

Headteacher
King Alfred's Academy
L35 – 41 (£90,773 – £105,132)
Wantage, South Oxfordshire

The Governors of King Alfred's Academy and the Directors of the Vale Academy Trust are seeking to appoint an exceptional new Headteacher for this successful school with its strong academic history based in Wantage.

As Headteacher, you will provide the leadership and direction essential to delivering the highest quality educational offer for our students, enabling them to make good academic and developmental progress, whilst sharing a strategic vision with both governors and the Vale Academy Trust.

Wantage is an attractive market town nestling below the North Wessex Downs in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, in the heart of the Vale of the White Horse and a stone's throw from the oldest highway in Britain – The Ridgeway. Situated 6 miles from the internationally renowned Harwell Science Campus and the Diamond Light Source Synchrotron, the Academy enjoys flourishing links both with the science community and other local employers and organisations.

King Alfred's, a genuinely inclusive school, draws in approximately 1800 students from the town and neighbouring large village of Grove, as well as other surrounding villages in this part of rural Oxfordshire. A growing number of students from South Didcot and Lambourn in West Berkshire are also choosing the Academy in Year 7 and for Post-16 courses, with our 2017 A level/BTEC results being the highest in Oxfordshire for any state school – 40% A*/A.

It is an exciting time for the Academy, having recently undergone £17m worth of capital investment across its two sites, resulting in a state-of-the-art Science Block (open from Jan 2018) as well as other bright, modern teaching facilities and classrooms. Work on a new Sports Hall on its West Site and expansion of the Sixth Form Centre is also due to commence shortly. All in all, these will add up to a portfolio of outstanding facilities for our learning community that will enhance teaching and learning for our students well into the 21st century.

Alongside this, King Alfred's has recently made a move to update and change to a smart new school uniform as pictured in the Applicant Information Pack.

One of two secondary schools within the Vale Academy Trust and a founder member, King Alfred's is also a National Teaching and Support School, as well as being a lead school within the Oxfordshire Teaching Schools Alliance. This offers outstanding CPD opportunities for our staff and includes School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT), a vital source of teaching talent.

Capitalising on the Academy's place within the community, you will secure and maintain effective networks with other schools, higher education institutions, local employers and organisations, as well as the Trust. (Further information on The Vale Academy Trust is available on the Trust's website – www.vale-academy.org)

As Headteacher, you will also be expected to model excellent teaching skills and to teach a small part of the timetabled curriculum.

In-depth information relating to this vacancy, including details of the application process, is featured in the Applicant Information Pack, which also features a full Job Description and Person Specification. <http://www.vale-academy.org/vacancies/#1512571713711-138e4f9f-00b3>

Closing Date for applications: Monday 19 February 2018 at 10am. Applications should be submitted electronically using a Vale Academy Trust Teaching Staff Application Form, downloadable from the vacancies page on the Vale Academy Trust website.

Please email completed applications to Vicky Roberts – vroberts@vale-academy.org.

Interested candidates are warmly invited to visit the school on either Wednesday 7th or Thursday 8th February, prior to submitting an application. Please contact Vicky Roberts to arrange this, or to discuss the possibility of visiting on an alternative date – vroberts@vale-academy.org or call Vicky on 07387 019785.

Candidates are also invited to contact the CEO of the Vale Academy Trust, Simon Spiers (tel. 01235 754070) prior to application for a preliminary conversation or in the event of any questions about this post.

Shortlisting will take place on Wednesday 21 February.

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 March – 2 day process.