

November 27, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Christopher Munro (Waugh)

Chris Waugh was appointed to a full time teaching position in English January, 2005 and was since appointed as Head of Department in English and Drama in January, 2007.

Chris was selected ahead of a large field of applications. We recognised his passion, not only as an excellent classroom practitioner, but also as someone who would be involved in the wider picture of the college. He has well and truly repaid us for our faith in him as he has been extremely successful in both of these roles over the last five years.

As a classroom teacher Chris is outstanding. He always has an excellent rapport with his students which is based on mutual respect. Chris has a very caring nature and a sincere personality which results in his students trusting him implicitly. He expects and demands high standards from his students. He delivers a differentiated programme, which understands and values the many needs of individual students within his classes.

The development of the English and Drama departments at the college is a credit to Chris and his colleagues. Drama was in its infancy when Chris was appointed and is now successfully imbedded as part of the Mount Aspiring curriculum. Chris has taken a leading role in ensuring that students have clear alternatives in the performing arts through to Level Three status in the New Zealand curriculum. Chris has mentored and directed students in a range of very successful dramatic productions.

Chris's leadership in English has been outstanding. The English department is nationally recognised for its innovation and vitality in integrating learning from a range of curriculum areas. He has been instrumental in developing electronic networking within the college and this lead has now been embraced in other curriculum areas. Chris's own passion for electronic communication has seen the profile of the department rise nationally and is now regarded as a model for best practice.

Chris's skills weren't just confined to the English and Drama departments however. Possessing very good 'big picture' skills, his opinion amongst all of the staff is well regarded and respected and he involves himself fully in all aspects of the college. He has lead the college's future learning group which had been charged with researching innovative learning strategies for the college to consider. This leadership culminated in him chairing a whole school professional development day on integration in

preparation for the implementation of the new curriculum. The success of this day was due in no small part to Chris's ability to involve and support staff while ensuring the focus was never lost.

Chris has always been willing to involve himself in a range of extra curricular activities. He has given much of his own time to assist with multi sports, debating, drama festivals and has also mentored individuals through 'boot camp' fitness runs.

Chris is passionate about assisting young people in believing in themselves. He has been willing to put in hundreds of hours listening, coaching, prompting and encouraging his students. As a principal I have also asked him to mentor individuals as part of our pastoral care system. He has accepted this responsibility with relish and I am full of admiration for the time and care students have received from him.

Chris is totally dedicated to his work and he places an enormous amount of his personal time to ensure students have the necessary feedback to strive for excellence.

Chris is both admired and respected by the staff and students alike. He has an infectious personality which can never be ignored. He will challenge conventional thinking through rigorous debate but at the same time he is very supportive of the college. Chris is scrupulously fair and consistent and his students always know they will get the greatest attention and support if needed.

There is no doubt that Chris Waugh will remain one of the key personalities in the evolution of this college and he will be sorely missed while overseas.

I would not hesitate to employ Chris Waugh at any time and I unreservedly recommend him for any future position.



Wayne Bosley
Principal