



## School Particulars

**Vacancy: Lead Teacher of the  
Visually Impaired (QTVI)  
MPS/UPS + TLR 2c**

**‘Staff morale is outstanding,’ ‘The whole team works exceptionally well to ensure that pupils have a good opportunity to thrive both personally and academically’**

**Ofsted July 2016**

**Dear Applicant,**

I would like to offer you a very warm welcome to Northfield School and Sports College on behalf of the students, staff and governing body. I have taught in Billingham since 2002 and I am immensely proud to have been appointed Headteacher of our school, which takes its place at the heart of our community, in January 2019.

I am very pleased that you are considering applying for a post at Northfield School and Sports College; our school is happy and warm, and relationships between staff and students are very positive. I hope that you will take a few minutes to find out about the school’s many successes and achievements. Northfield School has been providing high quality education for the young people of Billingham for over forty five years. During this time, the school has gone through several changes. With its latest transformation now complete, students have state of the art facilities in which to thrive.

We are a values led school; our three core values being **respect, honesty and resilience**. These core values, along with staff having the highest expectations of every student underpin our desire to ensure that we are able to inspire confident learners, who will leave Northfield with a really good level of knowledge, skills and experience to thrive in an ever- changing world.

In July 2016 the school was judged as Good in all categories by Ofsted. The report states that Northfield School and Sports College has improved substantially since the previous inspection and recognises our academic success. Ofsted highlights that our students are proud to belong to the school, that behaviour in lessons is good and frequently outstanding and serious bullying is exceptionally rare.

The valued work of the school’s governing body, as well as the wide range of extra-curricular activities offered by the school are also highlighted in the report.

Northfield is a popular school. To cater for the significant demand in places, a 330 place state-of-the art multi-million pound Year 7 School has been built on site and opened in September 2018.

This year's examination results continue to build upon our academic success with improvements in a number of key areas. This year over 80% of our students achieved at least one 9-7 grade. This success builds upon our other achievements such as Arts Gold Mark (Exemplary) award, Gold School Games Award, Duke of Edinburgh Award Flagship School and Holocaust Education Beacon School. Our SMSC programme is a real strength of the school.

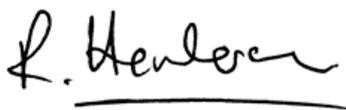
Ofsted acknowledged the fact that staff enjoy working at Northfield. This is something of which we are very proud. **Staff well-being is a priority.** Northfield also plays a leading role in the Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance.

The school's reputation for sporting success is well founded. Our girls have been national champions for table tennis a number of times, the school has won the Teesside School Sports Awards for Girls and Team for the past two years. Our girls were badminton national finalists this year and our girls' football team played in the national finals at Wembley in 2015. In 2017, the girls went one place further and became national Futsal champions. Our students became national champions at Dragon Boat Racing in 2018. In 2016, School Sport magazine judged the school to be in the top 10 nationally for sporting achievement.

The school's website contains a considerable amount of information and our students and staff regularly update its content. Please visit the website to find even more about developments or access up to date information about Northfield. If you are unable to find what you want, or have some suggestions on how we can improve our website, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I thank you for your time and interest. I hope that you will want to be part of our journey moving forward by applying for this post. Northfield really is a great place to teach and learn.

I wish you all the very best with your application.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Henderson', written over a horizontal line.

Richard Henderson

Headteacher

**'Pupils take a pride in their appearance and conduct themselves in a mature and sensible manner in lessons and around the school. They are polite, welcoming and helpful'. Ofsted July 2016**

## **Information about the VI Department**

**The school's VI HI Base is impressive and well resourced.**

Work has just been completed on our new building which has been provided as part of the Local Authority's enhanced mainstream provision for visually impaired and hearing impaired students at Northfield.

The new building incorporates small group learning areas where a specialist teacher can teach key skills such as braille, touch-typing and sign language. The learning areas include modern, specialist ICT equipment which helps students with a visual or hearing impairment to have full access to the mainstream curriculum. A kitchen and dining area have also been incorporated into the design to help students develop independent living skills. A social area allows students to make use of the new building at break and lunchtimes to play games, catch up with homework or socialise with friends.

The base also allows specialist staff to prepare and modify resources for different subjects and helps students to access their work in an appropriate format. A new meeting room ensures that we have adequate space for multi-agency working.

There are currently ten students with a visual impairment although this number varies year on year. There are seven members of support staff who provide both in class support and modify resources for students to use in lessons and at home. Many of the support staff are experienced and qualified in UEB braille.