



St Ralph Sherwin  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



**St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy**

Palace Fields, Buxton SK17 6AF

[www.st-thomasmore.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-thomasmore.derbyshire.sch.uk)



**St. Thomas More**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



# Application Pack

Teacher of Science (Chemistry)

St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Buxton

# Welcome



St Ralph Sherwin  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for expressing an interest in applying to work within the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (CMAT). As CEO, I want to provide you with an introduction to our Trust and to give you a flavour of what working within our Trust would be like.

Firstly, you do not need to be a Catholic to work in our Trust. There are certain reserved positions, which require someone to be Catholic, i.e. CEO, Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Subject Leader/Head of RE and Lay Chaplain but other than that a respect for our ethos and a willingness to participate in what we do is all that is required.

Everybody who works within our Trust, in a school or central offices is in some way a teacher. Whether you are the headteacher, a classroom teacher, receptionist, cook, cleaner, caretaker, HR or Finance manager/assistant you have an impact on the children we serve. We are a family and building a community which supports and upholds our gospel values of tolerance, respect, compassion and love are central to our success going forward.

This is a hugely important time in the life of our Trust. As of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018, we have brought together 25 schools from Derby City, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Stockport and Nottinghamshire (of which 20 are primary and 5 are secondary) to work within the Trust.

As CEO of the Trust I understand the huge responsibility I have to ensure that every child and young person benefits from the establishment of this new Trust.

The St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust has been formed to preserve, maintain and develop Catholic education in the areas served by its academies. We are committed to providing the highest quality of education for every child and young person we serve.

We have a vision for our Trust that goes beyond our individual academies and that changes our perceptions from *my* academy to *our* academy. Working together through the Trust, each academy will benefit educationally from the expertise within the Trust as a whole and practically from the services procured and provided centrally. By formalizing the links between secondary and primary schools we will provide a stable, challenging and consistent education through the phases to those pupils and families we serve. Our Trust will be a dynamic entity, which will grow and adapt with those who are working and learning within it. It will respond to the needs of its community while adhering to the Catholic principles upon which its member academies are founded.

We have been given a wonderful opportunity to shape the future of Catholic education for around 8,000 young people who attend our schools across the Trust.

Schools are special places where we get the chance to improve the lives of young people in a unique way. The best schools are places where we develop young minds; we must focus on growth not just in the brain but the growth of character, the development of the whole person.

I hope you are excited by this vision of what we want to achieve and if you feel you want to be part of this, I would encourage you to apply for this position within our Trust.

Yours sincerely

Sean McClafferty

CEO, Saint Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

# About St Thomas More

## St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy

Part of St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Palace Fields, Buxton, SK17 6AF

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Message from the Head Teacher

January 2019

Dear Applicant

### Teacher of Science (Chemistry)

As the Headteacher of St Thomas More Catholic School, may I thank you for the interest you have shown in the post of Teacher of Chemistry at our school.

The post has become available following the retirement of our current Chemistry Teacher.

This 11 to 16 school is 60 years old this year and was originally built for 100 pupils. We now have 430 pupils on roll following the increase of the published admission number to 90 per year group, but we are still the smallest high school in Derbyshire.

The Science department, as it stands consists of a Head of Department and 2 other full-time teachers. The position is due to commence from September 2019. This is a permanent position for the right candidate.

We are looking for enthusiastic candidates who can inspire in the classroom and work to maintain and develop the excellent standards established in the science department.

Applicants do not need to be Catholic but a willingness to support the school in its faith is essential.

The ability and flexibility to offer a second subject would be welcomed and a willingness to support the delivery of some extra-curricular activities is important.

The details about the posts give a brief overview of the current situation at the school; however, should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

These are exciting times in the school's development. From September 2018 we converted to an academy as a member of the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust: one of four trusts set up by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham. This will be a great opportunity to work with the 24 other schools within the Trust.

The school is also a member of the soft federation of schools known as Peak 11 (composed of the 11 secondary schools in the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales).

St Thomas More Catholic School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. As the post has access to children, all applicants will be required to undertake DBS clearance.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely

Mr B Hickey  
Headteacher

# About St Thomas More

## St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy

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### The School—Background Information

St Thomas More School is a mixed 11-16 Voluntary Catholic Academy with 430 pupils on roll, serving the four local Catholic parishes of St Anne's Buxton, St Mary's New Mills, Ss John Fisher and Thomas More in Chapel-en-le-Frith and the Sacred Heart in Whaley Bridge. The school also admits a number of children of other faiths and of no faith each year according to criteria established by the Diocese and Trust. From September 2018, the school converted to Academy status as a member of the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust: a Trust set up by the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham. As a Multi-Academy Trust, we joined 4 other secondary schools and 20 primaries across areas within Derbyshire, Derby City, Stockport, Nottinghamshire and Staffordshire.

We are a high achieving 11-16 school with excellent examination results. Our most recent section 5 Ofsted report in May 2013 described the school as a " Good school with Outstanding Behaviour". It also stated that the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education was also Outstanding" (Ofsted May 2013) .

"Students are reflective and tolerant and benefit from the many opportunities they have to explore moral, spiritual and cultural issues." "They are keen to learn, enjoy excellent relationships with their teachers, are well mannered and polite and make a significant contribution to the positive atmosphere within the school" (Ofsted May 2013).

Ofsted visited in March 2017 to carry out a short, section 8 inspection and judged the school to still be good: "The staff and pupils are exceptionally loyal. In accordance with the school aims, they indeed have a 'strong sense of pride and belonging' for the school community" (Ofsted Section 8 inspection – March 2017).

Our published admission number was raised to 90 in 2015 and we are currently oversubscribed in years 7, 8 and 9. We enjoy an excellent reputation for our positive ethos and pastoral support systems. Teaching at St Thomas More School is very satisfying; our students are motivated, pleasant, courteous, well behaved, they like school and enjoy learning. Achievement is high, and almost all go on to Further Education. The school has a reputation for good order and class discipline aiming to develop the character of the pupil to respect his/her own person and belongings and those of other people.

The school is divided into three houses, the house captains being elected by the pupils. Inter-house activities and games are encouraged and credits are awarded for good work and behaviour. All pupils in the Lower School follow a broad based curriculum embracing Religious Education, English, Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language, Science, Technology, History, Geography, Personal and Social Education and Physical Education. In addition Expressive Arts subjects are taught in rotation and all pupils spend time studying Music, Art, and Drama. Currently the pupils in Year 10 follow a compulsory core, which consists of Religious Education, English and English Literature, Mathematics, Science, PACE (Personal and Citizenship Education), Physical Education and three further subjects.

Accommodation is good with a major building project to increase the number of rooms completed in 2002, a State of the Art Sports Hall completed in November 2008, a new ICT suite and further office completed in 2010 and a new SEN Annex and new reception area completed Easter 2013. A new library is due to be completed by Easter this year.

Relationships between home and school are very positive. Governors and parents are very supportive, and have very high expectations of the school. We trust our students to behave well and the atmosphere in the school reflects our high expectations of them in this respect. The parent satisfaction surveys over the years indicate 100% would recommend our school.

Our faith underpins the ethos of the school and visitors often comment on the warm calm Christian atmosphere apparent in the school. We work constantly to maintain this ethos by supporting our pupils and our staff in ways that allow them to develop positive relationships. Discipline in the school is based on gospel values that recognise each person's individuality.

The Leadership team comprises of the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher, SENDCo and the Business Manager. The Deputy Headteacher is responsible for the pastoral care of the students as well as being the safeguarding lead. The pastoral team comprises of the Deputy Headteacher, SENDCo, 2 Pastoral Managers and the Form Tutors. (The Head and SENDCo are also safeguarding leads within the school.)

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**“This is a Good School with Outstanding Behaviour and Outstanding spiritual, moral, cultural and social education” (Ofsted May 2013)**

**“The staff and pupils are exceptionally loyal. In accordance with the school aims, they indeed have a ‘strong sense of pride and belonging’ for the school community” (Ofsted Section 8 inspection – March 2017)**

St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy, part of the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust, are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed teacher to teach Chemistry and general science in this very successful popular 11-16 school.

St Thomas More is a small, popular Catholic High School in the beautiful town of Buxton in Derbyshire; within easy access from Cheshire, Manchester and Stockport as well as Derbyshire and other surrounding areas. We have recently become a Voluntary Catholic Academy and part of the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust within the Diocese of Nottingham.

We are looking for an excellent classroom practitioner who can teach across the full age and ability range and who is committed to promoting the highest standards of teaching and learning.

A commitment to play an active part in the extra-curricular life of the school is essential.

Applications are welcome from experienced and newly qualified teachers.

Visits to the school are welcomed, please contact the school to arrange.

### How to apply

For more information, an application pack and to apply please visit <https://srscmat.co.uk/vacancies> or email [vacancies@srscmat.co.uk](mailto:vacancies@srscmat.co.uk)

**Closing date: Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 12 noon**

**Interviews: Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

*The St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to satisfactory references, an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, medical check, evidence of qualifications plus verification of the right to work in the UK.*

*The Trust will endeavor to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition.*

*You do not need to be a Catholic to work in our Trust. There are certain reserved positions, which require someone to be Catholic, i.e. CEO, Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Subject Leader/Head of RE and Lay Chaplain but other than that a respect for our ethos and a willingness to participate in what we do is all that is required.*

# Information for Applicants

## How to apply

To apply for this post, please submit a completed application form with supporting information that describes what you would bring to the post. Please also address the key functions of the post as outlined in the job description, providing evidence of relevant experience.

Please give the names and contact details of at least two referees, one of whom should ideally be your current or most recent employer and one should be your local parish priest. **Referees will be contacted unless you specifically state otherwise.**

Any information provided will be treated as confidential. Please ensure that you have included work, mobile and home telephone contact numbers and an e-mail address, if applicable.

If you wish to apply, please download, complete and email your application form and associated forms to [vacancies@srsccmat.co.uk](mailto:vacancies@srsccmat.co.uk) by the closing date.

Please ensure that your application contains the following:

- A clear indication of the post for which you are applying
- Email addresses for all your referees
- **NB Should you be shortlisted, references will be taken up prior to interview**
- The completed separate Rehabilitation of Offenders Disclosure Form
- The completed separate Recruitment Monitoring Form

All CVs must be accompanied by a fully completed application form.

## Closing Date

Please ensure your application arrives before the closing date of **Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 12 noon**. We are now monitoring our recruitment advertising and would be grateful if you could fill in this question on page two of the application form, stating where you first learned of this vacancy.

## Interview

Interviews for the posts will take place as soon as possible after the closing date.

## School Visit

The school warmly encourages applicants to visit their school. Please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

## Informal Enquiries

Should you have any queries or wish to have an informal discussion about this post then please contact Mr B Hickey (Headteacher) on 01298 23167.

**The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Should you be shortlisted, references will be taken up prior to interview. The appointment will be made subject to an enhanced DBS check and other pre-employment checks.**

# Information for Applicants

## Saint Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018, the Saint Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust brought all of the 25 Catholic schools located in Derby City, Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Stockport together in a partnership, to ensure the very best spiritual, social and academic experiences and outcomes for the young people in our schools. We will achieve this through working together to share what we do well and identify the areas where we can learn from each other. As a Catholic MAT, we will place the life, teachings and person of Jesus Christ at the centre of everything we do.

The Schools of the Saint Ralph Sherwin CMAT:

### Primary Schools

St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy, Derby  
St Alban's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Derby  
St George's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Derby  
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Derby  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Derby  
Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy, Alfreton  
St Elizabeth's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Belper  
St Anne's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Buxton  
All Saints & Saint Margaret's Catholic Voluntary Academies, Glossop

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Glossop  
St Charles's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Hadfield  
St Thomas Catholic Voluntary Academy, Ilkeston  
English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy, Long Eaton  
St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Matlock  
St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy, New Mills  
St Edward's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Swadlincote  
The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy, Eastwood  
Holy Rosary Catholic Voluntary Academy, Burton

### Secondary Schools

St Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy  
St Thomas More Catholic School  
St Philip Howard Catholic School  
St John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Sports College



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