

**Headteacher**

Mr M Hignett BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher

Mr G Pyburn BA (Hons) PGCE, MEd

Senior Assistant Headteacher

Mr A Parkhurst BA (Hons) PGCE, M.A

Assistant Headteacher

Miss K Preece BA (Hons), PGCE

Assistant Headteacher/SENDCo

Miss A Warren BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQSL, NASENCO

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WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Applicant,

Lakelands Academy Business Manager/Chief Financial Officer Appointment

Thank you for the interest you have shown in the post of Academy Business Manager/Chief Financial Officer at Lakelands Academy. We are hoping for the appointment to start as soon as possible.

At Lakelands Academy we aim recruit outstanding people, and recognise that the school's staff is, without doubt, its greatest asset. We would rather make no appointment than appoint someone who is not suited to our ethos. For this reason, we try to articulate clearly our vision, values and expectations when putting together information for applicants and we always give a lot of attention to appointing the right person.

We aim to recruit staff who:

- are excited by their role and by the prospect of working in an educational environment;
- will subscribe to our ethos and 'go the extra mile' in terms of time and commitment to get the very best for and from our students;
- are able to challenge but can also be supportive.

I am conscious that this may be your first contact with us and first impressions are very important. I hope what you read, coupled with anything else you discover about us, inspires you to apply for this post. I was in a similar position myself a little over eighteen months ago when I was applying to Lakelands Academy for the role of Headteacher and I am therefore confident in what your research will present.

Located in the heart of Ellesmere, Lakelands Academy is surrounded by beautiful countryside and some of the country's most stunning scenery. We are committed to providing the very best education for the children of Ellesmere and its surrounding villages and recognise that this is a fantastic place for our children to live and learn. In addition, we take our responsibilities to our families and the local community very seriously, and as a respected and trusted centre of the local community, our aim is to help the whole community develop and prosper.

Lakelands Academy is a smaller than average school and with this advantage, we know all our students personally. We aim to encourage each student to be a happy and self-confident individual



with an enquiring and independent mind, who respects the differences of others. We want to enable each child to develop a true sense of resilience and self-worth.

Lakelands Academy is a highly aspirational school for students 11-16. We pride ourselves on our determination to deliver excellence in every aspect of our provision and to help our students to become confident, independent and articulate young adults. Our aim is to provide an exciting and nurturing learning environment where students can truly flourish. We are a collaborative and outward facing academy – openness, trust, honesty and integrity are essential to the way we work.

In the last 9 years significant financial investment has created an inspirational learning environment which captures the imagination of students and provides them with opportunities to engage with their learning. We have an exciting Science block, Creative Arts and Technology Area and dining room, along with enhanced learning facilities for English and World Studies. Our last major funding programme amounted to £655,000, which enabled the construction of a full size, floodlit all weather sports pitch and a wellbeing centre.

Following Ofsted's visit in January 2022, inspectors judged the school to be "good" and commented that "strong teaching is leading to improvements in pupils' progress" and that "a warm and welcoming environment has been created." They identified that "parents and carers are positive about the school and are grateful for the care it provides for pupils".

The successful candidate will join a well-established Senior Leadership Team that is totally committed to further school improvement and will play a key role in taking the school into the next phase of its development. Following the outstanding work of our present Business Manager, the person appointed will play a vital part in the financial and strategic planning, and leadership, of the academy.

If you decide that you want to join a dynamic and committed team of people who will stop at nothing to provide the very best educational experience for every student, then please submit an application for the post.

Using the application form provided, please submit full details of your experience and qualifications, alongside your supporting statement in section 11. Your application should be submitted by e-mail to finance@lakelandsacademy.org.uk

In addition to your supporting statement, please address the two questions below (max 500 words each): -

1. How do you see the role of the Academy Business Manager/Chief Financial Officer supporting improved outcomes for students?
2. What is your leadership and management style? Use an example of a project you have led including the outcomes achieved, to illustrate your response.

Consideration of your responses will form part of the selection process.

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: 12 noon, Tuesday 28th January 2025. We reserve the right to make an appointment before the closing date, so early applications are encouraged.



Lakelands Academy

A complete application pack is available on the academy website (www.lakelandsacademy.org.uk), and includes:

- Application form
- Job Description
- Person Specification
- The most recent Ofsted report

Along with these documents, our website www.lakelandsacademy.org.uk is intended to provide candidates with contextual information about Lakelands Academy.

Interviews will take place on Friday 7th February 2025. A short list of candidates will be sent further details and will be invited to the academy for a day of interviews and tasks.

We shall be emailing invitations for interview by Friday 31st January 2025 at the latest. If you do not hear from us by then, please assume that you have been unsuccessful with your application. Thank you again for your interest. I look forward to receiving your application.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs A Skone, Finance Manager on askone@lakelandsacademy.org.uk or telephone 01691 622543.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Hignett
Headteacher