

December 2020

Dear Applicant

Welcome to the English Department at Holy Cross Catholic High School

We are delighted to be able to offer the opportunity for a highly motivated, dynamic and enthusiastic teacher of English to join our team. Our aim is to ensure every child, regardless of ability or background, leaves school with a love of reading and writing. We strive to produce confident and empathetic young adults who are articulate and well read.

In 2019 85% of our pupils achieved Grade 4 or above in English Language and 83% achieved Grade 4 or above in English Literature; we also secured excellence grades for 25% of the cohort in both disciplines. Academic excellence drives everything we do in the classroom. We are looking for a new member of the team who would help us maintain our outstanding results and work collaboratively as part of a team to further develop the department.

We currently teach Eduqas English Language and English Literature at KS4 and regularly engage with external CPD and moderation with other local schools. At KS3, pupils study a range of literature to inspire a love of reading. KS3 pupils also engage with topical issues during their study of Language. Fostering a love of English and more specifically reading, in the classroom and out, is vital for our pupils' literacy development. The Accelerated Reader programme is now used by Years 7, 8 and 9 and has been highly successful in encouraging pupils to engage with both fiction and non-fiction texts in and out of the classroom. In addition, we have recently invested in Bedrock Vocabulary which has proved successful with both Years 7 and 8.

Extra-curricular activities within the department are well attended and a key part of our pupils' development. Currently, we encourage our pupils to take part in numerous activities including writing competitions, the Rotary Club's Youth Speaks competition and numerous theatre trips throughout the year, however there is always scope for more! We would expect the new member of our team to make a significant contribution to our extra-curricular programme.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at s.marsh@holycross.lancs.sch.uk

Miss Stephanie Marsh
Head of English