approach that prioritises CPD and professional learning including personalised

coaching programmes, strong succession planning and unparalleled opportunities for teaching and leadership development

- ✓ Close proximity to Exmoor and the stunning beaches of North Devon
- ✓ A supportive School Academy Board and PTFA
- ✓ A network of local schools including a local secondary school as part of the Trust
- ✓ An award winning Forest Schools area (this is the jewel in our crown!) and an Artsmark school with specialist teachers in art, music and drama
- ✓ An approach to social and emotional learning based on the THRIVE approach (many of us are Thrive trained)
- ✓ Staff with a thirst for learning who critically engage in the latest educational research and continuously reflect on their practice - and we love a good debate!
- ✓ A highly structured ECT programme with a supportive mentor

The pressure on our school – like every other - is constant. However, we remain committed to educating the whole child and delivering rigorous teaching of the basics within a rich and dynamic curriculum.

If you feel inspired by what you have read, then we look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact our Senior Administrator, Ellen Mitchell from Tuesday 18th April on 01271 342455 to arrange a visit or a call.

We very much look forward to meeting with you soon or speaking on the phone. Do not hesitate to contact the school should you require further information.

Good luck!

Best Wishes



Ms Samantha Warner
Executive Co-Headteacher



Mr Richard Blunt
Executive Co-Headteacher