



LOXWOOD
SCHOOL



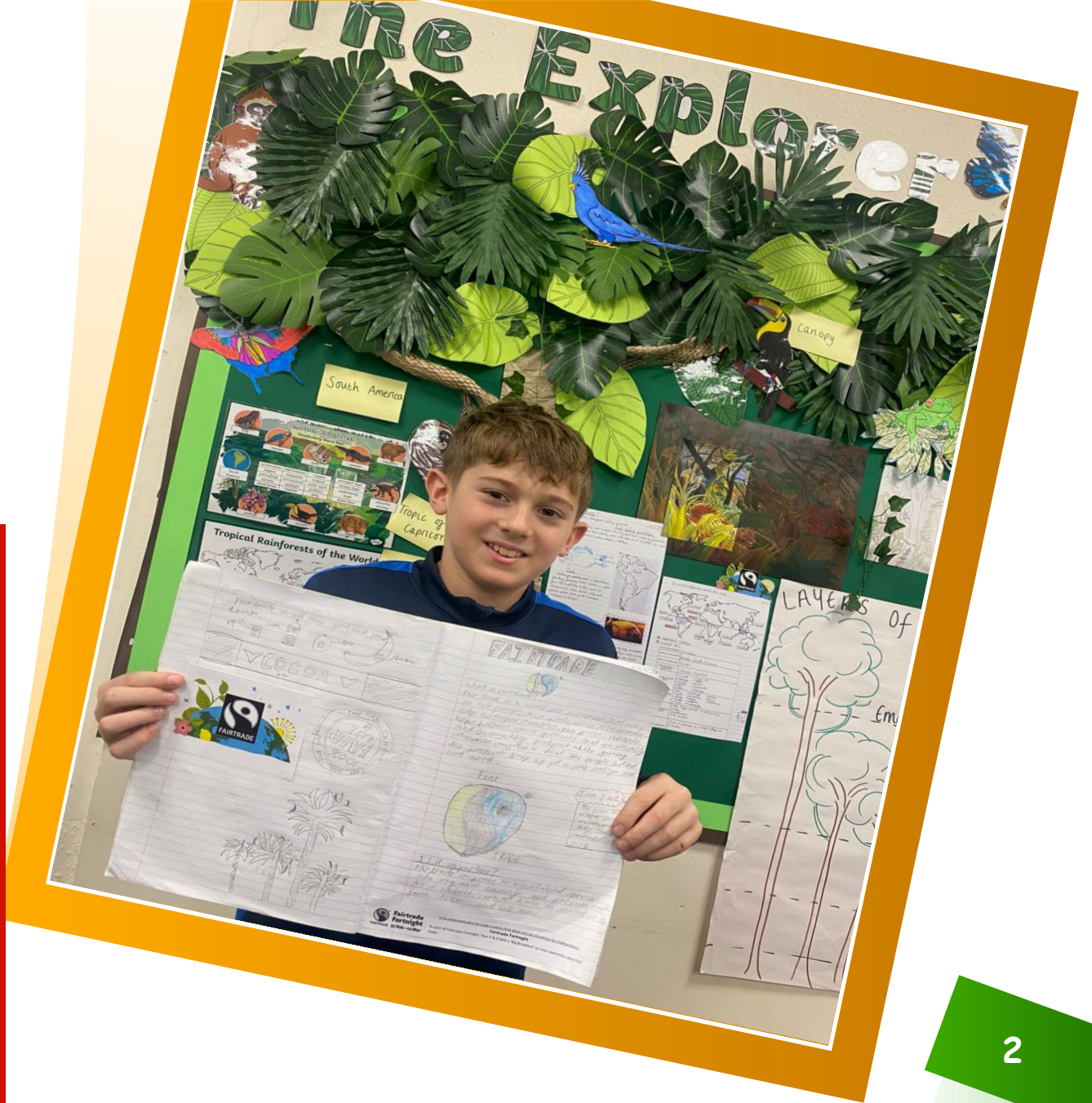
Headteacher Recruitment

Information pack

Get to know Loxwood

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A letter from our Chair of Governors



Dear applicant,

We are delighted that you have expressed interest in the role of Headteacher here at Loxwood School. We know that Loxwood will provide an excellent opportunity as you seek to make the next step in your career.

Loxwood School is a place that pupils are happy to come to and where they learn to build character and consistently behave, work and play well. The teaching team have high aspirations for and expectations of the children and actively encourage confidence building and wellbeing through opportunity within and beyond our lovely school grounds. The school leadership have embarked on a strategic development journey through the last two years, reflected in our Ofsted outcomes. We have achieved recognition from Ofsted and we continue to strive to improve further upon this, to meet the ever-growing challenges and opportunities in education for our young people and community.

Our school is in good shape and you will find a well-run organisation. You will lead a school that is nurturing to pupils, has an invested parent community and is supported by committed governance. We are ambitious at Loxwood and see the recruitment of a new Headteacher as a fantastic opportunity to enrich the school and enhance our exciting direction of travel. We will be appointing a Headteacher who will have the commitment and passion to build on the school's vision to provide high quality education in a nurturing environment. You will have a strong record of strategic senior leadership and will support, develop, shape and share the school's vision and ethos.

We warmly welcome informal visits to the school so you can see for yourself the school in action, meet our staff and pupils and be inspired by the opportunity this role offers. On behalf of the Governors, I do hope that the information in this pack will encourage you to apply with the confidence that the post will be an exciting step in your career. We look forward to receiving your application.

Professor Anna McNamara

Chair of Governors

Our school

Loxwood primary school is a one form entry school based in Loxwood, West Sussex. We are part of the Weald locality and both our senior leadership team (SLT) and governor teams are proactive within the localities.

Loxwood is based within a small rural development and has an abundance of outdoor space and woodlands area, which is very much our shining star and school ethos. We have seven classes and work closely with the local Loxwood preschool, located on our site as well. The school has a parent association (PALS) which is active and regularly holds fundraising events, it is a fantastic addition to the school community. We also have a house-based system with 4 houses that represent our community: Brewhurst, Drungewick, Malham & Southlands.



Our school in the community

In 1953 the Nicholsfield housing estate was built in Loxwod and was the first of it's kind in the village. A decade later in 1964, the school was built and the old victorian site on guildford road closed after 200 years. That building still stands today.

Many of the children live and come to school in the village, as you would expect from a rural primary school. In more recent years we have continued to see children from surrounding villages in West Sussex join us, as well as just across the border in nearby Cranleigh, Surrey.

We play an active part in the village, attending local parish meetings, having good relationships with the local public house, the Onslow Arms and are children often visit local sites such as the Wey & Arun canal site.



School on a page

Data insight
from 1st March
2024

March 2024	
Age range	4-11 years
Pupils on roll	188
Year groups	7 (one form entry)
Pupil Premium	15%
Disadvantaged	28%
EAL	7%
SEND Support	16%
SEND EHCPs	5%
Leadership Team	Headteacher, Deputy Head and SendCo, School Business Manager
Teaching team	7 teachers, 6 Teaching Assistants, ELSA and one-to-one Support Assistants
Nonteaching team	Administrator, Premises Manager, Midday Supervisor, Breakfast and After School Club
Governing Body	5 Co-opted, 4 Parent Governors, 1 Staff member, 1 Head, 1 Local Authority and 1 Associate Member
Ofsted	17 th -18 th May 2023: Good

Our Ambassadors

Loxwood Primary School are proud to have six trained Anti-Bullying Ambassadors who are now working with Mrs Swann and Mrs Mellors to earn badges for the school.

These children (in Years 2-6) are chosen by their teachers to represent our core value of kindness and for their ability to spread positivity. Good mental health and wellbeing helps our children to learn effectively, cope with day-to-day challenges and develop into resilient young adults.

Our Eco Warriors are leading the school in our aim to reduce our carbon footprint and reduce, reuse and recycle. We are just starting on our journey towards the green flag award.



Our School Council

There are two children from each year group in our school council, who are nominated and voted for by their peers.



Our new headteacher

We recently asked some of our wellbeing ambassadors, school council and year groups about the search for our new headteacher.

Here's what they had to say about searching for a new headteacher:

Someone that shares our school values

We love to visit the woodlands and get outdoors, so someone that enjoys that too

We think that they should be fair and listen to every point of view

Someone who can deal with difficult situations

We would like for our new Headteacher to love sharing stories and reading us books

It would be great to find someone that is passionate about sport

We really like to be creative and inventive, someone who can share that with us

School Improvement & Development priorities

Our key focus areas are to:

Ensure financial robustness and stability for 2024 and beyond

Improve the quality of teaching & learning in our core subjects especially through consistency in maths & writing

To improve attendance, punctuality and behaviour across the school

Continuing to develop wellbeing and the children's understanding of diversity across the school

Improve the provision in our EYFS and early KS1 to ensure children have the best start.



Our ethos

Loxwood Primary School is a collaborative community that believes that every child should be inspired to discover their own talents and believe in their very own, unique potential.

We encourage our children to be curious and to love lifelong learning, ensuring that they are prepared and resilient for the world beyond Loxwood.

We ensure that every child that is part of our school feels safe and happy and understands the importance of kindness in all that they do. Inclusivity is a key part of all of our learning and development at Loxwood.

At Loxwood, we encourage our children, staff and governing body to believe in a growth mindset approach. We believe that everyone should continue learning, trying new things and making mistakes, because that is how we learn.



Our values

We encourage our children to be creative and curious learners, to find out what they enjoy doing and we ensure that this is part of our curriculum intent at every stage of their school journey.

We have created a growth mindset with five core values which are at the heart of everything that we do at Loxwood and in keeping with our woodland setting and love of outdoor learning we have named them **Collaborative Bees**, **Resilient Hedgehog**, **Kindness Badger**, **Curious Owl** and **Creative Spider**.



Our values

We believe that our curriculum should be exciting, purposeful and fun and we have spent time as a teaching community, creating a teaching and learning provision that enables every child to thrive. All of our children embrace the **Loxwood learners code** which brings together all of our core values and enables them to become independent learners.

Here are some of the things we love about our school, alongside our values:



Curiosity

We love experiencing new things and going to new places - like our trips to London and the theatre or our nature school trips around West Sussex.



Collaboration

We love events like World Book day, Sports day and our yearly events that bring our school together.



Creativity

We really enjoy forest school, because we can express ourselves. We also love to create and be imaginative.



Kindness

We really enjoy celebrating events from around the world and understanding more about what makes us all unique.



Resilience

We love sports day and sporting events in the community. These teach us to be more resilient



Why you should choose Loxwood

You will be joining a warm, friendly and inviting school community that has happy children and parents. We are fortunate to have a well-established teaching community, a new but robust non-teaching team and a very focused and supportive governing body. Loxwood school has been through a period of transformational change, and we are still in the early parts of our journey, but we have been fortunate with our most recent leadership and team support that has enabled us to continuing building on the foundations of a good school.

We have high aspirations, and we are looking for a candidate that can bring energy, passion and experience to our community in order for us to continue growing.

Nurture is very much on our agenda, with our leadership having recently undertaken the therapeutic training for schools and wanting to continue bringing these approaches to the community. Our next leader should be able to recognise the importance of wellbeing for all of our community and we very much hope that they can invest the necessary time and commitment for us to thrive in this area.



Why you should choose Loxwood

Joining Loxwood school will be an opportunity to join a growing and developing village school that is at the early days of its journey to be even better. This Headship comes with the opportunity to lead on some existing projects, continue embedding the foundation work that has been created over the last two years and create new and exciting projects to continue inspiring the school community.

It is an opportunity to make a real difference to a school.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is very important to us at Loxwood and our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff, volunteers and associates to share this commitment. There will be a need for the successful applicant to undertake a CRB check via the Enhanced DBS process.





Application Form

Application form
Reference number: HTLOX24001

Please visit the West Sussex County Council Website and complete your application, ensuring that all sections are completed. If there are any sections not completed, you should ensure that a detailed explanation is given on this particular field.

We ask that all applicants also submit a supporting letter of application, in which you should consider the personal specification for the role with evidence of where your current role and former experience supports it.

Your letter should be no more than 2 sides of A4, font size no smaller than 10 please.

Please submit or email your application to Chair of Governors: Anna McNamara on amcnamara@loxwoodschoo.com by 12:00pm on Friday 5th April 2024.

Short-listing will take place on 9th April with interviews anticipated to take place on 17th and 18th April 2024.

References must be provided and should include your current chair of governors or your current headteacher and either your local authority advisor or CEO of a multi-academy trust. These will be sought prior to interview, after shortlisting.



We can't wait
to meet you

Applications close 5th April
2024