



Kieran McGrane - Headteacher

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Dear prospective candidate

Thank you for your interest in the vacancy for headteacher of Ponteland High School.

I am biased but I do believe this is one of the most attractive leadership roles in our region. If successful, you will lead a large school of wonderful students; be able to call upon the support of a highly talented and committed staff body; work closely with a knowledgeable Academy Committee; benefit from the support of parents who are invested in their child's education, and collaborate with fellow headteachers across Pele Trust.

Our school has gone through significant changes during my tenure including:

- Reorganisation from 3-tier to primary-secondary
- Establishing an 11-18 secondary school increasing in size from 1100 to 1600 students and adding 35-40 staff members
- Converting to academy status and setting up a Multi-Academy Trust
- Moving to a new state-of-the-art building
- Dealing with Covid, remote learning and everything else that was required of schools

We have emerged from these challenges all the stronger and are well placed to face the challenges that lie ahead.

As headteacher of Ponteland High School, you will play a significant role within Pele Trust. You will need to develop strong working relationships with your primary colleagues and be prepared to work with new schools that join the Trust over time. Additionally, the relationship between the successful candidate and myself will be crucial. I am committed to all of our schools but especially the high school, for obvious reasons, and I want the school to continue to flourish under new leadership. My role will be to provide support and challenge, as required, but you can be assured that I will not be a back-seat driver!

I would encourage you to visit our website www.ponthigh.org.uk and trust this gives a flavour of what our school is like, particularly the News section. I would also suggest you check out our @PontHigh Twitter feed for similar reasons.

Kieran McGrane
Headteacher/CEO



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