

24th April 2019

Dear colleague

Thank you for your interest in the Key Stage 1 and Early Years lead position at Glenleigh Park Primary Academy. I hope that you find the following information useful. The decision to apply for any senior leadership position is a big one and we know that recruitment is a two-way process. The school and organisation must be a good fit for the candidate. With this in mind, if there is any further information you require about the school, the trust or the role please don't hesitate to get in touch. We would strongly recommend a visit to the school so that you can see first-hand what a great opportunity there is on offer.

The school

Glenleigh Park Primary Academy opened in September 2012 when it joined Aurora Academies Trust and relocated from its old site in the centre of Sidley. There are currently just over four hundred pupils on roll and another thirty in the nursery class. The school serves a diverse catchment area although pupils are predominantly white British. Levels of deprivation are above national averages.



Like all Aurora's academies, Glenleigh Park teaches Aurora's *Paragon* curriculum which is a cutting edge, humanities-based program of study that follows a cyclical pattern and immerses pupils in rich and meaningful learning opportunities. *Paragon* also provides parents with frequent opportunities to join in with their children's learning which results in high levels of support and parental engagement. All staff are trained in *Talk for Writing* and this approach forms the bedrock of our English lessons. *Accelerated Reader* is used effectively to motivate pupils to read and books are located in the heart of the school.



The school is situated in large grounds and benefits from plenty of internal space which is used effectively to provide great learning opportunities.

The Executive Head has been in post since September 2018 following his promotion as Headteacher of King Offa Academy, another one of the Trust schools. He has a proven



track record in transforming outcomes for pupils and is focused on making Glenleigh Park the most successful school it can be. The structure of the senior leadership team is changing from September 2019. A new Head of School, Mrs Laylee Pocock, will be joining the staff team and will lead the daily operation of the school. The role of Key stage one and early years lead will form part of the newly structured leadership team and the successful candidate will play an important role in making Glenleigh Park the very best it can be.

The Trust

Aurora Academies Trust was established in June 2012. It was tasked by the Department for Education with turning around the fortunes of four of the most challenging primary schools both in East Sussex and nationally. One of the schools was in 'special measures' and the others, Glenleigh Park included, were in a very vulnerable position. Since 2012 the schools have transformed and are now all in much stronger positions. As a result of this success the Trust has grown and we now have six schools, including an all through primary/secondary school, across three local authorities with plans for a seventh school to open in September 2020.

The Trust works in partnership with a global education company, Pansophic Learning. Pansophic operate many schools internationally, in the US, UAE, Switzerland and in Uganda. This international dimension gives a unique perspective for Aurora and the Trust benefits from these in many ways, including the sharing of best practice on a global level.

Glenleigh Park has been judged to be good in both of its inspections since opening. There is no secret to the success of the Trust. It is down to the hard work and skill of the leadership teams and school staff. However, there are some unique features to the trust that have contributed to the success of our schools. We are incredibly proud and passionate about our leadership development model. There are numerous examples of staff who have secured promotion as a result of the carefully planned and expertly delivered Global Leadership Institute training that all leaders benefit from. As well as this our schools collaborate very closely together. There are frequent senior team meetings which are attended by Heads of Schools and members of the Executive Team. These meetings provide the opportunity for leaders in the trust to support and challenge each other as part of our continuous cycle of improvement.



As well as leadership development, the Trust provides a number of 'central' services including a Director of Early Years, a Safeguarding and Attendance lead and a Behaviour, Wellbeing and Mental Health lead. These resources are deployed across Aurora schools as required and provide a valuable resource for school leaders to call upon.

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The Trust has an overarching Board of Trustees but each school has local governance exercised through a Local Academy Board (LAB). Glenleigh Park and King Offa have a shared LAB and this ensures that each Head of School receives the very best support and challenge from the Chair and other LAB members. The other Trust Executives are also frequent visitors to every school and there is very much a 'can do' culture within the Trust.

The Role

We are looking for a talented teacher who has the potential to become an outstanding leader. The role will include the main teaching responsibility for a class in key stage one as well as dedicated release time to fulfil leadership duties. The Aurora Director of Nurseries will provide valuable support and guidance to the successful candidate in addition to that provided by the senior leadership team. You will have experience of improving pupil outcomes, working successfully in teams and forging strong relationships with pupils, staff and families.

Please arrange a visit to the school if you have further questions or want to see the school first hand.

We look forward to receiving your application

Yours faithfully

Jon Hodson
Trustee and Chair of the LAB

James Freeston
Executive Headteacher

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