

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, LEYLAND

Post: Teacher of Design and Technology



THE SCHOOL

St Mary's opened its doors to pupils in 1957 and we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee in 2017. St Mary's is a Catholic School under the trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Liverpool and maintained by Lancashire County Council. As a Voluntary Aided School, the Governing Body is the Admissions Authority. Our principal role as a Catholic school is to participate in the mission of the Catholic Church by providing a framework, which will help children to grow in their understanding of the Good News and in the practice of their faith. The school will help the children develop fully as human beings and prepare them to undertake their responsibilities as Catholic in society.

In the first instance we serve the parishes of St Mary's, Leyland; St Catherine's, Farington; St Agnes', Eccleston; St Mary's, Euxton and Ss Peter & Paul, Mawdesley. Nominally our feeder schools are St Anne's, Leyland St Mary's, Leyland, St Catherine's, Farington Ss Peter & Paul, Mawdesley St Mary's, Euxton.



St. Mary's has gone through a great transformation in a short space of time. A devastating fire in 2013 preceded a difficult time for the school when OFSTED justifiably placed it in special measures. It was necessary to take a very close look at many aspects of provision affecting the way the school functioned as well as our offer to pupils and parents; this brought opportunities for reflection, innovation and change. Whilst the new building presents a wonderful

environment for education, we know that what matters is exciting teaching that delivers progress in learning. Our high expectations in terms of behaviour and the focus on spiritual development for children is very beneficial to young people growing up in a world where, often, there are moral dilemmas.

The hard work which we committed to some time ago continues to pay off with a glowing OFSTED report in June 2016, a very good Denominational Inspection report in July 2016 and significantly improved 2016 GCSE results including spectacular English performance by our hard working students. Our drive for continual improvement has ensured that high standards are maintained and we aim to continue the trend of strong progress. In 2018, St Mary's was designated as a National Support School in recognition of the extensive assistance given to other schools over a sustained period. Taking into account adjustments in calculation methodology, results in 2017 showed further improvement:

Attainment 8 at 46.9

%G4+EM at 69%

%G5+EM at 54%

Performance in Core and Ebacc subjects is very strong and we are confident that this will continue.

We believe that "parents should not have to choose between a successful school and a Catholic School". Cardinal Vincent Nichols' vision for schools, presented several years ago, still rings true and is our guiding mantra. St Mary's students make an excellent contribution to their school. Consequentially, they receive a great benefit in return. They are happy and over time achieve outstanding levels of personal development. There is a strong recognition among Pupils, Parents, Governors and Teachers of the value of the school's Catholic and Christian education mission. We are

committed to it in every way and we are proud to belong to a school offering a rich curriculum and where trust and mutual support are lived by all.

The care and welfare of our pupils are vital to us. The school is founded on the teachings of Christ and promotes a distinctive Christian ethos where every pupil is considered as unique and important. Our pupils form a friendly, open school in which discipline is good and where a high value is placed on order, respect for others and endeavour. This means that we can be rightly ambitious for all our pupils and encourage them all to have high expectations.

THE TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The successful candidate will join a small but growing team and so this presents a wonderful opportunity for personal development alongside expert teachers. The department is located in an enviable suite of six superbly equipped technology teaching rooms.



The school works to a 25 x 1 hour period week. In Years 7, 8 & 9 pupils study 2 hours of technology. Over Years 10 & 11 pupils have 5 hours (10%). In Year 10 there are two groups (Food and Design) and in Year 11 there are again two groups (Food and Resistant Materials). We are very keen to see the scope of technology options grow and see this post as the opportunity to make that

happen.

THE POST OF TEACHER OF DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

The governors are seeking to appoint a well-qualified and suitably experienced graduate teacher who is ambitious for further career development. The successful candidate will be given opportunities and supported in this.

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.

We 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. 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 Design & Technology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach the full ability and age range 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 schools' Learning Support Department enjoys an excellent reputation; a wide spectrum of special educational needs and disabilities being catered for in school. The school is well equipped with lifts and specialist equipment. 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.

Quotations from our 2016 Ofsted inspection include:

- The culture of the school has shifted to a pupil-centred, harmonious, equitable haven for learning.
- The Headteacher and his deputies have brought about rapid and sustained change
- The behaviour of pupils is good. Pupils look extremely smart in their uniforms and are rightly proud their school. Pupils behave well in lessons and at social times.
- There is a very talented and well-balanced senior leadership team whose desire to help the pupils they serve is tangible.
- Pupils are proud of their school. They are smart, polite and well behaved.
- Senior leaders and governors regularly and formally listen to pupils. They are stakeholders



in the continued success of their school.

- Leaders and governors give safeguarding a high profile. Great care is taken to support pupils whose circumstances make them vulnerable.
- Pupils are keen to speak about their school and are proud to say that they would recommend it to their friends.
- Progress is particularly strong due to high-quality teaching and plenty of stretch and challenge.

THE LOCATION

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 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. **[CES application form available on-line]** Your application should be addressed to the Headteacher, Mr Mooney. 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 9.00am Wednesday 21st March 2018. Interviews will take place on Monday 26th March 2018.

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.

Philip Mooney

P. Mooney

Headteacher

National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership