



Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst

Candidate Pack

2024
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2025

Welcome to Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst



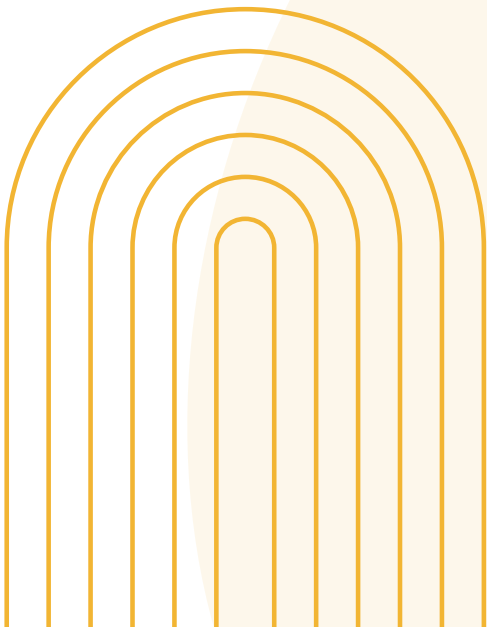
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What's inside

Principal's Welcome	4
Community	5
School Context	6
Letter from Chair of Governors	7
Letter from Community Governor	8
Letter from Community Member	9
Staff Testimonials	10
Students Testimonials	12
Employee Benefits	14
Facilities	15





Dear Candidate,

I am Nicola Crehan, the very proud Principal of Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst which is a vibrant and inclusive community school made up of 1200 extraordinary students and 120 devoted members of staff.

I know that for someone wanting to advance in their teaching career whilst ensuring they get a sense of fulfillment, deciding on the right role and school is crucial - and it can also be more than a little daunting. With this in mind, I wanted to convey an honest and transparent account of who we are and what to expect – and what we expect in return. This is in the hope that I can help you make informed decisions and lay any preconceived notions to rest.

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst is a truly remarkable school which has been on a rapid improvement journey for the past three years since it became part of the Tudor Grange Academies Trust family. As a learning community, we strongly believe that every student deserves equitable life chances, and that a high quality academic and holistic education is the key to raising aspirations and improving outcomes for all.

Our children are curious and creative, and we do whatever we can to encourage a lifelong love of learning and equip them with life skills that enable them to reach their full potential. We expect everyone within our school community to be ready, responsible, and respectful. These are our school values which can be seen and felt in every corner of school life. We ensure that by the time our young people leave Kingshurst, they are prepared and excited to take their next steps into further education, or embark on their career journey.

Anyone considering joining our school must share and understand our ethos, vision and values from the start. We know the power of quality education and the difference exceptional teaching can make to our students and their families. Therefore, we are on a mission to find exceptional educators and facilitators who share this belief and want to add value to the lives of young people.

I'm sure you will have looked at our past OFSTED ratings and perhaps some soundbites which, combined, create a less than positive narrative regarding our school's history. These will all form part of your decision-making process and we encourage you to apply due diligence so that you immerse yourself in the culture and improvement journey of the school that you choose. I urge you to look past this. Please take a look at our recruitment video (shared on LinkedIn, here)

I feel incredibly privileged to serve this community and I will continue to do so with unwavering commitment and a promise that our young people will become responsible, respectful young adults who are ready to flourish in all aspects of life. If you feel the same, I'd love to hear from you and would love for you to apply to one of our vacancies.

I hope that you will be excited to hear about our plans. Making a difference to so many young people is a total joy.

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst is truly a great place to be.



Mrs Crehan
Principal

Community

Our Young People

It's impossible not to feel emotional when we think about our young people. With a proportionally large SEND and disadvantaged community, inevitably some of our children come to Kingshurst with their own set of challenges. However, we know that it is these children that often offer the richest rewards. We have the knowledge and expertise in the school to meet their needs. We build their trust and confidence and delight in their fun-loving personalities. When they feel secure, they fully engage with their learning. They just want, and need to be inspired by great role models who genuinely care about them. Our young people are the greatest part of this academy. They deserve the very best.

Our children know that they want the best for themselves and are now aspiring for the very best. Building this sense of worth has been our biggest success over the last year. Because of this, we will not compromise on our mission to provide them with the best expert teachers and our recruitment and staff development is crucial to our success.

Our Community

If you want to be part of our school, you must understand our community – its successes and challenges. If you research Kingshurst by postcode you will immediately see the challenges. You will read that it is an area with high deprivation, social poverty, and rising levels of crime, and this will undoubtedly spark concern. I understand that this may present some red flags for some but would ask you to pause and delve a little deeper.

Do consider the wealth of opportunities afforded by local funding assigned to the area to improve its infrastructure. See beyond the reports of social deprivation, and come and experience, firsthand, the warm community spirit and the culture of kindness and support. Our community pull together and I'm proud to say that we are fully immersed as a school and provide a supportive hub for our families. We, alongside so many great families in the area, are changing the incorrect reputation of Kingshurst and will continue to challenge the narrative. It is a privilege to serve this community.

Come and visit us and you will see for yourself.



School Context

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst (TGAK), is a large school situated in North Solihull, close to the Birmingham border. There are currently 1,143 students in years 7-11 and another 141 in the Sixth Form across 29 ethnicities. Six of the nine localities which make up Kingshurst and Fordbridge are in the 10% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country. The deprivation is mirrored amongst current students at TGAK, as 63% of current students live in IDACI decile one in the 10% most deprived areas across the country, with a further 15% in decile two. In addition to this, 20% of students have a SEND diagnosis, this translates to 250 students. As a result the students in our care deserve the very best the school can offer.

Leaders have been ambitious in developing a highly inclusive school with all students attending the academy having access to a broad and balanced curriculum strengthened by being part of a forward-thinking Multi-Academy Trust.

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst is an institution that fosters an ethos of working hard and wanting to achieve. As a result, the academy places significant value on the arts, sport, clubs and societies to ensure the whole child is nurtured and cared for. We value our students collectively and individually and acknowledge and celebrate this fact.



Letter from Chair of Governors



Dear Candidate,

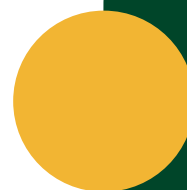
I have worked with Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst for over 10 years and I am proud to be part of this academy journey.

The whole team at TGAK have impressed me by establishing and maintaining a positive relationship between teachers, students and families.

The whole school community is committed to inspiring students to achieve and fostering a culture of learning and improvement. Involvement of families and community is key to the success of the school in transforming lives.

I am committed to this academy journey.

Ms Sue Hall
Chair of Governors



Letter from Community Governor

Dear Candidate,

After a 21-year professional football career, I transitioned into a role in sports and community engagement. Since retiring, my voluntary roles have spanned various levels, including managing and coaching grassroots teams. I proudly serve as a trustee at Solihull Moors Community Foundation, enabling me to work more directly with hard-to-reach young people in Solihull. Additionally, I am a committee member of the Birmingham City Former Players' Association. My appointment as a governor at TGAT reflects my commitment to contributing to the growth and development of future generations.

Honoured with the Mayor's Award at the Civic Honours Awards hosted by Solihull Council, my privilege as a governor at Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst has immersed me in the vibrant community, creating an authentic connection with the school's transformative journey. Under visionary leadership, the academy is undergoing remarkable change, solidifying its commitment to excellence.

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst stands out for the resolute spirit, ambition, and insatiable thirst for knowledge displayed by its students. Their inspiring resilience reflects a collective drive to surpass expectations. In this nurturing environment, characterized by a strong sense of community and unwavering high expectations set by the students, aspirations not only take root but flourish into achievements.

The dedicated efforts of teachers, staff, and the local community resonate in every facet of the school, shaping an educational journey that goes beyond academic accomplishments to foster profound personal growth. The undeniable energy at Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst is a testament to the encouragement each student receives to dream big, work diligently, and unlock their highest potential.

Being part of Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst is more than a governance role; it is an immersive experience in a dynamic hub of aspirations. Encouraging engagement with parents and pupils, and suggesting ways to improve synergy between all, I take pride in contributing to a community passionately dedicated to empowering students. As we collectively celebrate the academy's achievements, I eagerly anticipate witnessing continued improvement, not just in academic excellence but also in the well-being and sporting achievements of its exceptional students, ensuring the enduring success of this remarkable institution.

Mr Dele Adebola
Community Governor

Letter from Community Member



Dear Candidates,

As a social historian who has worked on numerous local history projects in various schools in and around Birmingham, I have been involved with what is now Tudor Grange Academy Kinghurst over the last decade and it is a joy to witness the rapid and constructive improvement in the school since it joined Tudor Grange Academies Trust.

Under the determined, focused, and inspirational leadership, a team of talented teachers is fast developing - a team providing a wide range of educational accomplishments. A positive atmosphere pervades every aspect of the school. It's one which values the pupils, their families, and their community and which is adding value to their lives. In particular, there is now a real sense amongst the youngsters that they can stride towards their goals and achieve them through hard work, application, enthusiasm, and the support of their teachers. I've seen the resultant growth in confidence amongst the pupils and that is a most significant and welcoming change. I look forward to the ongoing improvement of the school through the vital work of its leadership team, teachers, and support staff.

Professor Carl Chinn
MBE, Ph.D., F.Birm.Soc.





Staff Testimonial



Dear Candidate,

I am the Assistant College Leader of Bronte College and a teacher of English at TGAK.

I joined the academy at the start of my teaching career in September 2019 as part of Teach First and gained QTS and a PGDE with within the first two years. Alongside my training, the CPD programme provided by the academy each year has enabled me to collaborate with colleagues across departments and reflect on my classroom practice. The school's commitment to championing early career teachers and developing staff as leaders has been instrumental in my professional growth and led to my confidence in pursuing a leadership role with the school early into my career. In 2021, I secured the position of Assistant Director of Sixth Form – a role I found incredibly rewarding as I felt I had the opportunity to make a tangible impact on the outcomes of our post-16 students. This academic year, the academy has encouraged me to be dynamic and supported my transition to the role of Assistant College Leader for Year 11. This has expanded my insight into the transitional phase of post-16 has proven to be valuable in understanding how we can effectively prepare Year 11 for the wider world.

TGAK is a colourful place to work. The school defines itself through the distinctive personalities of its students and the local community, marked by a sense of loyalty, contributes significantly to our ethos. Working here is truly a team effort and the staff body are dedicated and known for their collaborative spirit. For the past 5 years, I have come to work feeling like I make a difference every day.



Miss Jessica Foster
Teacher of English





Staff Testimonial



Dear Candidate,



I am the SENCO at Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst and have been in post for almost 2 years. Prior to this, I have held various roles at the academy including Assistant College Leader, Head of House and KS3 Coordinator for English.

I have worked here for 15 years and began my career here as a cover supervisor with no formal teacher training. With support from the school, I completed an Assessment Only route into teaching, allowing me to remain in the classroom, rather than returning to University to complete a PGCE. I have also recently completed my NASENCO qualification with the University of Birmingham, again supported by the academy, which has allowed me to develop my knowledge of Special Educational Needs and continue to successfully support the students and families within our community.

TGAK has a special place in my heart: as an ex-student and someone who has grown up in the local area, I am more than aware of the importance and influence this school has in the local community. The staff that work here are passionate about providing students with the skills to be successful and the confidence to dream big. Working here has always felt like I am part of a family and there is always someone around to share a success with or to seek advice from. It truly is a special and rewarding place to work.

Ms Marie Brocklebank
SENCO



Student Testimonial



I've really like coming to TGAK. I feel that despite being in one of the lower years all students are given a voice. I am proud of my school.

There is a panel that meet with the Principal, Ms Crehan and can share out opinions of how we can contribute to moving the school forwards.

Students are given the chance of leadership opportunities, and we can also take part in loads of clubs after school.

Evie Sale
Year 8

Student Testimonial



There are many things I like about the school but the amount of clubs after school are excellent. All of them are free too. The school make sure that all trips are accessible to all students, and I've really enjoyed the musical opportunities given to students.

Students with SEND are well supported and having a support space such as the Willows ensures all students are supported. Teachers have high expectations of students and ensure both positive and negative behaviours are logged consistently, and they challenge us and push us to be our best in all aspects of school life.

Jason Jules
Year 10



Student Testimonial

In a range of lessons we get a chance of doing a lot of practical lessons to support our learning.

The school is a safe and comfortable place to attend and any issues that come up, staff pick up and address them straight away.

I feel like we're listened to and I've really enjoyed taking part in drama club and the outdoor learning opportunities, especially the ropes.

I really enjoy attending TGAK.

Imogen Burnett
Year 9

Student Testimonial



The school offers a wealth of opportunities for performing arts and drama. I've had huge enjoyment taking part in shows, productions and have recently joined the choir.

As a College Captain I'm able to gather the views of other students and we feel listened to as a student body. I feel well prepared across all lessons but I'm also enjoying the lifelong learning lessons which focus on careers and opportunities for studying different subjects through the options process.

I really love this school and I am really accepted.
I will leave ready and responsible.

Gracie Chapman
Year 9



Employee Benefits



Traditional Benefits



Flexible Working Pattern



TGAK Benefits

-
-
- Employee Assist Programme
-
- Betterment Pathways
-
- Lower teaching load

-
-
- Can be discussed at interview, or prior to interview.

-
-
- Introduce a Friend
-
- £500 on appointment and £500 after one year of service.



Access to £3000 recruitment and retention bonus.

Plus, for eligible candidates, access to the Government Level Up Bonus of up to £3000 per year.

Employee Rewards

Our staff community

We know the power and effectiveness of recruiting like-minded people. Each newly appointed member of staff, irrespective of career stage or role, brings new ideas, new expertise, and new academic research and we love this! There are fantastic opportunities to share these via our accelerated career progression opportunities which are readily available.

You will work with a dedicated and committed team of staff, some of whom have served this community for many years. You will hear and see how they provide exciting and enriching experiences for our young people every day. We ensure every staff member is equipped with the skills and tools they need to teach and embed our engaging and creative curriculum. Our staff embodies our school values. They are ready to teach, support, and build vital relationships with students and their families, the community and each other. They are respectful of each other and our young people, and are uncompromising in delivering our high expectations and standards. They are responsible for ensuring that our young people enjoy positive experiences, academically and socially.

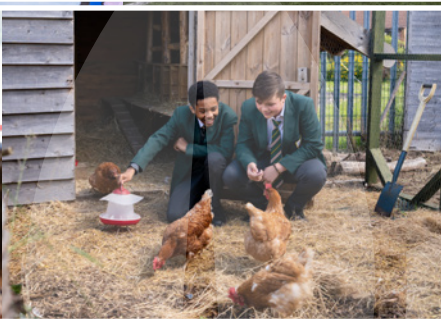
We are unapologetic in maintaining high expectations and raising aspirations at this school. Therefore, our teachers and leaders are not only supported by our established, largely long-serving staff teams, but there are also highly effective systems and processes in place to support our improvement journey. Please know that if you choose to become part of our family, you will always have the support you require – whether that be from your peers or your department, your line managers or our Trust. We are a team, and we will support you daily. You will never feel alone.

Our career development opportunities

As a committed learning community, we provide high-quality CPDL and coaching on an individual and group basis and a school and trust level. On joining the school, you will have immediate access to the wealth of resources provided by the Tudor Grange Teaching School Hub and Research School, as well as academic and evidenced-based research which informs our learning and growth at an individual and school level.

Facilities

- Latest hardware and software, including Apple iMac suites in art, music, and media.
- iPad trolleys available for use in various subjects.
- State-of-the-art Lead Learner rooms located in two of the teaching blocks.
- Dance Studio and Drama Studio facilities.
- Excellent sporting facilities ranging from FA-standard astroturf to LTA-approved tennis courts.
- Two indoor sports hall areas.
- Gym available for staff use before and after lessons.





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