HUNTER HALL
PREPARATORY & PRE-SCHOOL

CANDIDATE INFORMATION – PRE-SCHOOL EYFS PRACTITIONER

The Role – Pre-School EYFS Practitioner: Welcome! A rare and exciting vacancy has arisen for a Pre-School EYFS Practitioner. This is a full-time position Monday to Friday (school term time only). There is also the potential for some holiday club work. This is a great opportunity to be part of something special; we are incredibly proud of our school and strive to provide a warm, caring environment in which to work.

The School: Hunter Hall School is a small, happy and beautiful independent preparatory school on the edge of the stunning northern Lake District close to the market town of Penrith. We are the only stand-alone preparatory school in Cumbria and are very proud of the reputation we have for delivering an education of exceptional quality. To find out more about our school please our website.

Why join us? Why wouldn't you? A happy, warm and welcoming school culture, delightful children, enthusiastic staff and brilliant parents. We are a school of under 100 pupils with small class sizes and a developing Pre-School offering the best quality of care. We are located in a farm setting with buildings transformed from cow sheds and milking parlours to classrooms over the years. Our curriculum both inside and outside of the classroom is extensive and our end product (the children of course!) go on to a number of significant senior schools both in the state (including grammar) and independent sector, equipped with life skills for the future.

Application process: Please apply immediately if you are interested and feel you fit the brief. Please include a CV in addition to the application form and handwritten letter. The more we know about you the better.

If you would like to know more or visit before applying, please contact us at: office@hunterhall.cumbria.sch.uk / 01768 891291 or visit www.hunterhall.cumbria.sch.uk for more information on our school.

The deadline for applications is 12 noon on Monday 14th March 2022

Applicants should include:

- **a completed application form;**
- **a letter of application;**
- **a full and up-to-date curriculum vitae ;**
- **the names and addresses and telephone numbers of three referees. One or more of which should be from an educational provider where possible.**

Hunter Hall is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks

with past employers, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) as well as Prohibition from Teaching and Prohibition from Management checks if appropriate. The appointment will be subject to the satisfactory outcome of a DBS Enhanced Check. In addition to the candidate's ability to perform the duties of the post including a medical declaration, the interview process will also explore issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Warning: where a candidate is found to be on the barred list or the DBS disclosure shows that he/she has been disqualified from working with children, or other false information is given in the application the facts will be reported to the Independent Safeguarding Authority and/or Police and any offer of employment immediately withdrawn.

One referee should be the applicant's current or most recent employer. Please note that references will not be accepted from relative or from people acting solely in the capacity of friends. References will be sought prior to interview and the school may approach previous employers for information to verify particular experience or qualifications, before interview. Where an applicant is currently working with children, the current employer will be asked about disciplinary offences relating to children and whether the applicant has been the subject of any child protection concerns and if so, the outcome of any enquiry or disciplinary procedure. Where an applicant is not currently working with children but has done so in the past, the previous employer will be asked about those issues.

All candidates invited to interview must bring the original documents confirming any educational and professional qualifications referred to on their application form. Where originals or certified copies are not available for the successful candidate, written confirmation of the relevant qualifications must be obtained from the awarding body by the applicant.

Where the successful candidate has worked or been resident overseas in the past 5 years for greater than 3 months, the School will carry out such checks and confirmations in accordance with statutory guidelines. If relevant, the School will also verify the right of foreign nationals to work in the UK.

All candidates invited to interview must also bring with them:

- a current passport (if you do not hold a current passport, or you do not hold a British passport, then further evidence will be required as proof of the right to work in the UK) and photographic evidence such as a photographic driving licence with accompanying documentation;
- Your original birth certificate
- a utility bill (within three months) showing name and home address;
- where appropriate, any documentation evidencing a change of name.

All applications should be clearly marked: Confidential and for the attention of Mrs Donna Vinsome. Applications can be emailed to office@hunterhall.cumbria.sch.uk or sent by post to Hunter Hall School, Frenchfield, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 8UA.

We look forward to hearing from you shortly and hopefully meeting you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

D Vinsome

Mrs D Vinsome

Head teacher

The School

Hunter Hall Preparatory School was born in 1985 after a public meeting in Penrith, addressed by Viscount Whitelaw, gave its approval. When it opened in September of that year it had the sum total of 25 pupils. However, it did not start its life on the site it occupies today, but instead in the village of Great Salkeld and in fact in the actual house named Hunter Hall of its inaugural Headmaster Aiden Warlow. Over the years his school grew and developed and by 1989 Mr Warlow handed over the ownership of the school to a newly formed trust consisting of the whole of the parent body at the time.

By 1991 space was at a premium and new premises had to be sought. Much work had to be done as the buildings were those of a working farm and used to hosting cows and sheep rather than children! Dedicated staff, parents and governors helped to create classrooms out of farm buildings and created the footprint that you see today. Lord Whitelaw presided over the opening of the school in its new buildings in December 1991.

1993 saw a change of headship when Mrs Louise Dexter (one the school's staff original members) took over as Headmistress and it was at this time that the school opened an Infant Department catering for 4 to 6 year olds. A year later saw a change in the trusteeship of the school when the school became a charitable trust with a newly appointed governing board. The whole school parent body stepped down from being trustees of the school.

Developments in the fabric of the building continued to unfold with the opening of Nutkins Nursery in 1996. In 2003 Mrs Dexter retired and Mr Alan Short, who had previously been Deputy Head of St George's Prep School in New Zealand, took the helm as Headmaster. During his time the school continued to grow both in the number of pupils attending and in the provision of its facilities.

Dr Anthony Winzor arrived in 2009 stepping up from Governor to Headmaster and oversaw the Dutch Barn being converted into an all-weather play area; the conversion of the cloakroom and the location of the new library. The current Head teacher, Mrs Donna Vinsome, took up office in 2013 and has further developed all aspects of school life including the development of the science centre and the introduction of outdoor education curriculum, ensuring that Hunter Hall in 2022 offers children a first-rate education, in the classroom, on the sports field, in the creative arts and in outdoor activities.

The school was named in the Sunday Times recently once again as one of the top 100 independent schools in the country; as well being a finalist in the TES Awards (Times Educational Supplement) and receiving an excellent report from ISI Inspectors in our last inspection. It has an impressive record of preparing its pupils for entry to a wide range of independent and state senior schools.