

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, LEYLAND



Post: SENDCO Lead Practitioner

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, we would be delighted for you to see the school in action.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Phil Thompson

Headteacher





THE SEND DEPARTMENT

The SEND team is looking for an inspirational leader. On appointment, the outstanding candidate will join a harmonious team of TA2's, TA3's and HLTA's who are keen to build on their existing skillset and develop even further. The SENDCO Lead Practitioner will have the confidence, experience and ability to manage this team, as well as providing whole-school strategic leadership of our SEND provision.

THE POST OF LEAD PRACTITIONER FOR SEND

The governors are seeking to appoint an experienced and well-qualified teacher who has experience of leading SEND provision in schools. The successful candidate will be ambitious for further professional development and will view this move as the next step in their career. You may aspire to Senior Leadership in future years. As Lead Practitioner, you will not only develop the SEND department, but also show commitment to sharing your expertise to the wider school community.

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.

St Mary's is ambitious for all its pupils and the successful candidate must be able to demonstrate a commitment to change as well as the ability to take risks in moving forward. In addition, the successful candidate will show a keen interest and understanding in the latest research and pedagogy within Teaching and Learning, especially when teaching pupils with SEND needs. 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. Applications from all teaching specialisms will be considered, but most importantly, the successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a love of teaching, a firm understanding of SEND provision, a wholehearted commitment to improving pupils' life chances and the determination to effect positive change. 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

Our SEND Department enjoys an excellent reputation with a wide spectrum of Special Needs being catered for in school. The school is well equipped with a lift and specialist equipment. You will be leading a committed, caring and knowledgeable team.

The school operates a 25 x 1-hour period week. Pupils study a wide-ranging curriculum at Key Stage 3 and embark on Key Stage 4 in Year 10.

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.

THE SCHOOL WAS OFSTED INSPECTED IN JANUARY 2020, AND CONTINUES TO BE A 'GOOD' SCHOOL

Quotes from our 2020 Ofsted inspection include:

- Pupils behave well in lessons and they enjoy school.
- Pupils describe their school as 'welcoming'.
- Pupils feel safe in school because they know that staff will listen to them.
- Pupils embrace the many opportunities on offer beyond the classroom.
- Teachers have high expectations of what pupils can achieve.
- Teachers are knowledgeable about their subjects.
- Teachers ensure that pupils can remember the knowledge that is the most important.
- Pupils achieve well in many GCSE examinations.
- Leaders have created a caring ethos where pupils are keen to learn.
- Leaders ensure that pupils with SEND benefit from extra support.
- Staff are proud to be part of such a warm school community.



THE PLACE

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 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 their application. Your application should be addressed to the Headteacher. 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 Friday 13th October 2023. Interviews will take place Tuesday 17th October 2023.

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.

Phil Thompson

Headteacher