Samuel Pepys School

October 2025

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the role of Deputy Head Teacher at Samuel Pepys School. This vacancy arises due to the planned, phased retirement of Penny, the current Deputy Head and the growth of the school, following major building works and remodelling. To help you consider if our school may be your next career opportunity, please do look over the attached job description and person specification and consider where your skills, knowledge and experience may be a great match. We want this to be the right move for you!

Careful thought has been given to what is important for the school when recruiting the new Deputy Head. This includes:

- Having a proven understanding of pedagogy and appropriate provision for pupils with PMLD, SLD, ASC and complex needs, across the age range (Primary and Secondary);
- Experience of planning and delivering high quality professional learning to help staff to grow and learn in the context of specialist provision;
- Robust knowledge and skills of co-producing and reviewing relevant, functional EHCP outcomes and targets and guiding staff and families to gather evidence of learning and progress;
- Lead whole school approaches for Therapeutic Thinking and reviewing co-produced therapeutic support plans with families;
- Enjoy working with colleagues in education, health, social care and have a network of contacts with other, likely special school, leaders locally and/or regionally;
- Being "forensic" in organisational detail, including the allocation of staff and rotas for shared resources

Pupil voice is important and pupils are particularly keen to be surrounded by adults who…*"are kind and caring" "know about the news" "good with technology" "can do an obstacle course"* [a great analogy for school leadership!!] *and "teach everything"*

We would love to hear what's important to you and hope the following may resonate:

- Wanting to know every pupil, staff member and family by name;
- Being ambitious for every pupil to achieve their best possible outcomes;
- Enjoy being active, busy and involved in all aspects of school life;
- Going forward, you may be considering headship in a specialist setting

You are likely to have additional specific skills and experience you can bring to this role, please do mention these in your application. If you have any questions at this stage, please do make contact via email or phone to arrange a time to have a conversation.
Thank you for your interest.

Yours sincerely

JoanneHardwick.

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