



Heron Primary School Heron Way Abbeydale Gloucester GL4 4BN  
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April 2019

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your enquiry. I am pleased to be sending you some information about our school.

The school serves an area, south of Gloucester City Centre with children coming mainly from the Abbeydale and Abbeymead Estates. We take in a maximum of 60 reception children each year in parallel classes of 30. The school is very popular and has a high reputation within the community. The available places are consistently oversubscribed.

Under the School Standards and Framework Act, from 1 September 1999, Heron Primary School became a Foundation School. The school maintains very strong links, however, with the Local Authority.

The school was inspected by Ofsted in October 2015 under the new framework. The staff, Governors, children and parents were very pleased with the excellent outcomes. Ofsted said 'The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection.' Please take time to read the full inspection findings.

The school is in a strong financial position with a well-managed surplus. The school has very good purpose built accommodation and facilities that are exceptionally well-maintained. As a result of a number of extensions, we now have 14 classrooms with the added facilities of a superb library, ICT suite and large hall. A new building project has recently been completed to provide a music/drama studio for school and community use. The school is organised into three departments, ie Foundation Stage/KS.1, Lower KS.2 and Upper KS.2. Each department has its own playground facilities as well as shared use of a large playing field suitable for a wide range of games and sports. Within the grounds there is also a pond and environmental area and woodland walk. There is a fenced, outdoor play area for children in the Foundation Stage. Recent building projects have resulted in a new reception entrance area and enlarged staffroom. In addition, all 14 classrooms have been remodelled as part of a major capital building programme.

We encourage children to be respectful and self-confident, to take responsibility and show initiatives in their own learning. It is our aim to create a caring, happy, well-structured, lively and stimulating place to learn. The school has a strong focus on PSHCE and has a flourishing School Council which meets regularly with representatives from classes.

Whilst we are committed to raising standards in English and Maths, we strive to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum with creativity being highly valued. The School ensures that all staff have access to high quality Continued Professional Development (CPD) opportunities.

Staff at Heron believe it is very important to work closely with parents. We value them as essential partners in the education of their children and we try to enhance the communication between home and school whenever the opportunity arises. It is important that a mutual understanding and trust should form the basis of our partnership and shared responsibility. The school has a Community Family Worker and Attendance and Welfare Officer who assist us in achieving these aims. We also have a thriving Friends of Heron School Committee



comprising of parents, Governors and staff who organise social functions, raise funds and contribute a great deal to the life of the school.

The Senior Management Team (SMT) currently comprises of the Headteacher supported by two Assistant Headteachers, Business Manager and SENCo. In addition, each member of the SMT has a pastoral responsibility eg Head of Foundation Stage/KS.1. The wider Leadership Team includes three teachers with teaching and learning responsibilities (TLR's) for ICT Development, Staff Induction and Healthy Children.

We have a strong team of Governors who give generously of their time and skills in supporting the school.

### **The Application**

Please complete the GCC application form, which will help to give us a picture of your personal qualities, professional experience and curriculum strengths. Please also give the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees. Your application can be sent for the attention of the Headteacher, to the school address.

As stated in the advertisement, the school is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children and the appointment is subject to an enhanced DBS clearance. Applicants will also be required to complete a Self-Disclosure Declaration.

We welcome visits to the school, please contact the office to arrange an appointment. Thank you very much for your interest. We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mrs C. Brookes".

**Mrs Claire Brookes**  
**HEADTEACHER**