

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, LEYLAND



Post: Lead Practitioner for Science

WELCOME

Thank you for considering St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland.

We are a school community that continues to thrive and build on the successes of recent years. At St Mary's, we unashamedly set high standards and expect the very best of our pupils. In so doing, every child is given the opportunity to flourish and fulfil their God-given potential.

Our school has a calm and purposeful working environment, with a rich extra-curricular provision, allowing pupils the opportunity to excel. They are aided wonderfully by a staff body who are hard-working, caring and committed. In short, we are a community where all members are valued and respected.

The inspiration for all we do comes from our Catholic faith and is based on the Gospel values of love, honesty, respect and forgiveness. In so doing, we believe our Mission, which is to 'let your light shine', comes alive, allowing pupils to feel safe and have the confidence to develop their talents.

Our school mission extends, of course, to staff as well, and every opportunity is given to allow for professional development. The successful applicant will be working in a school that is both welcoming and supportive.

Applicants considering St Mary's are more than welcome to book an appointment to see us at any time, and we will ensure that all appropriate Covid-19 measures are in place for a safe visit.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Mr Philip Thompson

Headteacher





THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The six-strong Science team is looking for an inspirational leader. On appointment, the outstanding candidate will join a harmonious team who are keen to build on their existing skillset and develop even further. The department is located in an enviable suite of superbly equipped Science labs with bookable ICT facilities at hand.

TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENTS

The school works to a 25 x 1-hour period week. Pupils study three hours of Science in Years 7, 8 and 9 and study nine hours of core Science over the course of Year 10 & 11. Pupils opting for Triple Science at GCSE gain an extra 5 hours over KS4. Science teaching is currently arranged with pupils taught according to ability in Key Stage 4 and mixed-ability at Key Stage 3.

THE POST OF LEAD PRACTITIONER FOR SCIENCE

The governors are seeking to appoint an experienced and well-qualified Science teacher who is ambitious for further professional development. The successful candidate will see this move as the next step in their career, and may aspire to Senior Leadership in future years. As Lead Practitioner, you will not only develop the department, but also show commitment to sharing your expertise to the wider school community.

In your letter of application, please outline your philosophy of education, including details of how you ensure all students have the opportunities to realise their full potential in this subject.

The Science department are ambitious and the successful candidate must be able to demonstrate a commitment to change as well as the ability to take risks in moving forward. In addition, the successful candidate will show a keen interest and understanding in the latest research and pedagogy within Teaching and Learning. With these points in mind this post represents a huge opportunity to influence the direction of this school in the short and long term.

A sense of vision, enthusiasm and energy will be looked for as well as the abilities needed to contribute to a spirit of teamwork. As a teacher, there must be an enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the teaching of Science. The successful candidate will be expected to teach the full ability and age range up to and including the preparation of senior classes for GCSE examination. The range of duties applying to all teachers at St Mary's is defined in the job description.

All staff are expected to make a positive contribution to the life of the school. There is a wide variety of extra-curricular activities and all staff are encouraged to become involved with this important aspect of school life.

Applicants are asked to indicate particular interests and activities.

A programme of professional and pastoral support is given to all new appointments. The appointment will be based on the **Catholic Education Service contract of employment** which will be offered to the successful candidate by the governors.

RELATED MATTERS

The school has a positive image among parents and the community in general with regard to having firm and effective strategies for dealing with disruptive behaviour. The schools' Learning Support Department enjoys an excellent reputation; a wide spectrum of Special Needs being catered for in school. The school is well equipped with a lift and specialist equipment.

THE SCHOOL WAS OFSTED INSPECTED IN JANUARY 2020, AND CONTINUES TO BE A 'GOOD' SCHOOL

Quotes from our 2020 Ofsted inspection include:

- Pupils behave well in lessons and they enjoy school.
- Pupils describe their school as 'welcoming'.
- Pupils feel safe in school because they know that staff will listen to them.
- Pupils embrace the many opportunities on offer beyond the classroom.
- Teachers have high expectations of what pupils can achieve.
- Teachers are knowledgeable about their subjects.
- Teachers ensure that pupils can remember the knowledge that is the most important.
- Pupils achieve well in many GCSE examinations.
- Leaders have created a caring ethos where pupils are keen to learn.
- Leaders ensure that pupils with SEND benefit from extra support.
- Staff are proud to be part of such a warm school community.



THE PLACE

South Ribble is a very pleasant area in which to live and work. The school is situated not far from the centre of Leyland, with easy access to the motorway network as well as the semi-rural and rural areas of southwest and west Lancashire.

THE PROCESS OF APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW

Applicants must complete the CES application form together with a letter supporting their application. Your application should be addressed to the Headteacher. The school will acknowledge its receipt. We invite prospective candidates to visit us on a working day and experience the school ethos. Please call us if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity. Closing date for applications is mid-day Monday 31 January 2022. Interviews will take place w/c Monday 7 February 2022.

AND FINALLY

I hope you will feel encouraged to apply for this post and I look forward to receiving your application. You should attach a covering letter of no more than two A4 sides to your application. We welcome applications from ambitious teachers. Our mission is to appoint the best teachers available for each post. This pack contains some other promotional items which may be of interest to you.

Mr Philip Thompson

Headteacher