



# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



# Teacher of English

Candidate Information | February 2025



# A message from the Headteacher



Thank you for your interest in St James' Catholic High School. This is an exciting time to join St James' as we look to move our school to the next level.

We are a good oversubscribed school (OFSTED 2022) located in Stockport, South of Manchester. Our school is made up of 825 students and 100 staff. St James' Catholic High School is a thriving Catholic community that places children at the centre of everything we do. The Diocese of Shrewsbury judged our school to be a "Good" Catholic school.

St James' is a highly academic performing school:

- **Impressive positive progress 8 scores** for the previous four years
- In 2024, **77% of students attained a Grade 4 or above in both English & Mathematics (the equivalent to the old Grade C)** with **59% achieving a Grade 5 or above in both English & Mathematics**
- **87 grade 9s and 128 grade 8s were awarded to our students in 2024**, demonstrating exceptional attainment across a wide range of subjects
- Exceptional results in open, Maths and English subjects placing us in the **top 20% of similar schools nationally**

Our school is at the cutting edge of teaching and learning and thrives on providing outstanding opportunities for the young people we serve. All our staff work to provide our young people with the skills, knowledge and understanding in order to achieve their full potential.

Inspired by the example of St James, the purpose of our school is 'To educate and develop global Catholic citizens'. Our three school values of Family, Faith and Excellence are lived out every single day by staff, students and all stakeholders.

The reputation of our school is exceptional within Stockport and across the Shrewsbury Diocese for academic excellence, impeccable pupil conduct and for providing outstanding additional opportunities for our young people. The result is that our young people develop into global Catholic citizens who are proud to profess their faith and who make a positive contribution to society.

At the root of our success is our St James' community. This is built on strong, positive relationships between all staff, students and parents. Our parents support our school and develop their children at home whilst our dedicated staff are relentless in driving excellence by providing the best educational experiences and opportunities for our students.

Underpinning this excellence are our unique values, Catholic ethos and our mission. We are inspired and driven by the Gospel where we are told: 'With God all things are possible' (Matthew 19:26).

If you would like to find out more about our school and community, please contact Kirsty Bowers,  
PA to the Headteacher on 0161 482 6900 or at [headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk)

**Anthony Pontifex**  
Headteacher



Governors seek the following appointment

## Teacher of English, Full Time, Permanent MPS/UPS

The St James' Catholic High School Mission:

*To ensure everyone within our school **family** achieves their full potential, to encourage learning and development through **faith**, and to strive for **excellence***

Applications are welcome regardless of the personal faith of the applicant, providing they are supportive of the school's Catholic ethos.

St James' Catholic High School is a popular and oversubscribed 11-16 mixed comprehensive Catholic High School which was judged by OFSTED to be a "Good" school in April 2022

The Diocese of Shrewsbury judged our school to be a "Good" Catholic school

The governors of the school wish to appoint an outstanding, dynamic and highly motivated Teacher of English

**Closing Date: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 12 noon**

**Interviews: Wednesday 5th March 2025**

Please note a current CES application form (Teacher) and a Model Rehabilitation of Offenders act 1974 – Disclosure form must be completed for this post – CVs will not be accepted. Forms can be emailed to [headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk)

St James' Catholic High School is an equal opportunity employer which is "Positive about Disabled People". Whilst all applicants will be judged on merit alone, we particularly welcome applications from groups currently under-represented in the workforce, who meet the person specification for the post

St James' Catholic High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service





# Teacher of English

## School Mission Statement

St James' Catholic High School aims to ensure everyone within our school family achieves their full potential, to encourage learning and development through faith, and to strive for excellence

## Main responsibilities of the post

### Purpose

- Ensure an outstanding Catholic educational experience which is engaging and fulfilling for all pupils
- Deliver an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students within English
- Be accountable for student progress and development within the teaching groups allocated
- Maintain an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the English curriculums
- Inspire and engage pupils in the vision for the school

### Progress

- Be accountable for outcomes within the teaching groups allocated
- Ensure effective strategies are in place to enable all pupils within your classes to make good progress
- Track student achievement regularly across the teaching groups allocated, transforming data into action

### Teaching and Learning

- Set high expectations for yourself for quality teaching and learning in your English classes
- Ensure planning meets the needs of all learners
- Deliver engaging lessons which have frequent and accurate assessment, feedback and intervention

### Curriculum

- Assist in the development of schemes of work, resources, marking and assessment policies and teaching strategies within designated curriculum areas
- Keep up to date with national developments in the subject area and how they might affect student learning and teaching methodologies
- Display highly effective subject knowledge

## School Ethos and Culture

- Help foster the spiritual development of pupils in accordance with the school's Mission Statement
- Ensure that the school's vision is understood and clearly and effectively articulated to all pupils
- Promote the school's ethos and culture to the broader community

## Developing self and working with others

- Actively partake in the school's development scheme through participation in arrangements for further training and professional development
- Treat pupils, staff and parents fairly, equitably and with dignity and respect, to create and maintain a positive school culture
- Celebrate the achievements of individual students
- Work effectively with Technicians and Teaching Assistants as appropriate
- Manage own workload and that of others to allow an appropriate work/life balance;
- Regularly review own practice, set personal targets and take responsibilities for own personal development
- Engage in research around current educational initiatives including government policies in areas commensurate with the post

## Other Specific Duties

All teaching staff are expected to meet the relevant Professional Standards for Teachers in addition to the job description detailed above

Many specific responsibilities will require collaborative working with other team members which as a Teacher of English you will develop proactively

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task may not be identified. The post holder will be expected to comply with all reasonable requests from the Headteacher to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in their job description

This post is subject to Enhanced DBS disclosure



# Teacher of English

Job Requirements	Status of Criteria		Method of Assessment	
	Essential	Desirable	Application	Interview/task
<b>Training and Qualification</b>				
Qualified teacher status	✓		✓	
Graduate qualification	✓		✓	
A relevant degree	✓		✓	
<b>Experience</b>				
Experience of highly effective teaching and learning in English	✓		✓	✓
Evidence of pupils making highly effective progress over time		✓	✓	✓
Development of good working relationships with parents or carers, and other stakeholders	✓		✓	✓
Experience of using data to track and monitor the progress of students	✓		✓	✓
An active member of a Catholic church community		✓	✓	✓
<b>Professional Knowledge</b>				
Knowledge of current opportunities and challenges within the English curriculum	✓		✓	✓
Understanding of how different strategies can be used to secure effective pupil progress in English	✓			✓
Knowledge of the distinctive nature of a Catholic school	✓			✓
Understanding of how to safeguard pupils	✓			✓
<b>Personal skills and qualities</b>				
An inspiring and highly skilled classroom teacher who models exemplary practice in English		✓	✓	✓
Willingness to accept the demands and challenges of the post and respond in a flexible and approachable manner	✓		✓	✓
Able to work under pressure and manage own workload and commitments through excellent time management skills	✓			✓
Practising Catholic		✓	✓	✓
Excellent communication skills	✓		✓	

# Contact

**Kirsty Bowers**

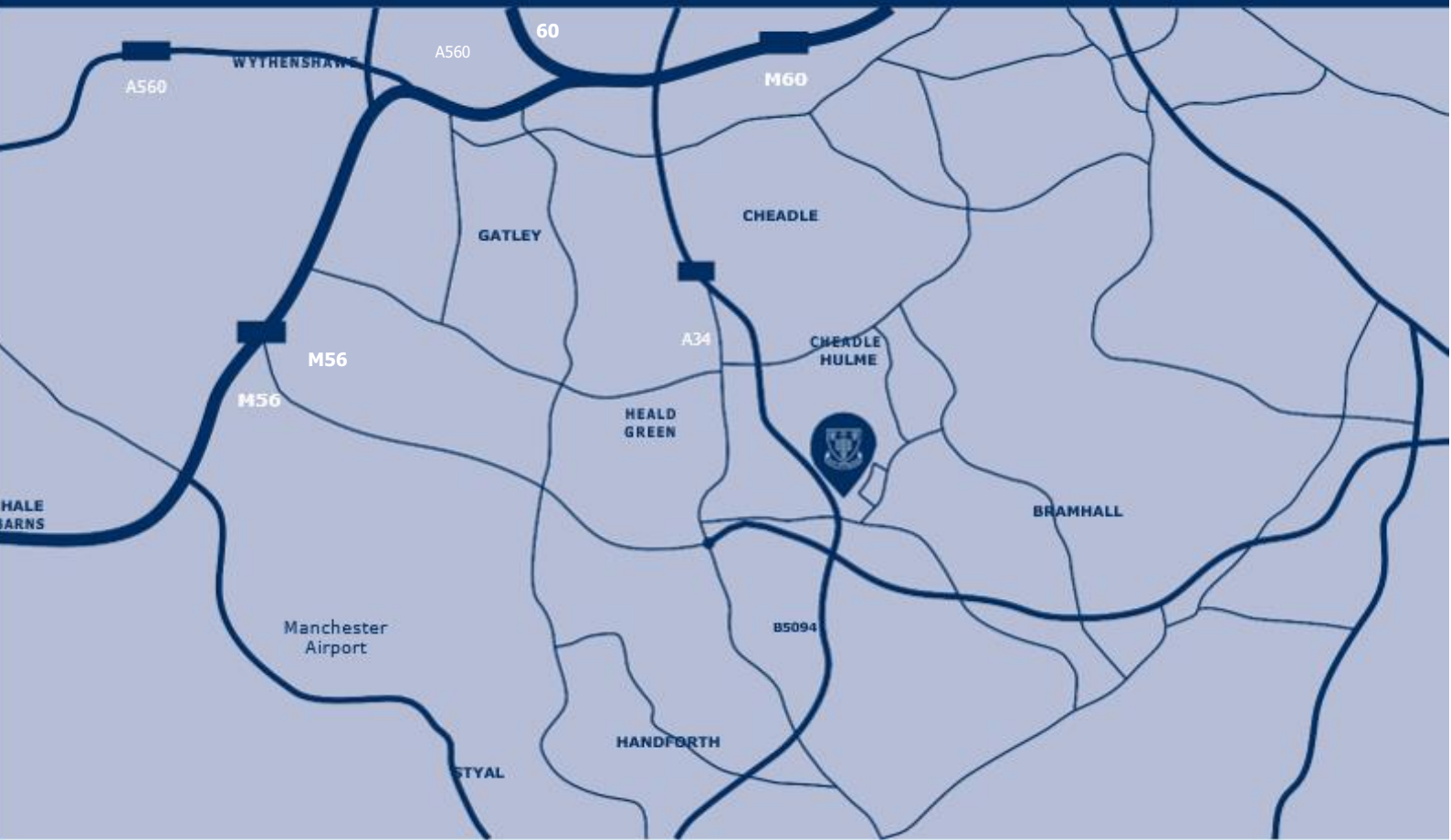
PA to the Headteacher

0161 482 6900

headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

[www.stjamesheadle.co.uk](http://www.stjamesheadle.co.uk)

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