

 **Prudhoe Community High School**

 **Information for applicants**

**Expect Excellence**

**Keep raising achievement**

**High standards, High expectations**

**Promote the Positive**

**Keep looking outward**

We are a 13-19 High School with approximately 750 students on roll (200 in Sixth Form).

**Head Teacher**  Deborah Reeman

**Chair of Governors** Rob Moore

Prudhoe Community High School is a very hardworking and caring school which draws students from 100 square miles around Prudhoe. Our Sixth form provision caters for over 200 students. We have a good examination record at GCSE and A Level.

We are a school that is full of enterprise, drama, art, music and sport and sees these areas as crucial in developing a whole range of personal and social skills.

We work closely with our parents/carers and directly consult via a parent/carers group which meets half termly. There are opportunities to submit views via regular questionnaires for staff, students and parents/carers.

**Our School aims:**

Our aim is to create a caring and secure environment in which young people can:

* maximise their individual potential through a broad set of personal learning experiences
* develop their own self-respect through personal achievement
* acquire knowledge, understanding and skills necessary for a successful transition to adult and working life
* participate in the community and develop a sense of environmental responsibility
* develop their own values but empathise with and respect the views of others
* be creative, imaginative, enquiring, adventurous and ready to challenge established facts, views and motives

**We intend to ensure Prudhoe Community High School:**

* has high quality teaching and learning and is noted for academic achievement
* provides a safe and calming environment in which young people of all abilities and backgrounds can learn, grow up and foster a positive community with shared values
* has courteous and well-mannered students who have evident pride in the school, and a sense of ownership
* engages the commitment of parents and carers
* provides professional development, education, training and support for all staff
* provides high quality facilities within a safe, clean and well managed environment

We are in the unique position of moving to a brand new purpose build ‘under one roof’ school from September 2016. In addition we have access to the FUSE Media Centre which brings great opportunities for students to develop their creative skills in an industry- standard environment with a 100 seat cinema, TV and audio studios. We have a brand new 3G pitch and changing facilities shared with Active Northumberland.

This is a school where students will be challenged to work hard and give of their best. We are a happy and caring school where individual needs are met and where every individual student matters.

**About Prudhoe**

Prudhoe (population 19,000) lies in the southern part of Northumberland only 12 miles west of Newcastle. The area around includes attractive rural countryside with dormitory villages, some industry along the Tyne Valley, and there is a wide range of good quality housing available. Prudhoe is close to the Northumberland National Park, yet enjoys easy access by road and rail to the urban amenities of the Tynedale conurbation.

The school is a co-educational 13-18 Comprehensive, and because the school attracts students from neighbouring LEAs this results in a comprehensive diverse mix of ability and background, we are a true comprehensive school. We are a successful school, which has shown considerable imagination and initiative in raising standards, breadth of opportunity and commitment for education in the school and the community it serves. Our current “expect excellence’ motto, reflects our aspirations for our school.

**Management & Leadership**

Our staffing structures are designed to raise levels of student achievement, through a clear focus on the quality of teaching, learning and assessment and tracking progress. The Leadership Team takes the lead in the achievement of the school’s objectives and monitors the school’s performance. This team is supported by the Team Leaders who have a responsibility for day to day, operational issues, including teaching, learning and assessment, data tracking, quality assurance and appraisal etc. We also have Heads of Achievement and Learning who ensure year groups work effectively.

**CPD**

We are committed to ensuring every member of staff is able to carry out the role in the very best way possible and as a consequence we develop an annual CPD programme both voluntary and compulsory. This year (2015/16) all our staff development is focussed on “Excellence is…’ e.g. in marking, in questioning , in assessment . We also run an Outstanding Development Opportunity group and every member of staff is encouraged to be ‘outward facing’ visiting other schools to learn from best practice.

**Curriculum & Organisation**

The foundation year (Year 9) follows a common curriculum of English, Mathematics, Geography, History, Ethics, Art, Music ,Drama, Modern Languages, Physical Education, Science and Technology.

In Years 10 and 11 students choose from a wide range of subjects with the option of additional subjects which lead to different qualifications. Students are guided to make a broad and balanced choice. All students follow courses in Mathematics, English, Science, Social & Ethical Studies and Physical Education. In Years 10 and 11 they have the opportunity to add an integrated and more practical programme of studies to the core of GCSE subjects.

**Our Post 16 provision**

We have a strong Sixth Form with a high staying-on rate of approximately 65%-70%. Sixth Form students can choose from a comprehensive range of A level and Applied courses.

**Guidance and Welfare**

Guidance and Welfare is organised on a year group basis. Meetings are arranged so that parents can consult with teachers. Each Year is under the leadership of a Head of Achievement & Learning. Student Year assemblies take place at least weekly and there is a highly effective programme of tutorial called our BIG5 centering on - Current Affairs, PSHE, reading, personal organisation etc.

**Extra-Curricular Activities**

At PCHS we are justifiably proud of our record in this aspect, with a wide variety of activities in sport, music, art, drama, enterprise, international exchanges, overseas trips, school productions, and charity work.

**We are looking for……**

a very well-qualified, enthusiastic, energetic, ambitious, and ‘willing to go the extra-mile’ applicant to fill this role and support us in moving the school forward. At PCHS, we have a friendly and supportive staff body; we are a warm and welcoming school. We moved with rapid speed out of special measures and are now judged by Ofsted as requires improvement. Many aspects of the school are fantastic, our extra-curricular programmes, our pastoral support, and our students. During our recent inspection our sixth form, student behaviour, and attendance were all judged as ‘good’. We believe we are, collectively, moving the school forward and have our new build to look forward to. Our aspiration is to be one of the best schools in the North east.

**Are you interested?**

We hope so. Thank you for your interest in working with us here at PCHS and we look forward to receiving your completed application form.

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| **For the post of Deputy Headteacher February 2016**Please complete an application form and any other information requested.Please write outlining in no more than 500 words what skills, qualities and experience you would bring to this post. In addition in no more than 250 words outline the major changes on the educational horizon over the next 5 years and how you envisage PCHS adapting to these changes.  |

**Deborah Reeman**

**Head Teacher**