

Dear applicant,

Teacher of Science with University Teacher Fellowship

I'd like to welcome you to Falinge Park and for your interest in this unique post. For four years, we have partnered with SEERIH (Science and Engineering Education Research Innovation Hub) and the University of Manchester and have developed collaborative practice with the University and our partner primaries which has benefited all our pupils and our primaries. We believe that encouraging pupils to love and be inspired by Science requires staff in every stage to work together, learn from each other and build on key concepts and scientific skills. Our work together has led us to undertaking lesson studies across phases which have been showcased at the World Association of Lesson Studies; we hold an annual Greater Manchester Science Share and Greater Manchester Engineering Challenge; subject specific learning for primary and secondary staff and contribution to research papers. In order to support this partnership I have seconded a member of staff out two days a week for the previous two years to work at the SEERIH centre in the University of Manchester. During these days, my member of staff works for the SEERIH team and reports to Dr Lynne Bianchi, SEERIH founder. This member of staff has recently been promoted to Head of Faculty in a school in a different authority and we have agreed that we will advertise for an external Science teacher to work at Falinge and with SEERIH.

This year, the post requires delivery of KS3 and KS4 at Falinge on a timetable of 29 periods out of 50 with three days over a fortnight spent at the University. At the University you will have the opportunity to strategically strengthen our existing partnerships, look at developing Science networks across our local area and lead on wider event planning such as the Greater Manchester Science Share. We are also undertaking a research project with schools in Manchester and contribute to publications such as Teach like an Engineer.

It is quite an unusual post but a great opportunity for someone who wants to explore leadership across the school, or for experienced staff who fancy a change in role. We do not have in mind a specific length of time we expect you to have served, we just want to see if you are committed to strengthening Science provision across all phases of educational establishments and if you have the creativity and innovation to build on what we have already achieved. Funding for the secondment is available until July 2021 and we can guarantee that the role will continue for this period of time. If you are interested in applying or would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact us. It is an unusual and unique role and I hope you will be able to see the potential.

Why Falinge?

Our objective is simple at Falinge: **to create a compelling learning experience.** We do this by believing in people and positive relationships. This underpins our actions with each other and with the children. We have only one non-negotiable in school and that is our commitment to Safeguarding.

Opening Doors; Unlocking Potential

If you visit the school I would hope you would notice the warm, welcoming environment; the excellent behaviour of the children; strong staff morale; a commitment to professional development of all staff; and a strong sense that this is a place where learning is valued. We do this through peer to peer collaboration, learning hubs, accredited courses, lesson study and developing a culture where we can take risks and learn from mistakes. We were very proud to receive a Gold award in our latest audit by the Teacher Development Trust with comments in the report including:

“Thank you for a deeply impressive visit. Falinge is a school where professional learning is at the heart of everything it does. The culture of collaboration and pedagogical discussion is one of the strongest I’ve seen and the engagement with research and evidence is similarly strong.”

As with any organisation, we don’t get it right all of the time – but we make sure that we work in a non-judgemental environment and we focus our actions have to be for the benefit of the children.

Next steps?

If you are interested in applying, please look at the person specification, our website, the SEERIH website <https://www.seerih.manchester.ac.uk/> and familiarise yourself with what we are about. If you would like to visit the school please contact my PA Lisa Fitton on fittonl@falingepark.com to arrange a visit and we will make sure we accommodate you. When writing your application, it’s important that we see some of your vision for how you can make this work as well as outlining your experiences.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Allen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

**Janice Allen
Headteacher**