

January 2018

Dear Prospective Applicant:

Head of English

Full-time, permanent, from 1 Sep. 2018, TLR 1c (£11029)

Thank you for your interest in the position of Head of English at Chase Terrace Technology College. The vacancy arises due to the partial retirement of the current post holder after many years of distinguished service to the school.

Chase Terrace is a forward-looking 11-18 Academy, we are a part of the newly formed Stephen Sutton Multi Academy Trust (SSMAT). Our students are our best asset, but there is also a strong collegial sense of working together amongst the staff team. As a school we actively encourage teachers to work together to create vibrant and imaginative learning experiences for our students, with strong associated outcomes. We are also properly concerned with the development of 'next steps' knowledge, skills and understanding that supports ambitious colleagues' career progression.

The English team are highly supportive of each other and the quality of learning in the department is consistently good / outstanding. Over the past few years, GCSE outcomes have not matched our expectations. We are clear that the grade profile has historically been limited by the performance of students in their controlled assessments, as our students have performed well in final written papers compared to national norms. The department has engaged thoroughly with the move to terminal exams in English with new programmes of study that support this approach. A rethink of KS3 teaching in light of these changes is now required.

We are looking for applicants who can bring a fresh perspective to the consideration of how English is taught (currently within mixed ability classes). We need someone with a clear idea of how a new assessment approach that ensures students have harnessed the basics for success in English language and literature exams would be implemented. A proven track record in delivering successful exam outcomes is essential. Balancing this requirement with the ability to ensure that students retain a love of literature and the written word is the ultimate goal for this head of department position.

The development of reading, writing and communication throughout the school is also a strategic priority. We currently run reading programmes in tutor time for year 7 and 8 students – this initiative will be developed throughout the whole school in the coming years.

If you would like to come and take a look around the school, you are very welcome. Equally, if you have any questions, you could speak to me. Please contact Sharon Jones, my PA (s.jones@cttc.staffs.sch.uk), and she will make the necessary arrangements.

Having considered the supporting information, if you decide to make an application, please include (with your application form) a covering letter that summarises your particular strengths and the nature of the contribution you would expect to make here. We are ambitious for the achievement of our students and would like to get a sense of the role that you believe you could play in our ongoing improvement.

The deadline for applications is Monday 22nd January 2018 (at 9am) and we expect to hold interviews shortly afterwards.

Sincerely:

Tim Chamberlin
(Headteacher)