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Job Application Pack

FINANCE ASSISTANT

School: Comberton Village College

Salary: Scale 4, Point 7-11 £22,369-
£24,054 FTE

30 hours per week, term time plus 2 weeks
during August

Actual starting salary: £15,904.78 (pro-rata
amount)

Contract: Permanent /Part Time

Start date: As soon as possible

Application closing date: Midday on Friday
3rd February 2023



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Welcome from the CEO

We are delighted you are interested in joining one of the Academies in our Trust.

The Cam Academy Trust is a community of schools in and near South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdon which offers 'Excellence for All' students from aged 3 to 18 in 11 schools incorporating pre-school, primary phase, secondary and sixth forms.

School years are a critical period of all our lives as we develop the skills, knowledge and behaviours needed to become successful members of our communities. We want all young people proceeding through all our schools to become capable, caring and confident.

All within The Cam Academy Trust are committed to giving all our pupils the very best grounding that we can through exceptional teaching and learning and outstanding pastoral support.

Each of our academies has its own Principal or Headteacher who works with their own team of high-quality staff and these staff also work with each other to share best practice to ensure our pupils are well educated and well cared for.

Our over-arching purpose is simple: we want to secure educational excellence for all with our Academies working at the heart of and serving their local communities.

Stephen Munday CBE

About our Trust

The Cam Academy Trust, originally The Comberton Academy Trust, was formed in 2011 to oversee the conversion of Comberton Village College to academy status in the first instance. With growing emphasis on academies working together in formal partnerships, the Trust quickly changed to become a multi-academy trust so that more schools could join and work closely with us.

As this partnership developed it was only right that the name changed with it as further schools/academies joined, including from the primary as well as secondary phase of education. The Comberton Academy Trust was renamed 'The Cam Academy Trust' – a clear statement that the Trust is greater than the sum of its parts.

The Trust currently comprises seven primary phase schools and four secondary schools, two with Sixth Forms. We are excited that a third Sixth Form is due to open at Cambourne Village College in 2023.

Our Primary phase schools are: Everton Heath Primary School (just inside Bedfordshire), Gamlingay Village Primary, Jeavons Wood Primary School, Cambourne, Offord Primary School, Offord D'Arcy, Hartford Infant and Pre-School, Hartford Junior School and Thongsley Fields Primary and Nursery School, Huntingdon. Bourn Primary Academy joined as the first Associate Member in 2021.

Our Secondary schools are: Comberton Village College (and Comberton Sixth Form), Cambourne Village College, Melbourn Village College and St Peter's School (and Sixth Form), Huntingdon.

The Trust strives for 'Excellence for All' and at the heart of this are six core principles which drive everything it does.

These are:

The Excellence Principle – Education must be of the very highest standard

The Comprehensive Principle – Education must be for all kinds and abilities

The Broad Education Principle – Education must incorporate a broad range of subject areas and personal development

The Community Principle – Every Academy must be at the heart of its local community and serve it well

The Partnership Principle – Each Academy must seek to work positively in partnership with others for mutual benefit

The International Principle – The curriculum inside and outside the classroom must have a clear international dimension.

Benefits

We offer the following benefits, designed to promote your wellbeing and make your time with The Cam Academy Trust satisfying and rewarding.

Core benefits

- Holiday – Up to 30 days' paid holiday a year plus bank holidays for full time non-teaching staff (statutory leave for teaching staff)
- Paid leave – enhanced sick pay, maternity pay and adoption leave pay (linked to service) and paid leave for unforeseen personal situations
- Pension – a generous defined benefit pension with the Local Government Pension Scheme or Teachers' Pension Scheme
- Death in service payment – lump sum payment and an ongoing pension for your partner & children (subject to conditions & membership of our pension scheme)

Health and wellbeing

- Employee counselling and support – free, independent 24/7 help and advice for work-related issues, as well as problems affecting your home life
- Wellbeing groups – arrangements may differ from school to school (secondary school staff)
- Environment – good working environment with excellent facilities (facilities may differ from school to school)

Professional development

- Professional development – full and part-funded training courses and a wide range of learning opportunities available to all staff
- The College sees staff support and development as a key priority to support high quality teaching and learning. All staff will be part of the College's performance management scheme. They will have a team leader who will set agreed targets for the year. The team leader will monitor and review performance, including classroom teaching. The College will support the continuing professional development of all staff. The Trust provides a range of different conditional professional development (CPD) courses tailored to the needs and experience of staff. These courses are part of entitlements to enable staff to develop with meaningful CPD at different points of their career.

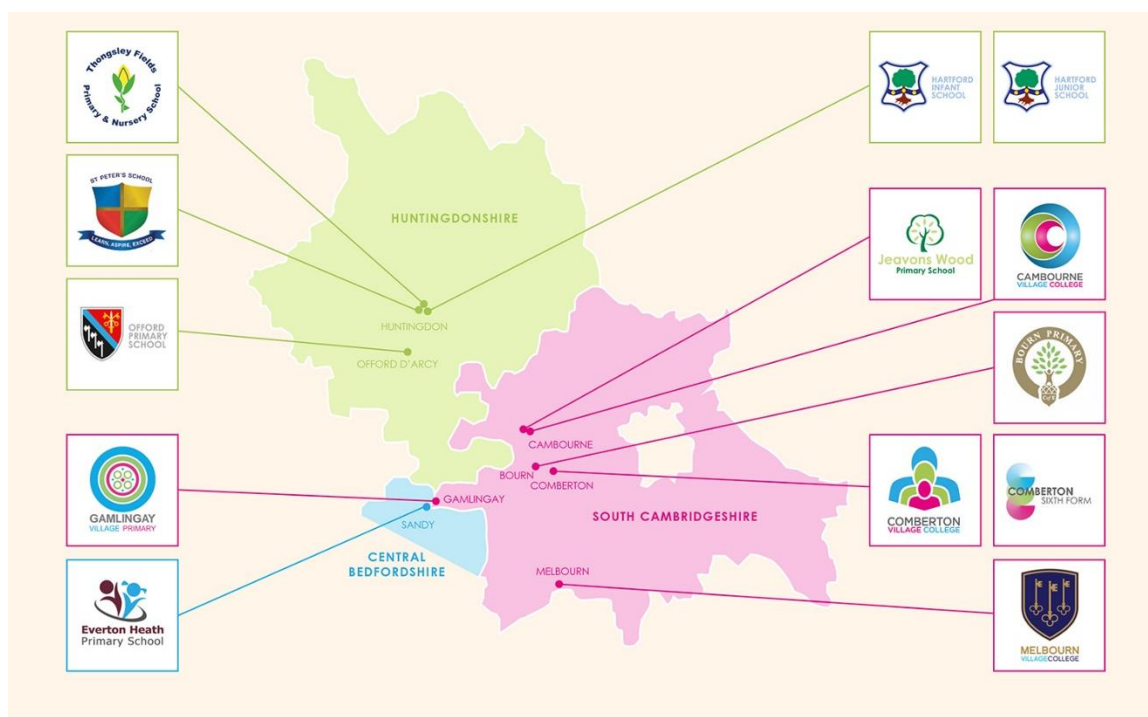
Employee discounts

- Car parking – free and on-site
- Hot drinks – tea & coffee making facilities provided for all staff
- Cycle-to-work scheme – save £££ on a new bike and accessories
- Subsidised membership to the [Chartered College of Teaching](#) (teaching staff)

Work-life balance

- Flexible working – all staff can make a request to work flexibly
- Teacher cover - We have Cover Supervisors reducing the amount of cover required by teachers and PPA periods are on timetables and not used for cover purposes (school teaching staff)

Our Schools



Comberton Village College & Comberton Sixth Form



Comberton Village College is a thriving community of approximately 1800 students, including 500 in the Sixth Form which was added to the school in 2011.

It was established in 1960 as part of Henry Morris' vision for schools being village colleges at the heart of their community and not just places for children to learn. It has a vibrant Adult Education department as well as an on-site Sports and Arts Centre, including a full-size artificial football pitch and spacious performance hall. Current improvements to the much-extended site include the installation of a £multi-million ground-source heat pump to move away from the use of oil.

Cambourne Village College

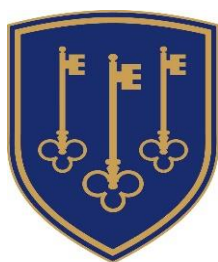
Cambourne Village College opened as a Free School in 2013 as the first new village college in Cambridgeshire for 30 years. It serves the community of Cambourne, a group of villages located between Cambridge and St Neots.

It has been repeatedly grown since its inception and now has plans for further expansion to include a sixth form from 2023 and further capacity to match growing demand for families moving into Cambourne West, the fourth of the villages it serves. It, too, offers extensive arts and sports facilities for community use.

It was the first school in the Trust to equip its students with iPads, an initiative now being rolled out across the Trust.



Melbourn Village College



MELBOURN
VILLAGE COLLEGE

Melbourn Village College is the smallest and oldest of the village colleges in the CAT community. With around 600 students in Years 7-11, it still offers an innovative curriculum with Mandarin taught to all from Year 7 with the option to take the language at GCSE level and, recently, at A Level in conjunction with Comberton Sixth Form.

Melbourn is undergoing considerable investment and improvement with a new artificial pitch that opened in late 2021 and work due to start on upgrading classrooms in summer 2022.

St Peter's School, Huntingdon

St Peter's School is located in the heart of Huntingdon and offers a nurturing and supportive environment for around 1200 students from a diverse multi-cultural catchment.

The school joined the Trust in 2016 and has undergone significant change with Ofsted now rating it as a 'Good' school. There has also been major investment in its buildings and infrastructure with a complete refurbishment of the Sixth Form and more work scheduled for Summer 2022.



Everton Heath Primary School



Everton Heath
Primary School

Located just over the Bedfordshire border, Everton Heath is the smallest school in the Trust with just over 70 students. However, the installation of two new classrooms in 2021 has given it capacity to grow.

It has joined forces with larger neighbours, Gamlingay Village Primary (less than two miles away) and the second smallest Trust school, Offord Primary, in a new collaborative West Village Partnership. It is a catchment school for Comberton Village College.

Everton Heath Primary School is part of the newly formed West Village Partnership.

Gamlingay Village Primary

Established as a full primary school by the Trust in 2018 from Gamlingay First School, it was relocated to the former middle school site following a major upgrade to the existing buildings.

It is now a thriving school for more than 380 pupils and includes specialist primary provision for students on the autistic spectrum, many of whom go on to Comberton Village College's similar secondary offering as Comberton is the school's designated 11-16 provider.



Gamlingay Village Primary School is part of the newly formed West Village Partnership.

Hartford Infant and Preschool



Renamed in early 2022 to reflect the addition of a bespoke preschool, the team are proud of their caring, secure and purposeful environment to nurture youngsters at the start of their educational journey.

The school shares a site with the Junior School in a suburb of Huntingdon and most pupils make the natural transition across the playground before going on to St Peter's, allowing them the full educational experience within the Trust.

Hartford Junior School

Hartford Junior School has two-form entry at the start of Key Stage 2 with the majority switching from the Infant School next door.

Rated 'Good' at their first inspection since joining the Trust in 2017, they are proud of their progress in recent years, based on their ethos of 'effort, encouragement and excellence'.



Jeavons Wood Primary School, Cambourne



Jeavons Wood is one of four primary schools located in the growing South Cambridgeshire community of Cambourne and is a feeder school for Cambourne Village College.

It has more than 400 pupils in a modern, airy building constructed 10 years ago and works unswervingly to support all their pupils both socially and academically.

Offord Primary School

The newest full members of the Trust, Offord joined in 2019 and undergone significant changes with a new headteacher and the recent collaborative partnership with Gamlingay and Everton Heath.



They are the first primary school in the Trust to obtain enough iPads for every pupil after securing a generous donation from a local charity which supports education in Offord D'Arcy and Offord Cluny.

Offord Primary School is part of the newly formed West Village Partnership.



Thongsley Fields Primary & Nursery School, Huntingdon

Thongsley Fields Primary & Nursery School was created in 2003 from separate junior and infant schools built to serve families on the Oxmoor estate in Huntingdon. They joined the Trust in 2018 and with a new headteacher are developing grand plans for their curriculum., their grounds and the provision and support for pupils and their families.

Like Hartford Junior School, they are a partner primary for St Peter's School with whom they share a Governing Body.

Bourn Primary Academy

Bourn Primary Academy, a single form entry Church of England school, became the Trust's first associate members in September 2021, cementing an already close relationship with both Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges, which it lies between.

All the Trust's services are available to Bourn, which is in the Comberton catchment, and they now work closely with all the other schools and staff across the Trust, sharing experiences and best practice.



Safeguarding Children and Young People

The Cam Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check, barred list check and other relevant pre-employment checks.

The Vacancy

Finance Assistant

Scale 4, Point 7-11 £22,369- £24,054 FTE

30 hours per week, term time plus 2 weeks during August

Actual starting salary: £15,904.78 (pro-rata amount)

Required ASAP

The Cam Academy Trust is seeking an experienced Finance Assistant to support our very busy team at Comberton Village College. We offer quality financial support to our clients which include students, teachers and operational staff but we also work with a wide range of suppliers and external agencies. Support, training & development is available as part of this role.

We are looking for a committed, flexible and reliable person with good finance experience. Knowledge of SAGE 200 would be an advantage, but an understanding and experience of finance systems and Excel spreadsheets is a requirement. You should be able to accurately process transactions for the College from initial order to payment, follow systems and processes to keep accurate records of the College finances and offer support to the Finance Manager to ensure the College financial processes are robust and followed at all times.

The successful candidate will have exceptional organisational skills, be able to work at pace and pay close attention to detail.

To apply for this position please submit an application form and covering letter to Mr Norman c/o Mrs T Tull, HR Manager, via email on ttull@catrust.co.uk by midday on **Friday 3rd February 2023**. Please note that we do not accept CV's.

The Cam Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check, barred list check and a medical questionnaire.

Information about Comberton Village College & Comberton Sixth Form



We are delighted that you are interested in our Village College. Since opening as a secondary Village College in 1960, we have been true to our roots. We still seek to serve our community and to be at the heart of that community. The school has

developed a very great deal, but our community ethos remains.

'Excellence for All' is our over-arching aim and it is the driving force behind all that we do at Comberton Village College. A long-standing national reputation for academic excellence and outstanding opportunities for all of our pupils does not mean that we rest on what has happened here. We always want every single one of our pupils to do his or her best and always seek to strengthen our work to enable this. Ofsted inspections consistently grade the overall effectiveness of our school (including the most recent inspection in February 2013) as 'outstanding'. However, we continue to look for ways that we can improve and do more and do it better for the sake of all pupils and our local community. Our very high-quality and committed staff are at the heart of this and of all that we do.

We seek to ensure that all our pupils receive a broad and rounded education that enables each of them to become capable, caring and confident. The many opportunities available outside of the formal curriculum enable a whole range of talents and attributes to be developed in all of our pupils. These include exciting opportunities overseas in line with our aim to provide education with an international outlook.

The addition of a Sixth Form in September 2011 has enabled us to offer the same excellent standard of education now also to 16-19 year-olds. It was very gratifying that all aspects of our Sixth Form were also graded as 'outstanding' at the first time of asking in February 2013. Understandably, very many students are now making the Comberton Sixth Form their first choice for their Sixth Form years.

As a village college, we remain committed to Henry Morris' vision of the college at the heart of the local community. Our community provision is a central part of our role. We see ourselves very much as an "extended school".

Comberton Village College is at a significant and exciting stage in its development as part of a multi-academy trust. When we set up the Comberton Academy Trust early in 2011, we were determined to have a Trust based on fundamental core values in keeping with the very best of Village College and community-based education in order to deliver excellence for all pupils across each of the Trust's academies. As part of this focus on the future, we took the decision in September 2016 to rename the Trust to become The Cam Academy Trust.

The Cam Academy Trust now comprises 11 academies and we work closely with them to ensure mutual support and challenge for all of the pupils they serve.

In all cases, we see all of them as part of our over-arching remit to provide excellent educational opportunities and outcomes for all pupils in a comprehensive, community context. These core values are articulated in the values of our Academy trust. These values represent our unchanging guide through these very significant and exciting developments.

We are absolutely committed to provide the very best education possible for all of our pupils and for our local community. We trust that this website helps to give you a helpful insight into that.

Job Description

Finance Assistant

Responsible To: Finance Manager

Salary: Scale 4, Point 7-11 £22,369- £24,054 FTE

Hours: 30 hours per week, term time plus 2 weeks in August

Purpose of Job:

- Ensure an extremely efficient, administrative and financial support service within the school.
- Support the Finance Officer to ensure the College financial processes are robust and followed at all times.
- Accurately process transactions for the College from initial order to payment
- Follow systems and processes to keep accurate records of the College finances
- Assist in the establishment of good relationships with staff, families, governors and external agencies in order to promote the Trust/College's positive ethos and aims.

Main Responsibilities:

- Operate Sage 200 System which will include ordering, issuing invoices/credit notes, processing invoices, payments and income.
- Issue receipts to parents and others for money (upon request) received in school.
- Perform monthly bank reconciliation
- Attend all relevant Finance Training courses
- Ensure adequate arrangements for the safe collection, accounting and banking of all monies in accordance with approved regulations.
- To process cashless catering transactions, including daily input, reports for the catering service and weekly reconciliation
- Manage Parent Pay school buses and trips
- Manage petty cash within the parameters of financial procedures.
- Assist with the preparation of orders, receiving and checking deliveries and payment of invoices for debtors and creditors.
- To assist with the preparation of cash for banking
- To assist with the day to day duties of the finance office.

Conditions of Employment

- The above responsibilities are subject to the general duties and responsibilities contained in the written statement of conditions of employment (the Contract of Employment).
- The post-holder is required to support and encourage the school's ethos and its objectives, policies and procedures as agreed by the governing body.
- The post-holder is required to support and participate in the school's fire evacuation procedures.
- To uphold the school's policy in respect of child protection matters.
- The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An Enhanced DBS check will be carried out for the successful candidate.
- S/he shall be subject to all relevant statutory and institutional requirements.

- The post-holder may be required to perform any other reasonable tasks after consultation.
- This job description allocates duties and responsibilities but does not direct the particular amount of time to be spent on carrying them out and no part of it may be so constructed.
- This job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post. It will be reviewed at least once a year and it may be subject to modification at any time after consultation with the post-holder.
- All staff participate in the school's performance management scheme.

The Cam Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Person Specification

FINANCE ASSISTANT:

Qualifications & Experience

Essential	Desirable	Notes
Studied to a minimum standard of GCSE (grade A*-C) or equivalent, in English and Maths (certificate/s to be available at interview)		
Experience of working in a busy office environment		
Previous finance / accounting and administration experience (at least one year)		
	Finance / accounting related qualifications (certificate/s to be available at interview)	
	Experience of working in a school or similar establishment	
	Working Knowledge of Sage 200	

Knowledge & Skills

Essential	Desirable	Notes
Ability to build and form good relationships with colleagues and students		
Ability to work constructively as part of a team, understanding school roles and responsibilities including own		
Verbal and written communication skills appropriate to the need to communicate effectively with		

colleagues, students and suppliers / contractors		
Good standard of numeracy and literacy skills		
Ability to proficiently use office computer and finance software including word-processing, spreadsheet, database and internet systems		
Ability to absorb and understand a wide range of information		
Ability to maintain accurate records and filing systems		
Ability to deal with confidential data / issues appropriately		

Personal Qualities

Essential	Desirable	Notes
Initiative and ability to prioritise one's own work		
Able to follow direction and work in collaboration with Line Manager		
Able to work flexibly to meet deadlines and respond to unplanned situations		
Efficient and meticulous in organisation		
Desire to enhance and develop skills and knowledge through CPD		

Evidence of excellent attendance and punctuality record		
Commitment to the highest standards of child protection		
Commitment to the school's ethos, aims and its whole community		