



Wardour Catholic Primary School



Information for applicants Appointment of Headteacher for September 2019

Wardour School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful candidates must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and a criminal record check with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

INTRODUCTION

The Governors of Wardour Catholic Primary School seek to appoint an experienced school leader to take on the headship of this successful voluntary aided rural school, starting in September 2019. In September 2018 Ofsted rated the overall effectiveness of the school as 'good', stating:

By the end of key stage 2, pupils at Wardour Catholic Primary School achieve exceptionally well. Pupils' attainment has been far higher than that seen nationally in reading, writing and mathematics for the last few years. As a result, pupils are well prepared for their next stage of education. Pupils are keen to learn. They demonstrate good attitudes to learning and attend well.

The report following a Section 48 inspection conducted in June 2018 stated:

Staff promote high standards of behaviour and are exemplary role models for their pupils, reflecting Gospel values, which has helped engender extremely positive relationships between all members of the school community.

Pupils, irrespective of their faith backgrounds, demonstrate a strong sense of belonging to the school community. They value and respect the rich Catholic tradition of the school, its excellent links with the parish communities and the support they receive from the parish priest, deacon and lay chaplain.

THE SCHOOL

Wardour School was established well over 200 years ago by the Arundell family, and exists under the Wardour Chapel Trust, lying within the Clifton Catholic Diocese. It is located about two miles south west of the village of Tisbury, close to the River Nadder in the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and within walking distance of Wardour Castle. There are currently some 95 children on roll, there being five classes. Wardour School has extensive gardens and grounds – regularly used for “forest school” activities - and access to woodland and open countryside within walking distance.

MISSION AND ETHOS

The school's mission is to develop young people who are confident, reflective, responsible and resilient learners; who understand that learning is for life and who are able to become all that God created them to be.

Wardour School aims to provide an inspiring and well-rounded education for all our children. We encourage each child to aspire to achieve their full potential and to develop a passion for learning that will stay with them throughout their life.

At Wardour, we believe in celebrating every child's achievement, however small. We want to challenge our children to aim high but not to be afraid to fail, to have the courage to admit their mistakes, to be curious about the world and make informed decisions, to listen respectfully and value other people's viewpoints, and to be fearless when standing up for what is right and fair.

As a Catholic school, we place as much emphasis on pastoral care as on academic excellence. We believe in supporting the emotional and spiritual needs of our children so that they develop strength of character and resilience, qualities they will surely need as they grow up and go on to take their place in this fast-changing world.

OVERVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Headteacher is responsible to the Board of Governors for the leadership and overall management of the school. A job description is attached.

PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will have qualified teacher status, and experience at working at a senior level in school. Evidence of strong leadership skills will be required, and of ability to work effectively with school staff, governors and parents. Candidates should be able to demonstrate highly effective teaching skills, with teaching experience for the relevant age range. The role will include a significant amount of class teaching.

The Governors wish to appoint a committed practising Roman Catholic, but are prepared to appoint a non-Catholic, provided that the candidate is fully committed to the Catholic ethos of the school. A person specification is attached.

SELECTION PROCESS

Please note that the closing date for applications is 20th January 2019, and these should include a covering letter not to exceed two sides of A4 paper or 1300 words and completed application and disclosure forms. You are also invited to complete a recruitment monitoring form. Applications may be delivered to the school:

Chair of Governors
Wardour Catholic Primary School
Wardour
Tisbury
Wiltshire SP3 6RF

or may be sent by email to the Chair of Governors: r.vaux@wardour.wilts.sch.uk with a copy to our Wiltshire HR Officer at: james.stephens@wiltshire.gov.uk. The recruitment monitoring form should not be emailed, but should be sent to the school in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Confidential – F.A.O: Recruitment Monitor".

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to visit the school for the purpose of familiarisation prior to the interview. A timetable for the selection process is as follows:

20 Jan	Closing date for applications
25 Jan	Completion of shortlisting
28 Jan	Letters to shortlisted candidates inviting to visit/interview
4-8 Feb	Candidates visit
12 Feb	Interviews