

Dear applicant,

I would like to thank you for your interest in the role of Teacher of Drama at The Derby High School. Having read all the necessary information about our school I hope you are excited about applying for this position.

At The Derby High School, we ‘Inspire to Make a Difference’. We have high ambitions for all our students. We are passionate about improving life chances and are committed to providing an outstanding education. We want each and every one of our students to achieve exceptionally well and succeed in life.

The school is an oversubscribed 11-16 Co-Educational Comprehensive (approx. 958 students on roll). We are situated in the Northwest of England in the heart of Bury, Greater Manchester and have good transport links to the city and neighbouring towns. The school's intake is truly comprehensive, with students from a diverse range of backgrounds.

The Derby High School, built in 1959, is an iconic building within the town with its distinctive look and extensive playing fields. Over recent years there have been some unique additions to the school, and these have enhanced our curriculum offer: a bespoke Performing Arts building, INSPIRE, three state of the art science laboratories, DISCOVER and a multimillion-pound Sports Hall, EXCEL. In 2018 we built a STEAM Garden, a cross-curricular outdoor learning space, designed by our students for the school and wider community. Two years ago, we opened CREATE, a purpose-built Design & Technology block that enables our students to develop skills working with various materials, Food and Nutrition, Engineering and CADCAM. Reflecting our commitment to providing an outstanding education for our most vulnerable students we have most recently renovated an area of the school to house INCLUDE, a bespoke base for our SEND students

Our curriculum is based on a ‘Resilience Framework’. It is dynamic, challenging and engaging, enabling our students to excel in all areas in school and preparing them for their lives beyond high school. We offer a vast range of external excursions for every curriculum area, including to local colleges and universities, challenging stereotypes, raising aspirations, and engendering a sense of awe and wonder from the world around us.

There is a strong willingness to grow independent learners with the skills and experiences to thrive in a modern world. We prepare our students to become tomorrow's leaders through extensive opportunities to develop leadership skills. We are a school where all matter, and our pastoral care ensures our students feel safe and happy.

We believe that enabling our students to flourish and reach their true potential is what drives our staff and that is why we achieve outstanding Progress 8 scores year on year (P8: 2018 = +0.40, 2019 = +0.30, 2022 = +0.44, 2023 = +0.41, 2024 = +0.35). Our data puts us as the highest performing school in Bury since 2018 and our most recent results indicate we have sustained this position in 2024. We are driven by strong moral values that puts students at the centre of all we do and so we are particularly proud of the positive progress our Pupil Premium students make. This commitment to excellence will be unceasing. We want to make a difference to the lives of the young people we serve.

The Drama Department is part of a large and dynamic Expressive Arts Faculty. The successful candidate will have the use of a black box studio theatre space and state-of-the-art dance studio based in ‘Inspire’ which consists of: two music classrooms, a media classroom, dance studio and drama studio.  At Key Stage Three, students study an hour of drama every week. At Key Stage Four, students currently study Pearson (Edexcel) BTEC Performing Arts. We consistently achieve a 100% pass rate and positive progress in Drama and the successful candidate will be able to maintain this level of attainment at Key Stage Four.

The school has well-established partnerships with many prestigious organisations and community groups and the Expressive Arts Faculty plays a central role in influencing and maintaining a number of important projects. We regularly attend and participate in workshops, seminars and performances at local, regional, national and global venues.

Many students go on to study Arts related subjects post-16 and we work closely with our Arts Alumni who regularly return to school to support our students. This is an exciting opportunity for a talented Drama teacher who wants to work in a school that is committed to providing the highest-quality Arts education. We are seeking someone with high standards and expectations who would bring their passion for Performing Arts to the students at The Derby High School. I guarantee that we will support, guide and prepare you for the next stage in your career.

At The Derby High School, we value all our staff and their well-being. We place a significant emphasis on professional development and provide opportunities for staff to lead, collaborate and take part in action research. Staff are overwhelmingly proud to work at the school.

You are reminded that the closing date for applications is **28th of March 2025 at 9am**.

The Derby High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. We are a safer recruitment employer, and the successful candidate will be subject to Enhanced DBS clearance and all pre-employment checks to include acceptable references.

I look forward to receiving your completed application and reading what you have to offer The Derby High School.

Good luck.



**Ms C Helen Hubert**

Headteacher