



PRINCIPAL: CLAIRE COATES
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Vacancy: Head of Drama
To start: 1 January 2020
Salary: MPS/UPS and TLR 2A £6,646
Contract: Full time and permanent

Information for Applicants

The Vacancy:

We are seeking to appoint an ambitious, innovative **Head of Drama from January 2020**. *The ability also to offer Dance to BTEC level would be an advantage.*

The College is committed to providing a rich Arts curriculum. Both Music and Drama are popular subjects and are taught to all pupils at Key Stage 3, with the Eduqas Drama syllabus currently followed in KS4. A candidate able to develop the Dance offer at the College would be particularly welcomed – there was insufficient interest in last year's Year 9 to be able to offer Dance at KS4 from this September, although a strong group entered BTEC in summer 2019, and we are keen for the subject to grow. The College is working with the Local Authority with a view to opening a Sixth Form Centre on site from 2021. The successful candidate is therefore likely to have the opportunity in future to introduce drama-related Key Stage 5 study as appropriate.

The Drama department is well resourced and taught in a well-equipped studio, and in the performance hall. We are currently fund-raising to equip this new performance hall with tiered seating and professional-quality theatre equipment. Teaching facilities are excellent across the College and IT development is ongoing: our Year 9 is the first cohort to have been issued with one-to-one iPads, with the incoming Year 7 also part of this initiative from this September, and current Year 8 later this academic year. We intend to roll out individual iPads for pupils in all year groups over the next 2 - 3 years.

The school supports drama performances; high quality productions of *Oliver!*, *Grease*, and *We Will Rock You* have been performed as collaborations between the Drama and Music Departments since the College opened. This year, *Macbeth* the Musical, adapted and scored by our Head of Music and produced by the Head of Drama was performed and received with huge enthusiasm. We are keen that pupils are given maximum opportunities to perform and develop their skills and self-confidence through participation in the performing arts, and seek an

energetic, skilful and creative individual to take the department forward. One further Drama teacher currently teaches in the department. A chartered librarian, IT technician and excellent TAs support our work.

Please see the Year Group information sections on the website for further curriculum information: www.cambournevc.org

For further information, and to arrange a visit please contact: Emily Moody, Deputy Principal emoody@cambournevc.org Pre-application visits to the College are welcomed.

Full details are provided on the Job Description and Person Specification.

How to apply:

Please complete the Teacher Application Form located on the Cambourne Village College website (www.cambournevc.org) and attach a letter of application (consisting of no more than 2 sides of A4 when printed). In your letter of application, please explain:

- The reason for your interest
- Your relevant track record that confirms you could fulfil the expectations of the role
- Your reflections on how you could contribute to the further development of Cambourne Village College as a truly excellent school

Applications should be submitted to:

Mrs Josephine Jenkins, Human Resources, via email: jjenkins@cambournevc.org Tel 01954 284034

Closing Date for Applications: Noon on Wednesday 25 September 2019.

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An Enhanced DBS check will be carried out for the successful candidate.

General Information for Applicants

Context

Cambourne is a new settlement, eight miles west of Cambridge. It is already a significant community and a further 2400 new homes are planned within the imminent Cambourne West development. Cambourne Village College opened as a new 11-16 Academy and Free School of the Cam Academy Trust (formerly the Comberton Academy Trust) in September 2013. The College opened with six forms of Year 7 pupils and grew by one new intake each year; our second cohort sat their GCSE exams in the summer of 2019. CamVC was initially built for a roll of 750 students, but has expanded rapidly to accommodate nine forms of entry, with a current roll of approximately 1120. We are now in discussion with the authorities to plan for the opening of a sixth form centre on site, potentially from September 2021. The school has rapidly gained the support of the local community and co-operates strongly with its catchment primary schools, all situated in Cambourne.

The Cam Academy Trust

All staff at Cambourne Village College, along with those at Comberton Village College, Melbourn Village College and St Peter's School, Huntingdon, are employees of the Cam Academy Trust, whose CEO is Stephen Munday. The Trust has recently become significantly cross-phase with the membership of seven primary schools and more under negotiation. The schools share a number of high-level executive Trust staff, for example in Finance, IT and HR, and seek to collaborate on educational matters wherever possible. Cambourne Village College has worked in particularly close partnership with Comberton Village College from the outset.

Designations

Following its first, very successful, Ofsted inspection, the College gained Leading Edge status and successfully bid to become a Teaching School within the Cambridge Area Teaching Schools Alliance. From September 2019, CamVC also became a partner school of the Faculty of Education at the University of Cambridge. We are actively developing our work with trainee teachers, and employ a number of Specialist Leaders of Education to increase our capacity to take on a range of school-to-school support work. The College encourages research, with staff participating in projects at a range of levels. We are continually developing our CPL offer for our staff, with many teachers participating in Trust-based programmes.

In 2018, Cambourne Village College was a finalist in the Pearson School of the Year Awards, winning Silver in the 'Making a Difference' category – a huge accolade for a school only five years old, and a reflection of the very strong relationships already developed with the local community.

Standards

Extremely high standards of achievement and pastoral care have been quickly established, as recognised by the 'Outstanding' grade in all four Ofsted inspection categories, awarded to the College in May 2015 – a rare achievement for a new secondary school in its fifth term of opening. An annual Cross-Trust Review process confirms these high standards are maintained.

The first set of GCSE results for the College were awarded in summer 2018, the school achieving above the national average ranking for the KS4 Overall Progress 8 measure at 0.34. Results for summer 2019 were also very pleasing with Progress 8 reported at +0.39, with 48% of pupils gaining 5 GCSEs including English and Maths at Grade 5+, and 69% at Grade 4+. We are building on these very strong results with projects under way to develop whole school reading and vocabulary acquisition, pupils' skills of metacognition, and to narrow the differential between boys' and girls' achievement.

Broad Education

The school's formal day runs from 8.35am to 3.00pm with 6 timetabled lessons of 50 minutes per day, run over a two-week cycle. Pupils see their tutors daily - most teachers are also form tutors - and have a weekly assembly. Details of the curriculum taught in each subject can be found on our website under the *Parent, Carer and Student Information* tab. However, we believe that education should be broad and should give opportunities to develop individual interests. Many members of staff also offer activities within a very full and wide-ranging extra-curricular programme that runs each day from 3.00 p.m. There are many school trips and visits, both national and international, supported by a central Trips Administrator.

The College is engaged in a rolling programme to equip all pupil with iPads to enhance their learning. Pupils in Years 7 and 9 all have their own device, with Year 8 to follow this year, and all pupils by September 2021. Staff all have their own iPad and laptop computer.

The Village College

The outlook and ethos of Cambourne Village College are fully in line with the tradition of Village Colleges established as the vision of Henry Morris in the first part of the twentieth century for

community-based schooling. Cambourne Village College has, from the outset, sought to be at the heart of its community and to serve the needs of the whole village, not just our 11-16 year olds during the designated school day. The College is open on almost every evening and weekend for adult education classes and extensive community use of our excellent facilities.

Pastoral Organisation

Pastoral care in the College is overseen by the Deputy and Assistant Principals responsible for the supervision of the year teams. Each Year Team consists of a Head of Year, Assistant Head of Year, Pastoral Support Assistant, and team of tutors. Most teaching staff will have responsibility for a tutor group and most teachers carry out 4 supervisory duties around school over the two-week cycle.

The Premises

We are fortunate to work in a newly-built school, furnished, decorated and equipped to a high standard, with excellent facilities for teaching and learning. Sports facilities include 3G pitch, sports hall and gymnasium; performance facilities are under further development and include drama/dance studio and large performance hall. Music is taught in a separate, dedicated wing. High speed broadband, good access to computers and sets of class iPads enhance learning. Since its outset, the College has employed a full-time, qualified librarian. The library is a vibrant learning space and is highly valued by pupils and staff.

The Staff

Our staff are highly skilled, highly committed, innovative, mutually supportive and sociable. Joining Cambourne Village College represents a remarkable and exciting professional opportunity. It offers the chance to help to establish a new and rapidly growing school whilst working within a wider high-quality Academy Trust which gives excellent possibilities for professional and career development. Staff morale is extremely high, evidenced in our Investors in People report: 'People describe high levels of camaraderie and teamwork, also the opportunity to influence change. There is shared motivation to achieve and people are loyal and enthusiastic about the Academy. There is a culture of praise and recognition, which people buy in to'. In our most recent staff survey (March 2019), 97% of all staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: 'I am proud to work at Cambourne Village College.'

School Ethos

All of our work is carried out in the context of our Ethos Statement, to which all members of the College were invited to contribute in the summer of 2017:

Cam VC: Aspiring to Excellence

- *We are a dynamic, innovative and outward-looking school.*
- *We value every individual and seek the best possible outcomes for each one.*
- *Our staff is highly qualified, exceptionally committed and continually learning.*
- *We nurture mutually-beneficial partnerships which enhance our pupils' opportunities and well-being.*
- *We are sustained by collaboration, mutual support and trusting relationships.*
- *We are an open, friendly school, where all people feel they belong.*
- *We are proud to serve our community of Cambourne and want Cambourne to be proud of us.*

Teaching and Learning

- *We have the highest aspirations for all pupils and the utmost belief in each individual.*
- *We deliver a rich and diverse curriculum, rooted in the needs of our pupils.*
- *We strive to remove all barriers to learning and refuse to allow disability or social disadvantage to limit our expectations or the achievements of our pupils.*
- *We inspire our pupils through excellent teaching.*
- *We value the expertise of our subject specialists, entrusting them to hone pupils' skills and to ensure access to powerful knowledge.*
- *We access technology for optimum impact.*
- *Our teaching is underpinned by meaningful data and rigorous, accurate assessment.*
- *We work together and across departments, sharing good practice to enhance performance and relationships.*
- *We create opportunities for research and professional learning for all members of staff, through our Teaching School and wider partnerships.*

Our Pupils

- *Our pupils enjoy school. They engage actively in their learning, inspired by excellent teaching and a sense of shared purpose.*
- *Our pupils are confident learners; they build self-esteem and are willing to challenge themselves, take risks and learn from mistakes.*
- *Our pupils attain standards which reflect their full academic potential.*
- *We foster imagination, adaptability, resilience and ambition.*
- *We create opportunities for every pupil to build independence, teamwork and leadership.*
- *Pupils treat each other and staff with respect and consideration.*
- *Positive behaviour is an inherent expectation.*

Leadership

- *Our leadership teams guide the school with vision and discernment.*
- *All leaders are role models: they act with integrity, are highly visible, and are approachable by all.*
- *Teaching and learning is at the heart of all decision-making.*
- *We believe in devolved leadership; middle leaders are highly trusted and empowered to have impact.*
- *All staff have opportunities to contribute their expertise to strategic school decisions.*
- *Communication across the school is direct and timely.*
- *Our leaders know the staff, communicate how much they are valued, and seek to sustain their well-being.*

Parents

- *We seek to engage with all parents in relationships based on mutual trust and respect.*
- *We believe in frequent and open communication, aiming to work with parents to maximise each child's school experience*
- *We have policies that are clear and easily understood, encouraging parental engagement and support.*

- *We maximise the use of technology to ensure full and swift communication.*

Community and Partnership

- *We are a Village College and embody this ethos.*
- *We work in full co-operation with our Trust partners to enhance all our pupils' education.*
- *We build local partnerships across all phases of schooling to ensure cohesive educational experiences.*
- *We engage with our local business community to sustain growth and opportunities for our mutual benefit.*
- *We work with our Locality Team, social and health workers, and all other relevant agencies to integrate support and sustain our pupils' well-being.*
- *We seek international partnerships to widen our pupils' understanding of their place in our world.*