



'We work, we play, we care, we pray'

## St. Bernard's Catholic Primary School

Head Teacher: Mr. P. J. O'Leary B.Ed

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Dear Candidate,

I am writing to you in my capacity as Parish Priest of English Martyrs Church in Birmingham and current Chair of the Governing Body of St Bernard's Catholic Primary School.

Our wonderful school opened in 1967 and is one of two schools serving the diverse parish of English Martyrs. The school has only had three Head Teachers since it opened reflecting the commitment felt by the school to the local community.

The school was previously inspected by Ofsted in February 2017 and was graded 'good', which certainly reflects all the hard work put in by all staff members - the staff family work as an effective school team. Of course, you cannot have an effective team without good leadership, and we have been blessed here to have Mr. Patrick O'Leary as Head Teacher for the past 13 years and we wish him every success in his forthcoming retirement. The excellent reputation of the school in the local community - and beyond - means that the school roll stands at over 400 pupils and we are in a very confident and stable financial position.

We are certainly not complacent and we treasure what has been established here. The provision of high-quality education is a constant battle and we aspire to appoint a new Leader to lead us forward. We are looking for a strong, practising Catholic who has a heart for leading this school. ***We want somebody who is an effective practitioner, as well as an inspiration to staff and pupils and who has a vision for the strategic development of the whole school.*** We want a Head who is driven not simply to achieve high standards, but uphold the gospel values, as reflected in the Archdiocese pupil profile, ***so that our children go into the world grateful, discerning, compassionate and curious, to name a few.***

St. Bernard's certainly is a wonderful school to be associated with. **The children are polite, friendly and hard working.** The staff are caring, dedicated and very professional in all that they do. St. Bernard's serves a vibrant, exciting and multi-cultural community; children thrive under its Catholic ethos.

**I strongly encourage you to apply for the Headship post of St. Bernard's and I look forward to meeting with you in the near future.**

Yours sincerely,

Fr. Robert Murphy

Parish Priest

**Chair of the Governing Body of St. Bernard's  
2021**

I strongly invite you to **study and reflect on the documentation available in the vacancy pack and of course elsewhere on the busy school website.**

**For an application pack, please visit our school website: [www.st-bernards.bham.sch.uk](http://www.st-bernards.bham.sch.uk) and return all the relevant documentation to:**  
**[office@st-bernards.bham.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-bernards.bham.sch.uk)**

