



**Pittville School**  
Cheltenham

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**Headteacher** Richard Gilpin

January 2022

Dear Colleague

Thank you for your interest in this post which is crucial to the leadership and development of the school. Pittville 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 last 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. In 2014 the school attracted 76 students in Year 7. For September 2022 we have 259 first and second preferences and we will admit 175 of them.

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.

Our ethos is based upon the warm, friendly atmosphere which pervades the classrooms and corridors. Behaviour is very good and attendance is now strong. The everyday life of the school revolves around the house system, which provides excellent pastoral care and guidance for all the pupils. Ofsted commented, "Pupils take a pride in their work; their exercise books are well presented, and they show high levels of productivity" and "Pupils value their school and are very loyal towards it." As 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 hope to see this trend continue and accelerate.

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.

Much has been achieved since the previous inspection including a comprehensive curriculum review setting out a broad programme which is ambitious for all students and promotes student attainment and engagement. Progress has been made on creating a data knowledgeable teaching community and there is a focus on monitoring and evaluation in order to ensure that staff are held accountable for the students they teach.

The ability levels of our cohorts have improved as the school has become more popular. The leadership team is leading our response to this rising ability profile and there is a sharp focus

on raising the ambitions of both staff and students. The successful candidate will build on the work of the current deputy headteacher, David Eagleton, who is relocating to London.

From September 2022 the senior team will comprise:

- Richard Gilpin      Headteacher
- TBC                    Deputy Headteacher (Raising Standards)
- Amanda Peck        Business Manager
- Martin Watkins     Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral Care)
- Julie Pitt             Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum and Data Tracking)
- Karen Foster        Assistant Headteacher (Pupil Premium, ICT Provision)
- Penny Kavanagh    Assistant Headteacher (Teaching and Learning)
- Emily Bottell        Assistant Headteacher (Designated Safeguarding Lead and SENDCO)

In the application pack you will find a person specification and job description. Please note that only candidates who fulfil the essential requirements will be shortlisted, therefore, please ensure you refer to the components of the person specification in your application form. During the selection process, each candidate's fulfilment of the requirements will be evaluated using a variety of tools and the process will also include an assessment of your suitability to work with children.

Pittville School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Any offer of employment will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory DBS Enhanced Disclosure. Your current or previous employer will be contacted as part of the verification process. If you are short-listed, any discrepancies or anomalies in the information provided or issues arising from references will be taken up at interview.

Please attach a cover letter to your application, no longer than two sides of A4, outlining how your skills and experience make you a suitable candidate for this role should be returned to [jobs@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:jobs@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk) for the attention of Linda Ferrabee.

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