



Stockport School

April 2026

Dear Colleague,

I would like to thank you for your interest in the post of **Teacher of Art & Design** (1 year Maternity Cover) at Stockport School.

This is an exciting opportunity for an ambitious and hardworking individual to join a successful school at an exciting time in its development. At Stockport School we are very proud of our broad and balanced curriculum offer and our community based inclusive ethos, which has over recent years, helped us to establish an excellent track record in terms of academic performance and achievement, placing us firmly, several times in recent years **within the top 10-15% of all schools nationally in terms of student progress and outcomes at GCSE.**

Stockport School continually seeks to instil a belief amongst our community in personal ambition, progress and achievement for all, aiming to be the best that we can be and outstanding in all areas. This is a challenge that we as a school, have evidentially risen to, with Ofsted recently judging the school as **'Better than Good'**, and stating in their findings that...

"Senior leaders, including governors, lead the school well." The school is "well-run and oversubscribed" and "leaders have high expectations of their pupils". "Leaders aim to provide a first-rate and all-round education. They want to set pupils up for life."

"Pupils' life chances have been significantly improved, especially those of disadvantaged pupils, as a result of the school's relentless focus on high standards and its dedicated moral purpose. The school's motto 'Velis et Remis' – meaning 'with sails and oars' – aptly characterises the school's collective passion and determination to achieve its goals."

"... pupils are provided with high quality learning opportunities, which they enjoy and relish." "Teachers have high expectations of every pupil. Pupils rise to the challenge as a result. The most able, in particular, are on track to make even better progress than in previous years across many subjects because teachers aim high."

"Pastoral care is second to none." and

"Pupils' behaviour in class and around the school is exemplary."

Ofsted

Stockport School has also achieved continued success and recognition at a national and international level, receiving several high-profile awards across a range of areas for best practice that recognise the exceptional work that we undertake to support our students and ensure successful outcomes for our learners.

In addition, we have recently been recognised nationally, as runner-up at the prestigious **Goldsmiths National Community Awards**, and Stockport School was also a Finalist in the prestigious Manchester Evening News, **'Secondary School of the Year Award'**, and was the proud outright Winner of the Manchester Evening News, **'School in the Community Award'**.

In my role as Headteacher, I have also recently received a congratulatory letter from the Rt. Hon. Nick Gibb MP, former Minister of State for School Standards, which thanked and congratulated Stockport School, for its work in **"continuing the drive towards high standards of educational achievement!"** The letter also confirmed that Stockport School's results show that it is now **"amongst the top state-funded schools in England"**.

As the Headteacher of Stockport School, I am delighted to have received these recent accolades which are a great recognition of the terrific dedication and commitment to learning that our staff and students apply, and the ongoing support and investment that we receive from parents and from our governing body. I believe the school's success has been brought about by our high expectation and our relentless determination to provide quality of opportunity and bring out the best in all people. **"The culture of Stockport School is that of aspiration and improving the life chances for its students."**



As a school we work hard to achieve positive outcomes and do so by having clear values and by investing in our community. We are also proud to be recognised as an **Investors in People** organisation, with IIP noting that the school is delivering continuous improvement and sustainable success, stating that:

“Across the whole school, from the senior leadership team through the managers to the staff, there was a culture of continuous improvement being driven”.

“It was clear during the assessment that Stockport School has invested considerable time and effort in ensuring a focus on future priorities. People across the organisation were vocal in confirming the school was an excellent place to work. This was further reinforced through the employee survey results”.

“Overall, people described the school as being a great place to work”.

Investors in People

If you are interested in applying to join our ambitious team and to help us to continue our drive for further success, then I would be pleased to receive an application from you.

In a successful candidate **we are looking for a well-qualified and exceptional teacher with high ambition and with strong leadership qualities, who will be dedicated to continuing the development of Art & Design, and their own high-quality practice and pedagogy at Stockport School.** The successful candidate should have a proven ability or immediate potential to **deliver consistent high-quality lessons at both Key Stage 3 & 4, supporting the achievement of high-quality outcomes for all at GCSE.** In addition, the successful candidate must also demonstrate **a strong commitment to the leadership and delivery of high standards of attainment and be enthusiastic about the importance of Art, design and creativity in the development of young people.**

This appointment is of immense importance to us as a team and as a school, as it will offer the successful candidate the opportunity to contribute further to our already successful school.

This role will also provide the post holder with the opportunity to join a vibrant, well established and very successful Art & Design department and to gain excellent professional development and future opportunity as they progress in their career.

In appointing to this position, we are looking for a well-qualified colleague who has:

- ✓ A dynamic, innovative and creative approach with excellent interpersonal skills
- ✓ The learner at the centre of their vision
- ✓ Excellent classroom
- ✓ Dedication to the value and importance of Art & Design as a subject area, providing opportunity for all
- ✓ The ability to inspire, challenge, motivate and empower young people to achieve excellence
- ✓ An absolute commitment to achieving the very highest of standards
- ✓ An ambitious and dedicated professional approach with strong leadership attributes
- ✓ A passionate commitment to our extensive extra-curricular enrichment programme

Applicants are required to be well-organised, inspirational and creative teachers, who are passionate about their subject. You will be able to work independently and in liaison with other colleagues to create a high level of challenge for a range of learners in every lesson and support the on-going development of this high-achieving department.

Please see the accompanying pack for further details of the role and of how to apply. Please also visit our website www.stockportschool.net or contact the Headteacher's P.A., Mrs J. Richards, at j.richards@stockport.stockport.sch.uk regarding any enquiries.

The closing date for applications is **9.00am on Tuesday 5th May 2026**, although the school reserves the right to close the deadline sooner dependent upon applications.

I look forward to reading your application and wish you every success.

Yours sincerely



Mr I. R. Irwin
Headteacher

