# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, LEYLAND

## Post of Teacher of English

**WELCOME**

Thank you for considering St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland.

We are a school community that continues to thrive and build on the successes of recent years. At St Mary's, we unashamedly set high standards and expect the very best of our pupils. In so doing, every child is given the opportunity to flourish and fulfil their God-given potential.

Our school has a calm and purposeful working environment, with a rich extra-curricular provision, allowing pupils the opportunity to excel. They are aided wonderfully by a staff body who are hard-working, caring and committed. In short, we are a community where all members are valued and respected.

The inspiration for all we do comes from our Catholic faith and is based on the Gospel values of love, honesty, respect and forgiveness. In so doing, we believe our Mission, which is to 'let your light shine', comes alive, allowing pupils to feel safe and have the confidence to develop their talents.

Our school mission extends, of course, to staff as well, and every opportunity is given to allow for professional development. The successful applicant will be working in a school that is both welcoming and supportive.

Applicants considering St Mary's are more than welcome to book an appointment and visit us at any time, we would be delighted for you to see the school in action.

Mr Philip Thompson

Headteacher



**THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**




English teaching at St Mary's is outstanding, with 2018 GCSE results surpassing national figures in all areas.

The successful candidate will join a very strong team and this presents a wonderful opportunity for personal development alongside expert teachers. The department is located in a suite of rooms, which are equipped to the highest standards.

**TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENTS**

The school works to a 25 x 1-hour period week. In Years 7 & 9 pupils study 3 hours of English with 4 hours in Year 8. Over Years 10 & 11 pupils have 9 hours (18%) of English.

In Year 7, pupils are placed into ability sets according to assessment information. In Years 8 and 9, pupils are in sets according to assessment information. Progress is regularly tracked and monitored through SIMS and the departmental database so that the ability band in which pupils are placed continues to reflect their ability, progress and potential.

**THE POST OF TEACHER OF ENGLISH**

The Governors are seeking to appoint a well-qualified and suitably experienced graduate teacher who is ambitious for further career development. The post would be suitable for teachers at any stage in their career. If applicable, the successful candidate will be well-supported in their NQT year.

**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 English.

The English department 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 English. 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 Needs 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.

**Quotes from our 2016 Ofsted inspection include:**

- 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.
- Pupils are proud of their school. They are smart, polite and well behaved.
- Pupils are keen to speak about their school and are proud to say that they would recommend it to their friends.
- The culture of the school has shifted to a pupil-centred, harmonious, equitable haven for learning.
- Progress is particularly strong due to high-quality teaching and plenty of stretch and challenge.
- There is a very talented and well-balanced senior leadership team whose desire to help the pupils they serve is tangible.
- 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.

**THE PLACE**

South Ribble is a very pleasant area in which to live and work, and was recently voted 'The Best Place to Live in the UK'! The school is situated not far from the centre of Leyland, with easy access to the motorway network 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 your application. Your application should be addressed to the Headteacher, Mr Thompson. 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 mid-day Monday 25 February 2019. Interviews will take place w/c 4th March 2019.

**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. Our mission is to appoint the best teacher available for the post. This pack contains some other promotional items, which may be of interest to you.

Mr Philip Thompson

Headteacher