

Fleetwood High School

A Specialist ICT and Sports College

Dear Colleague

Thank you for expressing an interest in the post of Lead Practitioner in Science at Fleetwood High School. This is a school which is on an exciting journey of improvement, having received the best set of Ofsted judgements in its history, working with young people who deserve nothing less than the best. At the school we are exceptionally proud of the ‘Fleetwood Way’ ethos we have created and I very much hope you will feel as passionate about working at ‘The School with a heart in the town with a heart’ as I and other colleagues at the school do. I am confident that if you come to spend some time with us, on or before interview, you will get a clear sense of what we are trying to achieve at the school and you will be excited to join us on our journey of continued improvement.

Fleetwood High School is an extremely strong position. The last Ofsted inspection reported the best set of grades in the School’s history so far with three of the four areas judged to be Good for the first time. In addition, for the last two years the school has seen the highest number of first choice applications for places in Year 7 ever with a 20% increase this year owing to the School’s increasingly positive reputation in the community. Indeed, the most recent Ofsted report comments that parents are “effusive in their praise” of the school.

Fleetwood High School is in the town of Fleetwood on the Lancashire coast just north of Blackpool. The school is of average size and has grown significantly in recent years (990 on roll) and the majority of students are of White British heritage. The proportion of students who speak English as an additional language is therefore much lower than average.

There are some challenging socio-economic factors in parts of Fleetwood, which are reflected in the School's intake. For example, the proportion of students eligible for free school meals is much higher than average; there are more students with special educational needs than the national average and the number of students joining or leaving the school at times other than the normal entry and leaving ages is higher than average. The school is nonetheless a true comprehensive, with a wide ability range reflecting a social mix. The school sees itself as the centre of its community and works hard to involve the community in school life. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic this has become even more important and we were recognised by local press and media for providing high levels of support for our community. This is a school where you can make a real difference.

Our improvement journey has seen year on year increases in the School’s GCSE outcomes. However, we recognise there is more that needs to done. Ofsted Section 5 and subsequent HMI monitoring reports recognise the huge improvements secured by the new leadership team and see the school well placed on its journey towards ‘Good’. These improvements have also been reflected over the last two years through Teacher Assessed Grades and most recent mock examinations show this improving trend set to continue.

The School recognises that high quality learning and teaching on a daily basis is the single most important factor leading improved life chances and so this is a relentless focus of the school’s work. The School has prided itself on being at the cutting edge of pedagogical practice embedding ideas such as the Rosenshine principles, retrieval practice and interleaving well before these became high profile across the sector. We are committed to delivering active and engaging learning which enthuses young people and motivates them to want to succeed and have recently further strengthened our approaches to colleague support, training and development through developing instructional coaching approaches to feedback and a highly collaborative approach to self-development.

In conclusion, Fleetwood High School is a supportive, collegial, warm and nurturing school environment committed to addressing educational disadvantage. It is a challenging, yet highly rewarding, school to lead in. Our website provides a flavour of life at Fleetwood High but please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you have any further questions.

Yours faithfully



Mr R J Barnes

**Headteacher**