



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
St Teresa's Catholic Primary School
Stone Road, Trent Vale, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 6SP
www.st-teresas.stoke.sch.uk



Headteacher: Mr N Price (acting)

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Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in the recently advertised position at St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School, which is a member of Christ the King Catholic Collegiate multi-academy company.

This document aims to provide you with an overview of our school's mission and ethos, curriculum and attainment, community framework and of course most importantly our wonderful pupils. We hope that after reading all that we have to offer you will arrange an appointment to visit us and appreciate all that the community of St. Teresa's has to offer.

The recruitment pack includes the CES application form and the pack sets out the duties and responsibilities of the post, which I hope you will find helpful. Notes of Guidance have been included in this pack to assist you when completing your application form. If you have any supporting documentation that demonstrates how you meet the person specification please include this with your form.

Candidates are encouraged to visit the school. If you wish to attend a tour of St Teresa's Catholic Primary School please contact Mrs P Barnes, PA to Accounting Officer on 01782 615636 or headteacherspa@sjfcc.net

We will request references for shortlisted candidates prior to interview and it is essential that you have informed your referees that we will contact them and that references are present at your interview.

Please note, to be considered for this post you must fully complete the application forms and return it to me by 9 a.m. on Tuesday 14th March 2017. Electronic applications are preferred to headteacherspa@sjfcc.net

Shortlisting will take place on 15th March 2017 and candidates who are shortlisted will be informed immediately via email. Candidates who have not heard by 21st March should consider that on this occasion they have been unsuccessful.

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 21st March 2017.

If you require any further clarification or information relating to this post please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Barnes.

With Best Wishes
Mrs E Whittingham
Chair of the Local Academy Committee
Director – Christ the King Catholic Collegiate



Mission and Ethos

St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School seeks to enable each individual to be the very best that they can be as a child of God, with a God-given potential and an eternal destiny.

St. Teresa's is a very happy school, where children thrive and have a passion for their learning. They spend their days within a community of love which ensures that their spiritual and learning journeys are thoughtfully planned, enabling them to grow close to God and fulfil their unique potential.

Our staff are dedicated and committed to providing children with a broad and exciting range of learning experiences, packed with new challenges and long-lasting memories. Together we flourish in a strong Catholic community, bearing witness to Jesus Christ.

We strive to enable all within our community to:

- Learn, grow and develop in faith;
- Learn, grow and develop in a safe and secure environment;
- Learn, grow and develop their talents, skills and enquiring mind;
- Learn, grow and develop in tolerance, care and respect for others and all living things in our world.

Curriculum

Our curriculum is creatively planned in order to ensure that children are given every opportunity to learn, develop and apply a broad and balanced range of knowledge and skills in a meaningful way.

Whilst the five core subjects of Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science and Computing are all taught as stand-alone subjects our creative curriculum provides children with an array of cross-curricular learning experiences where core skills can be applied alongside those being developed in History; Geography; Art; Music; Modern Foreign Languages; and Design and Technology.



We are proud of our stimulating curriculum, which is purposeful and engaging. We seek at all times to make the best use of teacher expertise and resources whilst striving for excellence. Our commitment to creativity and innovation is recognised in our Arts Mark, which has been awarded to St. Teresa's at Gold level.



Attainment

The dashboard information is a separate document included in the recruitment pack.



Parish and Community

Foundations

In the 1920s the Michelin Tyre Company came to Trent Vale from France, bringing several hundred French workers to start the new factory. Along with the workers they brought a French Catholic priest and the company built St Teresa's church in 1928. It functioned as a Catholic chapel for workers and other Trent Vale local residents. After some years the priest returned to France and the church was administered by Our Lady & St Peter in Chains parish, Stoke. It gradually became a parish in its own right in the 1930s. The first parish initiative was the building of St Teresa's school in the late 1930s (unlike most parishes, where the first initiative was often church-building). This may well be the origin of the sense of "belonging" of St Teresa's Catholics having deep roots in the school as well as the church.

The Parish and school grew as the Michelin factory grew (employing a maximum of 13 000 in the 1970s). In addition to native potteries people there have always been, at St Teresa's, some workers from other countries and there is a long-standing tradition of welcoming and integrating newcomers. A sense of the school and parish being a family pervades and the leadership and identity of St Teresa's Catholics has also been helped by the blessing of long-term school heads and parish priests.

The Current Community

Large scale tyre production ceased over 20 years ago and the Michelin now only employs approx. 700 people. The largest employer locally is now the NHS. The local hospital, one and a half miles away, employs 9 000. Over the last 8 years the church congregation and the school intake have changed from being over 90% European to being over 50% Asian (Kerala being largest, then Philippines, then other Asian nations) . The two largest Catholic sources of local NHS employees are Kerala (in South West India) and the Philippines. Filipino Catholics are Roman Rite Catholics, but Kerala Catholics have a more ancient Syrian Catholic Tradition, tracing back to St Thomas the Apostle, well before the Catholic Church norm was for Latin Liturgy. In Europe we have been used to most Christians of the Catholic Faith following the Roman (Latin) Rite. Malabar Coast Indian traditional Catholic roots, however, traditionally follow Syrian rites. Most of our Kerala Catholics are Syro Malabar Rite, though a few are Syro Malankara Rite. The profile in the UK of Syro Malabar Catholics has recently been raised by Pope Francis appointing to the UK a Syro Malabar rite bishop last October. The "new diversity" in St Teresa's Catholic life has brought new richness, especially through the Kerala community who have a zeal and fervour for the Catholic faith being at the heart of family life. Average mass attendance here is 570 and estimated Catholic population is 1500 Roman Rite Catholics and 300 Syrian Rite Catholics.

Parish and School Links

The parish has never had a hall, nor a substantial grass area for Garden Fetes etc., so has always been reliant on the school hall and grounds for any large meeting or celebration. Without this facility parish life would be diminished.

By comparison with the general norm of school and parish set-ups, St Teresa's functions as one Catholic community to a much greater degree than most. In practice fund raising events are usually been joint initiatives; parish groups and

school PTA members work together, and diaries are coordinated. Parish and school preparation for the celebrations of Sacraments, of festive masses and other joys are shared with a will.

The mentality of most in the St Teresa's community is to see the school and parish as two blessings and two aspects to support, to pray for and work for, of one body of people. It is a wonderful community to be a part of and to help lead. People get on with one another well and are supportive. It is a happy thriving community.

Fr Rob Taylerson
(Parish Priest and Foundation Local Academy Representative)

