



WOODCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL

A Church of England Academy



Academy Trustee Application Pack



Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify our Father, which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16



God be
merciful to us
and bless us:
and cause his
face to shine
upon us.
Psalm 67:1

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www.woodchurchhigh.com

LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Candidate,

I am delighted that you are interested in becoming a trustee at Woodchurch High School. This pack is intended to provide you with specific information regarding the school and how you will help support pupils and staff within the Academy.

You are joining an academy which strives for excellence. We benefit from purpose-built accommodation with excellent facilities. Our vision is 'Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify our Father, which is in heaven', Matthew 5:16. Whilst Learning, we are Inspired and develop our Christian Values through experiences as each member flourishes. We aim to raise aspirations, realise potential and develop well-rounded successful teachers and young people.

The Academy is committed to safeguarding the welfare of its pupils and as a volunteer at the school you will be subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service certificate check.

We wish you every success in your role and we thank you for giving up your time to volunteer to support our pupils and staff.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Canham
Headteacher



THE SCHOOL

Woodchurch High School is a highly successful, larger than average fully inclusive 11-16 comprehensive school, set within a Local Authority which includes some selective schools.

The school is consistently over-subscribed, ranked as the eighth most oversubscribed school in the Liverpool City Region (2018) and is annually the most oversubscribed school on the Wirral (since 2015, school has had more 1st, 2nd and 3rd preferences than any other school with the Local Authority, hearing no fewer than 50 appeals every year since 2016).

At Woodchurch High School, we always place the pupils at the centre of all we do - which has been reflected in all of our Ofsted Inspection reports. We are committed to providing the best possible education for all of our pupils. We work in partnership with parents to achieve this goal.

An extensive enrichment programme is also provided by school, including a breakfast and homework club. Throughout the year, there are additional lessons at lunchtime and after school. These provide valuable lesson opportunities. We also run a hugely successful Saturday College, and hold Holiday Schools. All of this underlines the emphasis we, as a school, put on ensuring pupil progress.

We are extremely proud to be an inclusive school. We meet the needs of pupils with a range of physical and/or medical impairments, in addition to catering for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Condition. Our successes in this area have been nationally recognised.

To ensure that all our pupils succeed, we focus all our work around our Christian Values and Vision Statement: *'Let your light shine before all, that they may see your god works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven'* (Matthew 5:16).

Every child really does matter. As such, the school consistently seeks to build upon its previous best.

Very few pupils come from each of the eleven ethnic minority backgrounds, although this figure is increasing: e.g. in 2006/07 1.8% were not White British, but in 2019/20 this had risen to 8.2%. Only 1.9% use English as an additional language.

Currently those children in receipt of the Pupil Premium stands at 44% and SEND at 29% of the school population. There are also 29 CLA pupils.

The estate on which the school is situated contains three LSOAs ranked within the top 10% of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the country.

The school has been an academy (SAT) since 2011 and became a 'full' Church of England Academy (having previously been 'A School with a Church of England Trust') in April 2014.

More details about the school can be found on our website: www.woodchurchhigh.com and in our inspection reports, from both Ofsted and the Church of England National Society: <https://www.woodchurchhigh.com/ofsted.php>.



SCHOOL ETHOS

Our ethos is underpinned by Christian Values and principles which are embedded in all our work. The list below gives an indication of the educational direction of the school and demonstrates our philosophy of placing the child at the centre.

Woodchurch High School Church of England Academy is a school which delivers teaching to the highest quality. Teaching that motivates, stimulates and challenges the pupils, whilst taking into account their individual needs. We challenge every pupil to aspire to achieve the God-given potential.

We provide meaningful and personalised curriculum which provides pupils with the knowledge and skills to ensure lifelong learning and to recognise the great value God places on each individual. We provide a curriculum offering equality of opportunity to all, stretching the gifted and talented whilst supporting those who experience a barrier of learning.

CHAPLAINCY

At Woodchurch High School, pupils, through their spiritual and moral education and development, let their light shine, by living out our Christian Values and ethos.

Our Christian ethos and values underpin who and what we are as a school.

The Chaplaincy Team provides opportunities for reflection and character development everyday through Collective Worship and weekly year group assemblies. During Collective Worship we explore and develop an understanding of our values, morality and the Christian faith.



Our Christian Values

- **Justice**
- **Endurance**
- **Service**
- **Wisdom**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Compassion**
- **Hope**
- **Thankfulness**
- **Integrity**
- **Humility**
- **Trust**



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Each day all pupils take part in Collective Worship unless withdrawn by their parents. As a school, we believe it is important to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils and to prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

PASTORAL WELFARE

To maximise pastoral support, the school is divided into year groups. Leading each year group is a Pupil Progress Leader and an Assistant. Pupils are in mixed gender and ability forms of approximately 22. Each tutor group is registered by the same Form Tutor throughout the five years. This continuity ensures that pupils, parents and carers can forge strong links and positive, trusting relationships with the key pastoral staff.

The pastoral support means all pupils have the benefit of the facilities and curriculum of a large school and, at the same time, enjoy the same supportive, compassionate ethos associated with a small school

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

At Woodchurch High School, we develop our pupils' social and emotional intelligence. Through the promotion of our Christian ethos and values, we enable pupils to recognise that good behaviour and adherence to codes of conduct, result in sound learning, academic progress and positive relationships.

We believe an ordered, disciplined atmosphere is the best environment for learning. All of our school rules are based upon the simple principles of self-discipline and mutual respect. We place great emphasis on the positive aspects of behaviour by rewarding pupils with praise in lessons, rewards, letters of commendation and prizes for effort and attainment in all subjects. We also promote good attendance and punctuality by presenting prizes and certificates to pupils achieving 100%. Prestige is attached to pupils who have Gold Attendance (97%+). They are presented with a badge to display their success.



PUPIL VOICE

Pupils regularly evaluate lessons and are included in whole-school decisions, such as the appointment of staff. In addition, there is a strong School Council, comprising of representatives from each Year Group. The Head Boy / Head Girl and Deputies also attend Full Governors meetings, when appropriate, at which they make a valuable contribution. Pupils also regularly comment on curriculum subject via online polls/surveys.

In this way pupils are motivated to achieve, develop self-awareness and empathy skills, and so manage their own feelings and have good social skills. In addition, school now also undertakes peer mentoring and support to further enhance pastoral welfare.

The pastoral support means all pupils have the benefit of the facilities and curriculum of a large school, and at the same time, enjoy the same supportive organisation associated with a small school.



Humility

"When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honour to others than to yourselves." (Philippians 2:3)



INCLUSION

At Woodchurch High School, we recognise and celebrate our differences. It is these differences that enrich our school community: we value all God's children.

We are committed to ensuring that every pupil in our care is given an equal opportunity to develop socially, to learn and achieve, and to enjoy community life at school.

All pupils have access to the same opportunities as their peers through quality first teaching and enrichment.

To achieve this aim, the SEND Team:

Develop strong links with our primary school partners to support transition

Deliver a curriculum appropriate to each child's individual needs, including a range of personalised interventions which enable pupils to progress and reach their potential



Work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure a consistent approach to meeting a pupil's need

Put in place strategies to ensure that all pupils, including those who face barriers to learning and those who are on the Gifted and Talented register, make progress

A VIRTUAL BASE FOR PUPILS

Woodchurch High has special provision for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Condition and other additional needs. Our policy is that pupils follow a personalised learning programme, combining small group social skills classes with mainstream lessons, if necessary with the help of Teaching Assistants.

However, if, on occasions, pupils become overly anxious, they can be withdrawn for individual support. Our Virtual Base enables all pupils with a diagnosis of ASC to develop socially and emotionally, with support, in a caring, compassionate and comfortable environment.



PUPIL PREMIUM

At Woodchurch High School 42% of our pupils access pupil premium funding. The Pupil Premium team lead initiatives through the school and monitor and evaluate the success of programmes and interventions. Please refer to our website for further details.

OUR FACILITIES

Our school building was opened to pupils in September 2010, and officially opened by the Archbishop of York in March 2011.

The state of the art facilities enables our pupils to experience a 21st Century education. The cutting edge ICT, all Google based for both staff and pupils, facilitates their learning so that they can participate, enjoy and achieve their full potential.

The school grounds have also been redeveloped as part of this build and include a third generation all weather pitch as well as flood-lit multi-use games areas. These facilities are in addition to a well resourced Sports Hall. This houses a dance studio, fitness suite and indoor sporting facilities, used for football, badminton, basketball etc.

There is also a well-established School Farm and environmental area.



Compassion

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort."
(2 Corinthians 1:3)*



WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT OUR SCHOOL



“ I always knew Woodchurch had an excellent reputation - it has not disappointed -Parent ”

“ *The teaching staff put the children at the heart of everything they do.* ”

-Parent



"Leaders live out the Christian vision and ensure this drives policies and practices. Together, they faithfully recognise the context in which they work, enabling the school to be transformational for students. As a result, students and adults grow and flourish. - Ofsted 2020

"Pupils said that they feel safe and happy in school. Pupils are supportive of one another. They said that bullying is rare. If it does happen, it is dealt with effectively" - **Ofsted 2020**

"I value the open and honest culture at the school that allows staff to feel part of the decision making processes." - **Staff**

"As a parent, I feel valued and respected by the school" - **Parent**

"The school provides strong support for pupils' mental health" - **The Governing Body**

"School is somewhere I always feel safe" - **Pupil**

Hope

"Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." (Hebrews 10:23)



THE ROLE

Trustees are volunteers. The Charity Commission defines trustees as the people responsible for governing a charity and directing how it is managed and run.

The purpose of the board of trustees is to provide:

Strategic leadership of the school

- Your role is to help set and embed your schools vision and strategy, and use these to monitor how the school is progressing towards your strategic goals

Accountability and assurance, meaning the board has robust oversight of the operations and performance of the school, including education, pupil welfare and finance

- You'll monitor these areas and hold school leaders to account for performance and compliance in them

Engagement

- This means your board has strategic oversight of relationships with the school's stakeholders: parents/carers, pupils, staff, local communities
- You'll make sure the school is communicating with and involving these groups, so that decision-making is supported by meaningful engagement



RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop the school's vision and strategy
- Establish a culture of high educational standards that promotes staff and pupil wellbeing
- Set the school's strategic aims and objectives
- Make sure all pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum
- Monitor provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Monitor educational performance of the school, using a range of data sources
- Ensure stakeholders (parents/carers, pupils, staff and the local community) are informed and consulted as appropriate
- Approve the budget for the school
- Monitor and evaluate the school's financial performance
- Approve and review school policies, and hold staff to account for their implementation
- Ensure the school is compliant with legal requirements, including that all statutory policies and documents are in place
- Make sure the school complies with laws that apply to charities and companies, and with its funding agreement
- Carry out the appointment and performance management of the Headteacher
- Be a source of challenge and support to the Headteacher
- Monitor and evaluate the school's staffing structure(s)
- Monitor health and safety in the academy/across the trust



SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Essential:

- Critical listening and ability to ask effective questions
- Strategic thinking
- Excellent communication
- Problem solving and analysis

Desirable:

- Understanding of data
- Finance and/or accounting knowledge
- HR experience
- Knowledge of education
- Leadership and management skills
- Risk management skills
- Legal expertise, particularly knowledge of charity law
- Marketing and communications skills
- Knowledge of and/or experience working with the local authority

BENEFITS TO YOU

New skills you'll gain:

- Strategic planning
- Experience on a board
- Holding senior leaders to account and the ability to provide challenge
- Finance, and maintaining oversight of potentially multimillion-pound budgets
- Analysing data
- Human resources and performance management
- Project management
- Marketing
- Communication and teamwork
- Decision-making
- Problem solving

TIME COMMITMENT

The time commitment for the trustee role will vary. However, all trustees must attend at least 3 meetings of the full board per year. The term of office is 4 years.

Usually trustees sit on a committee or become a link trustee for an area they have knowledge of, or are particularly interested in – for example, the finance committee or the SEND link trustee. Committees generally meet up to 3 times a year.

Preparation for meetings includes reading papers and preparing questions for senior leaders.

You will also be expected to undertake any training required to enable you to discharge your role effectively.

Trustees are also expected to visit schools within the trust at least 3 times per year.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Academies are both charities and companies limited by guarantee. Academy trustees are therefore both charity trustees and company directors and must comply with company and charity law.

If you have any questions about this, or would like to know more about becoming a trustee, you can get in touch with the Tanya Jordan, PA to Headteacher:

Email: tanya.jordan@woodchurchhigh.com

Phone: 0151 641 8227

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in applying to Woodchurch High School.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Woodchurch High School is an equal opportunities employer and provider of services and welcomes applications from all members of the community. Our aim is to ensure that no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of race, gender, marital status, age, disability, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or employment status.

Your application form and equal opportunities forms will be processed separately. The equal opportunities form will not be available to panel members and will not be used to make recruitment decisions or about your suitability for employment. The information you provide on this form will assist us in monitoring the effects of our equal opportunities policy in recruitment and selection and will help us to develop and improve.

DATA PROTECTION

The personal data you provide for this application and otherwise as part of the recruitment process will be held and processed for the purpose of the selection processes of Woodchurch High School and in connection with any subsequent employment, unless otherwise indicated.

The personal data will be initially controlled by Human Resources and will be retained only for as long as is permitted in data protection legislation (General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)).

If your application for employment is unsuccessful, your application is retained for a maximum of 6 months and then destroyed. If you are successful, your application form will form the basis of your employee personal file which we will hold throughout your employment and for a period of time following you leaving the school.



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

In order to process the personal data you provide for this application and otherwise for the purposes indicated, your personal data may be disclosed to third party organisation providing administration or other relevant services to Woodchurch High School
Woodchurch High School contact for data protection matters is:

Satswana

Email: info@satswana.com

Tel: 01252 759177

By submitting your personal data and application, you are:

- declaring that the information provided in the application form is accurate and true.
- giving your consent to the processing, transfer and disclosure of all information submitted by you during the recruitment process and throughout any subsequent periods of employment for pre-employment checks, equal opportunities monitoring, payroll operations, administration of training and absence records, performance and conduct reviews, administration of remuneration, provision of references, and any other activities directly related to your employment.
- declaring that you have read, understood and accepted the statements set out in this data protection clause.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

INFORMATION ON RECRUITMENT CHECKS

Woodchurch High School will undertake all of the DfE pre-employment checks outlined in the statutory guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education, including:

SAFEGUARDING & ENHANCED DBS CHECK

Woodchurch High School is strongly committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils and expect staff to share this commitment and maintain a vigilant and safe environment.

All posts are subject to an Enhanced DBS check, and we will carry out online searches on short listed candidates. All staff will be expected to follow the school's child protection policy, code of conduct for employees in schools and safeguarding policy.

Woodchurch High School is legally obligated to process an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before making appointments to relevant posts.

All posts involving direct contact with children are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. The amendments to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (2013 and 2020) provides that when applying for certain jobs and activities, certain convictions and cautions are considered 'protected'. This means that they do not need to be disclosed to employers, and if they are disclosed, employers cannot take them into account.

Guidance about whether a conviction or caution should be disclosed can be found on the Ministry of Justice website and [here](#)

More information about what will be filtered and will not appear on a DBS certificate can be found [here](#).

If you are unsure whether you need to disclose criminal information, you should seek legal advice or you may wish to contact [Nacro](#) or [Unlock](#) for impartial advice.

For posts in regulated activity, the DBS check will include a barred list check.

It is a criminal offence to apply or accept a position (paid or unpaid) working with children in regulated activity if you are excluded from such work by virtue of a court order or exclusions by the DBS.

Any data processed as part of the DBS check will be processed in accordance with any relevant data protection regulations and the school's privacy notice.



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

CRIMINAL RECORD SELF DISCLOSURE

You may be asked for further information about your criminal history during the recruitment process. We will not ask for any criminal records information unless you are shortlisted for interview. If your application is successful, this self-disclosure information will be checked against information from the Disclosure & Barring Service. Any convictions shared by self-declaration or those listed on a DBS check will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

OVERSEAS CHECKS

If you've lived or worked outside of the UK for 12 months or more in the last 10 years, the school will require additional information in order to comply with 'safer recruitment' requirements. If you answer 'yes' to the question, we will contact you for additional information.

TEACHER PROHIBITION ORDER AND TEACHER SANCTIONS

We will check for Prohibition Orders and Interim Prohibition Orders for teacher applicants or positions carrying out "teaching work". Further information on teacher misconduct can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/teacher-misconduct>

We will check for sanctions imposed by the GTCE (prior to its abolition in 2012). You will be required to disclose if you are subject to any sanctions relating to work with children in any country outside the UK.

SECTION 128 DIRECTION

We will check for Secretary of State Section 128 prohibition from management directions for all applicants for management positions within school.

RIGHT TO WORK IN THE UK

The school will require you to provide evidence of your right to work in the UK in accordance with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006.

By completing an application, you agree to provide such evidence when requested.

Any job offer will be conditional on the satisfactory completion of all necessary pre-employment checks, including those as set out in Keeping Children Safe In Education.



RECRUITMENT PROCESS

TO APPLY

Please complete the application form provided with this information pack and attach a covering letter.

Please email your application to:

tanya.jordan@woodchurchhigh.com

Application form is available at **www.woodchurchhigh.com/vacancies.php**

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Academy is committed to safeguarding the welfare of its pupils and the successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service certificate check, checks of the relevant barred/prohibition lists, on line checks and also a right to work check. This pack is intended to provide you with specific information regarding the position and how you will help support pupils and staff within the Academy.

Queries or questions

Contact Tanya Jordan(PA to Headteacher) **tanya.jordan@woodchurchhigh.com**



The School is committed to safeguarding children. The successful applicant will require an enhanced DBS check; on line checks of shortlisted candidates will be undertaken as part of our recruitment checks.

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