

Application Pack

Teacher of English

Westhoughton High 5



Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Potential Colleague

Teacher of English

Thank you for expressing an interest in joining Westhoughton High School. Within this pack, you will find information about the school, job vacancy and the application process. This is an exciting and unique opportunity to work in a forward thinking school and to make a contribution towards shaping its future and build on its successes. We are looking to appoint an experienced and talented professional to join our dedicated team; a professional who will support the development of the longer term vision for the department and the school; a professional who has, and can create, a love of learning.

The English Department strive to ensure students gain the skills required to achieve not only in the school setting but also the wider world. We are committed to delivering a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes active learning and therefore, promotes the development of independent learning.

Our team are proactive in the approach to student progress and hope to inspire students with the diversity of literature. As part of the learning journey for our students, we ensure we combine the knowledge based curriculum with cultural capital and enrichment opportunities. We strive to support the acquisition of knowledge as well as the development of the key skills in reading, writing and oracy. We aim to develop the student as a whole and as a proficient individual in modern society. Furthermore, we understand the importance of progression in English and incorporate influences from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 5 in order to support progression through Key Stages 3 and 4. Students across Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 study four hours of English per week.

Key Stage 3

Our Key Stage 3 schemes of learning create a path of progression from the previous learning journey through to the next key stage. Each Key Stage 3 group have a topic text as a focus and the reading, writing and oracy skills are developed and mastered through the stimulus of these texts. Therefore, students have two lessons focused on the development of reading skills and two lessons focused on developing writing skills with oracy branching across both reading and writing. Year 7 students also study a vocabulary enrichment program for one lesson per week to support learning across the curriculum. Students in year 9 start to explicitly explore GCSE content to support the option of early entry Literature in year 10.

Key Stage 4

Students in Year 10 and Year 11 study the Eduqas specifications for GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. The texts studied include 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens, 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' by RL Stevenson, 'An Inspector Calls' by JB Priestley, 'Woman in Black' by Susan Hill and a range of unseen and Anthology poems. Students also study Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' or' Macbeth' for their English Literature examination. We ensure students acquire the knowledge, refine the skill, and are working at an appropriate pace so that they have the confidence to aspire.

Consequently, we are looking for a talented, enthusiastic, innovative team player who is invested in working with young people, can inspire our students, and be an integral part of our extensive 'LEARN' community.

Yours faithfully

Mr P J Hart - Headteacher



Welcome to our school

Westhoughton High School is a successful and expanding 11-16, mixed community comprehensive school situated close to the centre of the growing town of Westhoughton, within Bolton Council's boundaries.

We are proud to be Westhoughton's only secondary school; we have strong links with all primary schools and provide many opportunities to work together, including cultural activities and specialist subject support. We believe strongly in serving our community by providing challenging educational opportunities and developing the next generation to be ambitious, successful and worthwhile citizens for our town and beyond. The student population is largely made up of young people from Westhoughton itself, but students also attend from the neighbouring communities of West Bolton, Blackrod, Bolton, Atherton and Hindley.

The school has undergone a transformation in recent years; we have made significant investment in our learning environment and considerably improved the facilities available to our students; GCSE examination results have improved, so that all Westhoughton students can progress successfully to the next stage of their education.

We are proud of our students, our staff and our community and are always keen to welcome visitors. So whether you think you know the school or whether you're just discovering us for the first time, you will see a school that is ambitious for its students, proud of its past and very confident about its future. The school was visited by a team of Ofsted Inspectors on October 20th - 21st 2015 and they awarded the school an overall grading of 'Good' with some outstanding features.

Effectiveness of leadership and management; the quality of teaching, learning and assessment; outcomes for pupils were individually graded 'Good' but we are very proud that personal development, behaviour and welfare was graded as 'Outstanding.'

A high number of parents responded to the Ofsted questionnaire, demonstrating their support for the school; 91% of parents would recommend the school to another parent. It is also really pleasing to report that the Inspectors took away with them a very positive view of our students, whether in class, in form, on interview panels or just around the site at break and lunch time.

The quotations below will give you the flavour of a very positive Ofsted report that accurately reflects our school.

Ofsted said:

- Leaders at all levels are passionate about ensuring that every student can achieve his or her best and are diligent in their pursuit of this aim.
- All staff share the Headteacher's determination to make the school the best it can be.
- The behaviour of students is outstanding. It is outstanding because of the very positive attitude students have to their work and the respect they have towards teachers and others. Students are hardworking, committed to learning and ambitious.
- Students' positive attitudes are a key reason why outcomes are rapidly improving.
- The school has a strong culture of high aspirations and expectations for success. This is summed up in a notice in one of the classrooms which reads, 'if it isn't excellent, it isn't finished.'
- The attainment of students has risen every year for the last four years and is above average.
- High-ability students are being given more opportunities to reach their potential.
- The interesting curriculum effectively prepares students for modern Britain.
- The Governing Body is skilled and rigorous in holding the school to account.
- Pastoral support is excellent. The school does not give up on any student.
- Students are confident that bullying is rare and that the school deals with it instantly and effectively. Promoting students' personal development and well-being has a high priority on the school's agenda.
- Students say that they feel their school is highly inclusive; everyone can take part in any activity.
- The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding.
- During the inspection many students commented on their pride in their school. This was reflected in their neat uniform, clean, litter-free environment and their appreciation of the work done to improve the buildings and outdoor grounds.



LEARNing

We value academic achievement highly and are ambitious for all our learners to make good or better progress and achieve their full potential. Students have access to the full national curriculum including opportunities to learn a new language, to develop their musical, creative and sporting talents and to



develop their literacy and numeracy skills to a high level. Progress is carefully tracked and, in addition to Parents' Evenings, parents will receive a report three times in the academic year. Students are given the opportunity to test themselves against others both locally and nationally through a variety of subject focussed competitions. Every student is encouraged to develop and achieve according to their abilities, aptitudes and interests and our job is to challenge and support them.

Learning beyond the classroom is also very important to the development of the well-rounded individual, whether that be through the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, through representative sport, musical instrument tuition, enterprise activities or one of the many educational visits organised by our hard working staff. These include visits to the theatre, to the Peak and Lake Districts to study the impact of tourism, to the Tate Gallery or further afield with residential trips to London, Prague, Belgium and France. We have a number of enrichment days during the year when the normal timetable is suspended and students engage in a range of different activities to develop their personal and social skills. At Westhoughton, we believe we are ALL learners and every opportunity should be taken to LEARN.

Standards

As a school, we strive for the best outcomes for all our students, regardless of individual circumstances. To do this we require each and every lesson to be the highest quality with an appropriate impact on student progress. We have high expectations as to what the 'daily diet' of our students should be but have strong and robust systems in place to support us all in delivering our ambitions. To develop staff throughout their careers, we invest heavily in professional development focussing on teaching, learning and assessment to improve classroom impact and in addition, leadership development for both experienced and aspirant leaders. We are pleased that staff retention for both teaching and associate staff is strong, as we believe that this reflects the culture and ethos of the school.

Whilst we are proud of the progress that we have made in improving the GCSE outcomes and life chances of our students, we are clear where further improvements can be made to ensure that more students realise their full potential. Whilst performance measures change continually, we have retained a curriculum designed to meet student needs and not secure league table position. This remains one of our core values.

The school seeks verification of its high expectations and delivery whenever possible and as such, we are proud to hold a number of quality standards. Others are planned for the future but below are those secured to date:





Students

We are very proud of our reputation as a school that cares for each individual in the organisation and we do everything we can to ensure all our students are safe, happy and making good progress. The pastoral structure ensures our students meet with their form tutors twice each day so they have a familiar face to talk through any problems or ask for advice. We know our students well and do our very best to ensure they learn in a safe environment so that they will develop into self-reliant and resilient future citizens. When problems do occur, our students know they will be listened to and that we will work together in partnership to resolve them quickly and fairly.

The teenage years provide many challenges, for the young people themselves, for us as a school and for parents, and our experience tells us that working together to the same aim is the best way to resolve them.

We have a range of services available to support young people including:

- Non-teaching Student Support Leaders (SSLs) who look after pastoral needs
- Student Progress Leaders (SPLs) who track and ensure academic progress
- Independent Careers Advice and guidance
- School nurse drop-ins
- Nurture groups
- Peer mentoring
- Buddying system
- Homework support clubs
- Enrichment programmes
- Learning Support Centre with specialist staff





Parents

We have high ambitions for our students and we are sure they are matched by parents' high aspirations for their children. We fully acknowledge that students are more successful at school if they are supported by their parents, with parents and school working together in partnership. Just as we need every child to fully engage with the school and everything it has to offer, we expect parents to play an active role in their child's career at our school.

All parents sign a home-school agreement before their child starts at the school which clearly outlines the support they can expect from us and what we expect from our parent group. In addition, we run several parent focus groups where parents can discuss with staff issues such as reporting and assessment and can help drive change.

Every year group has a Parents' Evening to discuss progress with teachers and there are additional events at key stages in your child's education. At times parents may need our support and we may need theirs – and in any active partnership, people support each other. This is because we both have the best interests of every child at heart.



Facilities

In 2017, our new, multi-use, all-weather, floodlit, training pitches were completed and are used enthusiastically by both the school and the local community.

The school buildings have undergone significant renovations and refurbishment to ensure our students are taught in an environment fit for 21st Century learning. Our indoor sports facilities are superb; students have access to squash courts, a swimming pool, a large sports hall, dance studio and a high quality gym, in both PE and Games lessons and also after school, in addition to netball courts, a basketball court and fields outdoors. We have responded to our student voice to improve our cashless catering facilities including bringing in new menus, providing covered areas to eat outside and extending the dining areas through the addition of conservatories.

Student toilets have also been recently refurbished and we have an operative on site throughout the day ensuring that our facilities are clean and accessible. There are vending machines and water fountains available to students. Some students are involved in a garden project and have access to their own allotments on site. Specialist subject areas have bespoke classrooms available to them, including laboratories, technology rooms, workshops and computing suites, supported by non-teaching, qualified technical staff.





Community

We are a successful community school and strongly believe our young people should develop a good appreciation of their heritage and pride in their town and country. We have strong links with local primary schools who are regular visitors to the school; we are supported in the curriculum by local people, including members of the Rotary Club and local businesses, our MP, support agencies and voluntary groups, and our students reciprocate through participation in competitions such as Youth Speaks. Our young people regularly go out into the community to support others, raising awareness or funds for charities or just doing good deeds during focussed charitable projects.

Parents and friends of the school actively support the many school events running in the year, from Parents' Evenings to Careers Conventions via music and drama productions. It is also important that our young people develop a sense of the wider community and they have opportunities to work alongside students from other Bolton schools, for example in joint visits to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Our students also have opportunities to communicate with their peers further afield through visiting other countries. The world has become a much smaller place in the 21st century and developing their ideas about community, both local and global, will ensure our students are best placed to take advantage of the many opportunities available to them as they grow into adulthood.



Visit us by Car

Leave the M61 at Junction 5, and take the A58 Snydale Way. At the roundabout take the 4th exit and follow Manchester Road (the A6) until the first set of traffic lights. Then turn left onto Bolton Road. Follow the road for around half a mile and Westhoughton High School is situated on the left.

Visit us via Public Transport

Our school is close to both Westhoughton and Daisy Hill train stations and bus services run regularly here from Bolton town centre. To find out more, please visit the Transport for Greater Manchester website to plan your journey.



Contact us

Westhoughton High School Bolton Road, Westhoughton, Bolton BL5 3DN Tel - 01942 814 122 Fax - 01942 817 792 Email - <u>WHSOffice@westhoughton-high.org</u>



Job Description

Post: Main Scale Pay Range: Teaching T1-T9 (Starting salary negotiable)

Job Purpose:

To carry out the professional duties of a teacher as circumstances may require and in accordance with the school's policies under the direction of the Headteacher.

Support for the Student:

- To ensure that students are happy, engaged and making good progress, according to their age, interests, abilities and prior attainment
- To safeguard and promote the welfare of every child in the school
- To support the school in its commitment to the provision of equal opportunities for all students regardless of race, gender, disability or social background
- To support the school in establishing a positive learning environment and effective, cooperative working relationships between staff, students and parents
- To show passion and enthusiasm for learning and promote a high quality learning experience in lessons, independent learning and enrichment activities

Core Requirements of the Post:

In fulfilling the requirements of the post, you will demonstrate essential professional characteristics and performance appropriate to your salary band, and in particular will:

- Improve the quality of students' learning so that they make expected or better progress resulting in good or better progress at GCSE outcomes
- Build team commitment with colleagues and engage and motivate students
- Ensure 'whole school' implementation (and the development) of school policies by ensuring that you apply them consistently and to expectations
- Fulfil and build upon the professional characteristics (attributes, knowledge and understanding, skills) as laid down in the Professional Standards for Teachers (Sept 2012) defining your career stage against the school's career progression appraisal guidance
- Use the Appraisal process to advance student learning and enhance professional practice in line with the school's aspirations and priorities

Areas of Responsibility and Key Tasks:

Teaching, Learning and Classroom Management

You will effectively teach allocated students by planning to achieve expected progression of learning through:

- understanding and applying a range of effective teaching strategies
- understanding and applying effective classroom management strategies
- identifying, planning and communicating clear learning objectives and specifying how they will be taught and assessed
- setting varied tasks which challenge all students and ensure high levels of engagement
- setting clear targets that build on prior attainment ensuring that all student groups make good or better progress, with a particular focus on PPG students
- providing clear structures for lessons, maintaining pace, motivation and challenge
- ensuring thorough coverage of the relevant programmes of study
- maintaining discipline and rewards in accordance with the school's procedures and encouraging good practice with regard to attendance, punctuality, behaviour and standards of work
- ensuring students acquire and consolidate knowledge, skills and understanding appropriate to the subject taught



- evaluating your own teaching critically to improve effectiveness
- ensuring the effective and efficient deployment of classroom support to promote student progress
- positively identifying, targeting and supporting individual learning needs
- effectively using homework and other extra-curricular learning opportunities
- demonstrating appropriate consistent progress:
 - for all groups of students
 - across all teaching areas
 - across the spectrums of background, ability and behaviour
 - that compares favourably with students in similar settings

Monitoring, Assessment, Recording and Reporting

- by constantly and consistently using 'assessment to support learning' to inform planning, guide teaching and support effective learning and teaching
- by adhering to agreed data collection procedures (and timelines), provide assessment and performance data, which enables the evaluation of students' progress and set appropriate targets for improvement
- by adhering to agreed reporting policy (and timelines), provide accurate and informative reports on student progress to all stakeholders
- by adhering to the agreed marking policy of the school to promote student progress

Student Support Duties

Most teaching staff will be expected to act as a form tutor assigned to a group of students, effectively executing the agreed responsibilities which accompany this role, which include:

- working with the assigned Student Support Leader and Student Progress Leader, promote the academic progress and well-being of individual students and of the Tutor Group as a whole
- engaging in agreed student reporting procedures to support students and colleagues in ensuring compliance with agreed school standards
- liaising with Student Support Staff to ensure the effective implementation of the school's support systems
- registering students, accompany them to assemblies, encouraging their full attendance at all lessons and their participation in the wider aspects of school life
- alerting appropriate staff to problems experienced by students and making recommendations as to how these may be resolved
- communicating, as appropriate, with parents of students and persons or bodies outside the school concerned with the welfare of individual students, after consultation with appropriate staff
- contribute/deliver CEIAG activities according to school policy

Other Professional Requirements

- have a working knowledge of teachers' professional duties and legal liabilities
- operate at all times within the stated policies, practices and standards of the school
- maintain an up-to-date knowledge of good practice in subject (or specialism) teaching pedagogy
- take account of wider curriculum developments, including changes to national strategies
- contribute positively and effectively to the Every Child Achieves Agenda
- undertake Continual Professional Development to enhance teaching and students' learning
- co-operate with other staff to ensure the sharing and effective use of resources to the benefit of the school, department and students
- contribute to the corporate life of the school through effective participation in meetings and management systems
- take part in marketing and liaison activities such as Open Evenings, Parents' Evenings, Review Days, Enrichment Days and events with partner schools
- take responsibility for your own professional development and duties in relation to school policies and practices



- liaise effectively with parents, Governors and other stakeholders where appropriate
- you will carry out any other reasonable duties designated by the Headteacher
- This job description will be reviewed annually and may be amended at any time following consultation with the Headteacher.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, you will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a line manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description. Depending on the needs of the school, these may be altered from time to time in accordance with the conditions set out in the currently operating School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document and relevant Governors' Policy Documents.

This post is subject to the current conditions of employment contained in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, the 1998 School Standards and Framework Act, the required standards for Qualified Teacher Status and Class Teachers and other current legislation.

The school is committed to safer recruitment practice and pre-employment checks will be undertaken before any appointment is confirmed. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and it expects staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Bolton Council has a statutory duty under the Civil Contingencies Act to respond in the event of an emergency. If Bolton Council's Emergency Management Plan is activated, you could be required to assist, or assist others, in the continued maintenance and delivery of key council services and of support to the community. This could require working outside of routine working hours and could entail working from a place other than your normal place of work.

NB emergencies requiring activation of Bolton Council's Emergency Management Plan only occur very infrequently. If you are asked to respond to an emergency, your personal circumstances at the time will be taken into account.

Job description prepared in January 2019.

Mr P Hart Headteacher









Person Specification

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check will be carried out for the successful candidate.

An effective and impactful teacher will be able to demonstrate the following knowledge, skills and attributes.

Qualifications, Experience and Knowledge

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
 A good first Degree Qualified Teacher Status A commitment to own continuous professional development Successful practice in accordance with specified teaching standards 2012 (including training practice) within the 11-16 age range Understanding of child safe-guarding issues and successful measures that promote and ensure the safe-guarding of children Knowledge of current legislation, guidance and developments relating to subject area 	 Related further professional qualifications Evidence of continuing development of skills as a potential Leader 	 Application Form Original Certificates References Selection activities

Sets high expectations and inspires, motivates and challenges all students by:

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Establishing and sustaining a safe and stimulating environment, rooted in mutual respect	Evidence of working in a fully inclusive school	Application Form
Setting targets and goals that stretch and challenges students of all backgrounds abilities		Selection activities
and dispositions		References
 Demonstrating consistently, the positive attitudes, values and behaviour which are expected of 		
students		
• An ability to form positive relationships and be able		
to communicate effectively with people at all levels		

Demonstrates good subject and curriculum knowledge by:

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Having secure knowledge of the relevant subject(s)		Application Form
and curriculum areas		
Fostering and maintaining student interest in the		 Selection activities
subject and addressing misunderstandings		
 Demonstrating a critical understanding of 		References
developments in the subject(s) and curriculum		
areas and promoting the value of scholarship		
Demonstrating an understanding of and taking		
responsibility for promoting high standards of		
literacy, articulacy and the correct use of standard		
English, whatever the teacher's subject specialism		
Teaching in an informative and engaging manner		



Promotes good student progress and outcomes by:

Plan and teach well- structured and impactful lessons by:

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Understanding of what good or better learning		Application Form
looks like in the classroom		
The delivery of lessons which impart knowledge		 Selection activities
and develop understanding through effective use		
of curriculum time		References
 Promoting a love of learning and children's 		
intellectual curiosity		
 Planning and setting homework and other 		
activities which consolidate and extend the		
knowledge and understanding students have		
acquired		
Being a reflective teacher to improve practice		
Contributing to the design and provision of an		
engaging curriculum within the relevant subject(s)		
Taking responsibility for improving teaching		
through appropriate professional development,		
responding appropriately to advice and feedback		
from colleagues		



Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all students by:

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Having a secure understanding of how a range of		Selection activities
factors can inhibit students' ability to learn, and		
how best to overcome them		References
 Knowing when and how to differentiate 		
appropriately, using approaches which enable		
students to be taught effectively		
Having a clear understanding of the needs of all		
students taught, including those with SEND; those		
of high ability, boys, those with EAL; those with		
disabilities; and to be able to evaluate distinctive		
teaching approaches to engage and support them		

Make accurate and productive use of assessment by:

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
 Knowing and understanding how to assess the relevant subject and curriculum areas, including statutory assessments requirements Making use of formative and summative assessment to secure student progress Using relevant data to monitor progress, set targets and plan subsequent lessons Providing students with regular and informative feedback, both orally and through accurate marking and encouraging students to respond positively to that feedback 	 External marking experience Wider assessment experience 	 Application Form Selection activities References

Manage behaviour effectively to ensure good and safe learning environment by:

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Having a commitment to consistently engage with		Selection activities
the agreed processes and protocols within the		
school to establish appropriate routines and		References
expectations within the classroom to ensure		
impactful Behaviour for Learning		
 Taking responsibility for promoting good and 		
courteous behaviour at all times around the school		
and wider community in accordance with school		
policy		
 Maintaining good relationships with students, 		
exercising appropriate authority, and acting		
decisively when necessary		
 Knowing and understanding any specific health 		
and safety requirements for subject area(s) or other		
activities undertaken		



Fulfil wider professional responsibilities by:

Essential	Desirable	Evidence
An ability to form and maintain appropriate	Demonstrating an aspiration	Application Form
relationships and personal boundaries with staff,	to progress own career	
parents, young people and other stakeholders	Committing to organising and	Selection activities
Having a solution focused approach to all situations	delivering wider learning	
Demonstrating high level personal organisation and	opportunities for students to	References
management skills	engage positively outside of	
• Demonstrating an ability to work under pressure and to tight deadlines	the classroom	
Maintaining a positive attitude and professional		
approach to learning		
Maintaining an appropriate perspective, a sense of		
humour and a passion for teaching		
Demonstrating an enthusiasm for working in an		
inclusive comprehensive school environment		
An ability to be an effective team member, knowing		
how and when to draw on advice and specialist		
support		
Understanding emotional intelligence and		
motivational skills for teaching, mentoring and		
coaching		
Deploying specialist support staff effectively within		
the classroom		
• Communicating effectively with parents with regards		
to student achievements and wellbeing		
Having a commitment to equal opportunities,		
involving parents, governors and the local		
community where appropriate		



Application Process

Please download, complete and return the application form by the closing date specified. Candidates are asked to complete all the relevant sections of the application form and to submit a supporting statement, addressing the criteria listed on the person specification. This should be no longer than 2 sides of A4 paper. You may include examples from previous paid, unpaid or voluntary experience.

Please ensure that you provide an up to date email address with your application as we often contact candidates electronically rather than by post. The completed application form should be emailed: WHSOffice@westhoughton-high.org or posted to:

Miss A Hodson, PA to the Headteacher, Westhoughton High School, Bolton Road, Westhoughton, Bolton BL5 3DN

For further details, please contact the school office on 01942 814122 or for additional information about the school please visit the website www.westhoughton-high.org. This job description will be reviewed annually and may be amended at any time following consultation with the Headteacher.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, you will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a line manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description. Depending on the needs of the school, these may be altered from time to time in accordance with the conditions set out in the currently operating School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document and relevant Governors' Policy Documents.

This post is subject to the current conditions of employment contained in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, the 1998 School Standards and Framework Act, the required

Background Checks and Safeguarding Students

Westhoughton High School is committed to safer recruitment practice and pre-employment checks will be undertaken before any appointment is confirmed. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, medical clearance, satisfactory references, qualification checks and eligibility to work checks under the Asylum and Immigration Act. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and it expects staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



Thank you for considering Westhoughton High School and we look forward to receiving your application.