



St John Fisher
Catholic Voluntary Academy

Information for Lead Practitioner in Geography

St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy

Lead Practitioner – Geography

Lead Practitioner Point 5-9

Introduction from the Headteacher

Thank you for taking an interest in this exciting role.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to St John Fisher, an 11-18 voluntary aided Academy with approximately 1000 student on roll.

We seek to appoint an experienced Geography Teacher to join our wonderful school.

St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy has entered a new era of success, growth and pride.

Our students are some of the most inspirational young people you will ever meet. They are polite, friendly, kind and caring. They are supportive of one another and the school. Our staff are the same; dedicated professionals, committed to improving the outcomes and life chances of young people. Many of our teachers are ex-pupils of the school. There is a special feel about this traditional yet forward-looking Catholic school, simply put, it's a wonderful place to work.

We were inspected by Ofsted at the end of March, and once published, our new report will reflect how much we have improved in the last 2 years. It's a different school and you need to see it for yourself. Our current results are a legacy of the school's recent history of declining standards, but we are committed to our students and our community to create a high performing school.

Therefore, we need the best teachers. As our students' numbers continue to grow, we seek to appoint the best people to support our continued improvement.

We can offer you a wonderful student body, a thriving sixth form, a friendly and supportive senior team and a school overseen by a highly experienced and dedicated governing body who work closely with the school to ensure its continued success.

Your professional development is important to us, and our recent transformation has been made possible by the creation of a staff and student team who are committed to the school's future. Every member of our community is valued and as we continue to move forward, we will continue to invest in all practice which will improve the daily experience of our children. A bespoke programme of professional development, led by highly experienced senior leaders, focussing on bringing out the best from staff, is an entitlement for all teachers and support staff.

If you'd like to be part of our next success, I recommend a conversation with me or a tour of the school, either during the school day or after work. Please get in touch and we will accommodate your request so you can see for yourself what a wonderful place St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy is.

Mr K Mackey

Headteacher

Appointment Procedure:

Closing Date:	12pm Monday 19 th May 2025
Interview:	W/C 19 th May 2025

Job Description:

Lead Practitioner – Geography

Reports to: Head of Geography

Job Purpose:

We are seeking to appoint a highly experienced and successful classroom teacher to the post of Lead Practitioner in Geography.

The successful candidate will:

- Play a key role in leading teaching and learning in Geography.
- Play a key role in leading teaching and learning across the school.
- Play a key role in the professional development of teachers as a coach/mentor and lead the induction & development of all trainees and ECTs.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities

- With the support of the Subject Leader for Geography, take a leading role in improving the standards of teaching and learning, ensuring these are consistently high. This will involve working closely with all members of the department, with the aim of raising student achievement at all levels.
- To contribute to whole school staff development. This will involve running twilight sessions and contributing to whole school training (including Inset training days), e.g.: to promote the sharing of good practice.
- To be part of the Teaching and Learning Group and as such, make active use of the Coaching/Mentoring Programme to support good quality teaching and learning.
- Working with staff throughout the school, and putting together coaching programmes for staff, so that all have the potential to be judged good or outstanding as graded by Ofsted.
- Contribute to whole school QA process. To respond to areas of development with Teaching and Learning.
- To engage in wider discourse to ensure department remains relevant and highly effective.

Teaching and Learning

- To demonstrate high-level status in teaching, classroom management and maintaining discipline.
- To have excellent subject knowledge.
- To demonstrate high quality planning, assessment and evaluation.
- To use information about the students you teach, for example SEND, EAL
- To have high expectations of yourself and students.
- To achieve excellent results and outcomes for students.
- To use a range of teaching and learning styles effectively
- To provide exciting learning experiences for students.
- To attend relevant training sessions to keep up-to-date with current initiatives.

Learning Area Role

- To support the Subject leader for Geography to raise the standards of achievement within Geography.
- To provide mechanisms to share good practice.
- To advise on schemes of work, lesson delivery, classroom management, lesson planning, differentiation, maintaining good discipline, assessment and recording.

Other duties:

Key Tasks

- To undertake the role of Form Tutor,
- To undertake the role of a Duty Supervision Team member
- To make a positive contribution to the life of the school and exemplify the school vision and values.
- To promote, advocate and follow all school policies.
- To undertake any additional duties which may reasonably be required by the Headteacher from time to time (current Schools Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document).

Person Specification: Lead Practitioner - Geography

Criteria and Description	Evidence
Qualifications and Training	
Good degree in Geography	• Application Form • Letter of Application • Certificates
Qualified Teacher Status	
Evidence of continuing professional development	
Experience	
Experience of working closely with colleagues, parents/carers resulting in an improvement in student outcomes	• Application Form • References and Interview
Expertise in curriculum design and planning to ensure progression	
Experience of supporting colleagues' professional development through coaching and mentoring	
Subject Specific Knowledge	
A proven track record of excellent Geography teaching	• Letter of Application • Interview
A proven record of delivering strong progress outcomes	
Student Learning and Progress	
To set challenging targets based on prior attainment and data predications	• Letter of Application • References • Interview
To monitor and evaluate student performance effectively	
Have a good working knowledge of ICT and use it in tracking systems within the school	
Other Professional Qualities	
Aspiration to an outstanding classroom practitioner	• Letter of Application • Interview
Ability to improve outcomes at all key stages.	
A commitment to the school's aims and overall vision	
Effective communicator with all staff in the school.	
Drive and enthusiasm, being able to inspire other to new heights	

SAFEGUARDING

St John Fisher is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of its students. Each student's welfare is of paramount importance and we believe that students have a right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment. Safeguarding is about ensuring that everyone is safe from harm - safe from bullying, safe from people who could abuse, safe from discrimination or harassment - and that we all feel safe in our environment.

Safeguarding is the first concern of all adults in the academy. All adults at St John Fisher:

- Provide a safe environment for children and young people to learn and develop.
- Are excellent role models for young people.
- Promote a happy, caring and safe learning environment
- Ensure they maintain up to date safeguarding knowledge by completing training.
- Encourage young people to think about their own personal safety
- Swiftly identify young people who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm and take appropriate action.

St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy background and context:

St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy is a successful 11-18 Academy that provides high quality Catholic education for the young people of Dewsbury and the surrounding area. As a Catholic secondary academy, we offer a unique education which places Christ at the centre of everything we do. We are a popular school with approximately 1000 students on roll. The Academy's sixth form provision is based on site and enjoys modern amenities including a separate dining room, food service facilities and private common rooms and study rooms. The Academy has recently benefited from a change in leadership and is going from strength to strength. It is our mission as a Catholic academy, to bear witness by putting Faith into action.

St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy is a place where all members of our community are valued. In partnership with our families, we guide our young people on a journey that is both spiritual and academic. Together, we shape our students into young adults who are true to themselves and who acknowledge their individual worth as being made in the image and likeness of God. This is an exciting time to be a part of our community as we are on a rapid journey of improvement and are introducing a range of exciting new opportunities for our students.

Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people and expects all its employees to share this commitment. Applicants should note that, in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education (2022), it is the applicant's responsibility to have made any necessary registrations relevant at the time of making this application which is required for people working or volunteering with children. Accordingly, any offer of employment made will be conditional upon the results of enhanced checks from the Disclosure & Barring Service ("the DBS") and Employer Access Online (regarding teacher prohibition/disqualification from working with children and young people). Furthermore, since 1st September 2022 Keeping Children Safe in Education requires us to conduct online search.