



## Pittville School

Cheltenham

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**Headteacher** Richard Gilpin

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Dear Colleague

Thank you for your interest in this post which is crucial to the leadership and development of the school. Pittville School is a rapidly improving 11-16 school in the heart of Cheltenham. It is a happy school where staff enjoy working and students enjoy learning; "Relationships across the school are very positive. Consequently, the school is a calm, orderly community which pupils are proud of, and they enjoy school life" (Ofsted 2019). Our most recent Ofsted was in June 2019, when the school was judged to be good in all areas. The report recognised the scale of the improvements that we have brought about at Pittville, which continues to improve. Just four years ago the school attracted 76 students in Year 7. In September 2020 we admitted 175 students and maintained our high number of first preferences. The number of first preferences for September 2021 is 194 for a PAN of 175.

Our ethos is based upon the warm, friendly atmosphere which pervades the classrooms and corridors. Behaviour is very good and attendance is much improved. The everyday life of the school revolves around the house system, which provides excellent pastoral care and guidance for all the pupils. Ofsted commented, "The personal development of pupils is a growing strength of the school. As a result of a strong personal, social and health curriculum, pupils learn how to be respectful of others and are intolerant of prejudice" (Ofsted 2019).

The school has come a long way in the last few years but there is still more to be done. The school can make further significant progress and I am looking forward to working with the person appointed to drive forward those improvements in science.

Teachers and students work hard and work together very well. We have a busy, ambitious governing body and our support staff provide exceptional service so that all areas of the school run effectively and professionally. The school is entering an exciting new phase where we expect results to rise dramatically in line with the excellent culture that pervades the school and the changing ability levels within our larger cohorts at Key stage 3. Ofsted commented in 2019 'Pupils make strong progress from their starting points. The standards they attain are rising year-on-year and are now good'. We are confident that the school continues to make rapid progress in this fundamental area and look forward to seeing this trend continue and accelerate.

I appreciate the time and effort that you will have put into this application process and look forward to receiving your application form and possibly meeting you in due course. Phone calls and visits to the school will be most welcome prior to shortlisting.

Good luck!

Yours sincerely

R Gilpin  
Headteacher