



## Hotspur Primary School

Mowbray Street, Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 5PA  
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Headteacher: Miles Wallis-Clarke  
Deputy Head: Annie Walker

April 2018

Dear Prospective Candidate,

Thank you for enquiring about the post of temporary Class Teacher at Hotspur Primary School.

We have one vacancy for September for a teacher that may be deployed anywhere in school depending on their expertise. As stated in the advert we are looking for an exceptional teacher who:

- is passionate about making a transformational difference to the lives of children;
- can plan stimulating, relevant and challenging learning that is memorable;
- reflects constantly on their teaching and children's learning;
- can use carefully structured programmes and guidelines systematically;
- works collaboratively;
- has the highest expectations of themselves and all children.

Hotspur is an award-winning building that is now thirty-four years old. It has a unique catchment area drawing from Heaton, Shieldfield, Jesmond Vale and Byker - children from very diverse backgrounds. In addition, the school has a national reputation for its work in creative education and, as a result, attracts many families that have involvement or interest in the arts. The school population has been steadily growing from 335 children to over 400 in recent years and is now oversubscribed in younger classes. 30% of pupils are in receipt of pupil premium funding and the school has a number of children with challenging home circumstances. These elements make it a stimulating, vibrant and exciting place to work. The talented staff team has a wide range of interests and skills and in recent years we have been awarded Gold for PE and Science quality marks.

Hotspur is a two-form entry school. Teachers work collaboratively and are flexible about grouping children according to the needs of individuals and particular cohorts. Children experience a hugely creative curriculum that is underpinned by very structured programmes to ensure secure and rapid progress in core skills. These include an intensive phonics programme, talk for writing and a maths mastery approach. There are many opportunities for children to pursue their interests through classroom learning and extra-curricular activities. There is substantial provision for instrumental tuition and a range of other creative activities. There is also a comprehensive PE and sports programme that is successful in engaging children in physical activity and in local and regional competitions. We are looking for teachers who can offer an excellent balance of creativity and structure.

At the core of our work we have a mission to provide equality of opportunity which drives the work of all staff in the school. We also employ a Learning and Equalities Champion and a Parent Support Worker to support disadvantaged children and their families. It is imperative that members of staff have high expectations of all our children.

Posts at Hotspur attract a lot of interest from high calibre teachers as it is a very effective and successful school. I hope that serious candidates will be able to visit the school before making an application so that they can learn more about the posts and the school. I will be meeting prospective candidates and showing them around school at **4pm Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

[www.hotspurprimary.com](http://www.hotspurprimary.com)

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**April 2018.** If you would like to attend one of these sessions please register your interest on our website.

If you wish to apply for the post, you should return the application form and safe recruitment form. A satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is an essential requirement for this post. You must disclose all previous convictions, cautions or bindovers; none of these may be considered "spent".

It is important that the school has information about whether or not you have any convictions so that this can be discussed with you at interview. Failure to return the safe recruitment form before interview and, in the case of the successful candidate, failure to subsequently obtain a satisfactory DBS check will disqualify you from further consideration for this post. Please note that disclosing criminal convictions will not necessarily prevent you being appointed. This information will be considered in light of its relevance to the post, as set out in the 'Code of Practice on the Disclosure of Criminal Convictions in Schools'.

I would like candidates to include in their **letter of application** their relevant recent experiences. I am particularly interested in how candidates balance creative learning with structured programmes. We have a very talented and experienced staff team at Hotspur and I would like to know what specific skills you would bring to the school.

A job description and person specification is also available on the school website to support the application. Please send a hard copy of your application (not by email) to the school office by **10am on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018.**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Miles Wallis-Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

Miles Wallis-Clarke  
Headteacher