



## **Assistant Subject Leader: Religious Education (MPS/UPS + London Fringe Allowance + TLR 2b)**

### **Required for September 2018**

Thank you for your interest in the post of Assistant Subject Leader: Religious Education at John F Kennedy Catholic School (JFK). I hope that you find the information we have provided for you is informative and useful – its aim is to help you as you begin to consider whether JFK is the right school for you in the next stage of your career development.

JFK was opened in 1967 and is a mixed 11-18 comprehensive Catholic school with approximately 1070 students on roll, including 200 in the Sixth Form. The school enjoys a very good reputation in Hemel Hempstead and beyond as a strong community with high academic achievement, excellent extra-curricular opportunities and a welcoming, friendly environment. Our fundamental aim in educating our young people is formed by considering the Latin root of the word 'educate': a 'drawing' out of the potential in each child. We believe that all of our students have their own unique gifts and talents and our task as teachers is to maximise their achievements. This means more than just focusing on exam results; personal development and spiritual development are equally important.

Last year the school underwent its most recent inspections: Section 8 in March and Section 48 in December. The headline outcomes for these inspections were all 'good'. In terms of results our Progress 8 figures so far have been: 0.10 in 2016 and 0.09 in 2017. These were achieved without a compulsory 'Progress 8 bucket-filling' policy.

The RE Department consists of six specialist teachers, some of whom are part time and one non-specialist. It is a lively and energetic team with a vision of Religious Education as interactive, enjoyable and crucial for the formation of young people. The department is very well resourced and is located adjacent to St. Mark's Church which is within our school campus. We have a Chaplaincy Team which is made up of RE staff, who are in turn supported by the Student led 'REaction' Team.

At Key Stage 3 students are taught in form groups. The syllabus is in line with the Curriculum Directory and incorporates material from '*The Way the Truth the Life*'.

At Key Stage 4 the students follow the Edexcel courses "Study of Religion (Roman Catholicism)", "Study of Second Religion (Judaism)" and "Philosophy & Ethics". All students are entered for a GCSE qualification with excellent results: over 86% A\* – C and over 50% A\* - A.



Diocese of Westminster

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At Key Stage 5 students follow the Edexcel A Level Philosophy, Ethics & Scripture options and we have developed an in-house programme for Sixth Form Core RE programme accredited by NOCN.

The Department organises retreat days for all the students; KS3 have day retreats and KS4 have a residential. The department also organises an annual 'Yr7 sleepover' in the RE Block, in aid of CAFOD and a pilgrimage to Rome during the season of Lent. There is a strong liturgical emphasis: RE classes prepare the liturgy and participate in the weekly Mass which takes place in St Mark's Church, along with Seasonal Liturgies and Holy Day Masses.

The Governors would like to appoint a well-qualified and enthusiastic Teacher of Religious Education to join this supportive and successful department. The successful candidate will be expected to assist the Subject Leader by taking responsibility for an area of the department and teach KS3 and KS4 with an opportunity to teach KS5 Core Religious Education and A Level. Applicants should be a practising Catholic with excellent teaching skills; a background in Theology would be a real asset however it is not essential.

I hope that having read this letter and the information about the school that you will choose to apply. To do so, you are asked to complete the application form in full but instead of a supporting statement please write a letter of application which relates your experience to the job description and person specification. In your letter you should also outline your personal educational philosophy, your vision and the contribution that you can make to John F Kennedy Catholic School.

I am always happy to welcome visitors to the school and I encourage you to come and visit us to see the school for yourself. If you would like more information about the school please visit our website ([www.jfk.herts.sch.uk](http://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk)). If you would like to know more about the post itself please do not hesitate to contact my PA, Eva Final (email: [efinal@jfk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:efinal@jfk.herts.sch.uk)), who will be very happy to answer any questions you may have. May I ask you to return the application form to the school address. Thank you for your interest in the post.

Paul Neves  
Headteacher

March 2018