

8th January 2019



Dear Prospective Applicant

Thank you for visiting Springfield's website with a view to learning more about the post of Head of Modern Foreign languages, as advertised. The vacancy has arisen due to the forthcoming retirement of our highly valued colleague, Mrs Clements, who has been with the school for a number of years.

I hope that the job description gives you a broad idea of the role and responsibilities required of the new post-holder. First and foremost we are looking for a dynamic leader: a professional who is passionate about languages learning and who can support the department's continuous improvement going forward. We understand that different schools have different approaches to MFL delivery and we welcome applications from as wide a field of experience as possible; it is high quality teaching and leadership potential for which we are looking. The successful candidate will join a committed, ambitious and highly professional staff team. Springfield is committed to supporting the well-being and professional growth of all staff; induction, personalised mentoring and on-going professional development will be provided to the successful applicant.

The teaching of modern foreign languages and culture is highly valued at Springfield and governors have an established 'languages for all' approach. Currently all pupils study either French or German throughout their school career; Spanish has also been offered at GCSE to pupils where there has been sufficient interest. The school has the highest EBacc entry of all schools (maintained) in Portsmouth – 68% in 2018. High entry and outcomes in GCSE MFL are, obviously, a key component of this and something that we would want to support and develop further with the new post-holder. In addition to the GCSE, the department currently also offers the FCSE in French and German. The department runs an annual residential MFL trip to France or Germany and other extra-curricular activities are encouraged.

I am aware that applying for a middle leadership role is a significant undertaking and we are more than happy to host informal visits or discuss the role in more detail over the telephone if this would be helpful. Please telephone my PA, Joy Russell, to let her know if you would like to arrange an informal visit or telephone call; it would be either with Ms Kelly, Assistant Headteacher, who line-manages the MFL Department or me.

Application is via the application form only and the deadline for applications is Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Kindly note that Springfield will only accept references from senior professional colleagues, one of whom must be the applicant's current Headteacher/Principal.

If you have any queries about the post or application process, please do contact me at the school.

I look forward to receiving your application in due course.

Yours sincerely

Sara Spivey  
Headteacher