

January 2023

Thank you for your interest in our school. As a sole Deputy Headteacher, the appointment to this role is central to the development of our community and key to our strategic direction. You will be joining us at an exciting time as we see the opening of a number of brand-new facilities and, having been through both Ofsted and our Denominational Inspection in 2022, would join a school in a very secure position to build for further success.

The outcomes of both inspections were extremely positive. The school met the criteria for good strongly in both inspections, with seven areas judged outstanding in our denominational inspection. Alongside improved outcomes and improved facilities in 2022, this accurately reflects a secure and happy school at which we are privileged to work. It also demonstrates that our Catholic identity is central to everything we do.

We are a school, however, who continually strive for the very best for our students and staff and we are seeking someone fully committed to working alongside me to further raise standards so that we can become a beacon of excellence within our town and our Diocese. There is work to do in terms of the consistency of outcomes at KS4, and the role presents the opportunity to bring a fresh perspective to a very established school, which governors, SLT and staff will warmly welcome. The professional development opportunities at our school, and the support for career progression, are extremely strong and this post will be an excellent opportunity for personal development and the chance to make a real difference to our students and our school.

The post has arisen because the current postholder, who has been with the school for 28 years, is retiring. The successful candidate will join a well-established SLT of 6 as the sole Deputy, with 4 Assistant Headteachers. The Ofsted report notes that staff are 'proud to work at the school. They feel leaders consider their workload and wellbeing.' We are privileged to have a highly committed governing body, and the successful candidate will find themselves fully supported by excellent governors.

A question most often asked by candidates at interview is 'what makes your school special?' In the case of Cardinal Newman, it is the people who make our school; both staff and students. The words of our school prayer run throughout everything we do: we strive to be the 'link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.'

If you would like to visit the school or have a phone conversation to learn more about us and the role, please contact my PA, Michele Walker, who will be happy to arrange this. Cardinal Newman really is a wonderful place to work, and we thank you for your interest in our school.

JO LANGSTAFF HEADTEACHER