St Edmund's Catholic School

Caelum Dives Ingredi

Headteacher: Mr S Graham BSc, NPQH

Head of English

Information for Applicants

Our aim is to encourage spiritual development and understanding of the faith, create an atmosphere of order, discipline and respect, enabling every pupil to achieve their true potential. Maintaining standards of excellence in teaching and learning and build a family which cares for all its members where understanding, mutual trust and friendship are fostered.

'I can do all things with the help of God who strengthens me.'
Philippians 4:13

St Edmund's Catholic School

Caelum Dives Ingredi

Headteacher: Mr S Graham BSC, NPQH

Dear Colleague,

HEAD OF ENGLISH: September 2026

St Edmund's is a thriving, positive and happy school, where individuals achieve excellent levels of personal development and outstanding academic achievement. As a Voluntary Aided Catholic School we seek to provide a Christian education for our children within the discipline and traditions of the Catholic church.

We are extremely proud of the quality of education, opportunities and life experiences that our children receive.

This is only possible thanks to the fantastic staff who put students first and are committed to all aspects of the St Edmund's family. Our outcomes for students have been the best in Portsmouth and South Hampshire for several years. St Edmund's has been in the top 10% of all schools nationally for many years. We have been rated Outstanding by Ofsted in 2016 and June 2022. This fantastic achievement reflects the special learning environment which exists here at St Edmund's, allowing students to learn and develop in a family where mutual trust, respect, collaboration and tolerance are fostered. Staff working at the school can enjoy their roles and reap the rewards of working with young people and educating the future generations of our world.

As a Christ-centred learning community we have a passion for developing the individual God given gifts which we are bestowed. We seek to improve curiosity, creativity and a passion for life long learning. In an environment with high standards and an atmosphere of order, discipline and respect. Our faith identity is not an add on but permeates all aspects of life at St Edmund's allowing individual, spiritual development in a positive family, where tolerance, love and mutual respect, a zest for learning are some of our guiding principles.

We are looking for someone with a commitment to the Catholic Christian ethos of the school, a capacity for hard-work and a passion for ensuring students are successful, both academically and in their educational experiences.

Working with staff, students, parents and governors, you will have the enthusiasm, dedication and talent to continue to drive this outstanding family forward.

Required for September 2026,an enthusiastic, innovative and dynamic teacher to lead a thriving core department within the School. English is a successful subject at both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. You will be well supported by a friendly, hardworking and talented team, fantastic staff and lovely pupils. The role is full time.

The deadline for receipt of application is Midday on Monday 13th April 2026. These can be emailed to the school via: recruitment@saintedmunds.org.uk.

I very much hope that having read the enclosed details and looked at the school website, you choose to apply.

'An inclusive education finds a place for all and does not select in an elitist way the beneficiaries of its efforts.'
Pope Francis

Yours faithfully

Mr S Graham
Headteacher

Website: www.saintedmunds.org.uk **Tel: 02392 823766**
Email: school@saintedmunds.org.uk

Application Procedure

We hope this guide is helpful and that, having read the details, you will wish to apply for the post.

Ifso,please completethe St Edmund's applicationform.

Iwould ask you specifically to describe:

- Your experience to date and the main features of your current experience.
- Your reasons for applying for the post.
- How have you improved the quality of teaching and learning to date for children?
- How you might contribute to the St Edmund's family?

Please do not submit additional documentation.

Completed applications should be returned to the Headteacher no later than:

Midday on Monday 13th April 2026 **The post will start in September 2026.**

Job Reference: HEN26

St Edmund's Catholic School is committedtosafeguarding and promoting the welfare of childrenand young people and expects allstaffand volunteers to sharethis commitment.
This post is covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 and

you willbe required to declare whetheryou haveany criminalconvictions.

St Edmund's Catholic School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sectionsofthe community.

Intent:

Our English department believes in fostering a love of literature through innovative, engaging teaching. We demand a high standard of work and behaviour from all our pupils, but believe in reward they will achieve outstanding results which will enable them to fulfill their potential both in higher education and their careers.

Our lessons are designed to encourage our learnings through discussion, the teaching of engaging texts which stimulate interest and the developing of pupil's vocabulary and ability to express themselves in a variety of forms and for a variety of purposes. We explore poetry, contemporary and classic literature and also link to our sister subjects of Media and Film Studies through a wide ranging curriculum at KS3 which celebrates diversity and increases a pupils knowledge and appreciation of the fact that every life matters. We encourage pupil's creativity and independence, allowing them to become more resilient learners in preparation for the rigor of KS4.

Senior Leader, Joe Were, is the only Specialist Leader of Education for Secondary English in the city and has worked with schools across the Portsmouth area to raise attainment. He also co-chairs the Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance Secondary PEN meetings and believes that every child the department have the pleasure of teaching learns to love literature through the dynamic and engaging lessons that the English department delivery every day.

Within English we use a variety of Assessment for Learning strategies to empower our pupils and ensure accelerated progress is made. Two of the most effective are half time targets and 'feeding forwards'.

Half-time targets allow pupils to stop mid-way through a task and reflect on what they need to do in order to improve. This can either be self or peer assessed, and involves pupils using the lesson's WILFs to produce a SMART target that is then re-assessed when the task is finished. Reflecting on a task at the mid-point means that our pupils in English are constantly reflecting on what they need to do in order to progress.

Feeding forward allows pupils to re-draft prior work and rectify any caveats that may have arisen. Pupils re-write one paragraph from previous work, implementing feedback from their teacher to improve it. This means as teachers we know that our feedback will be taken on board, and that the pupils will show this in their work instantly, accelerating progress and meaning similar errors will not occur again.

Implementation:

Our curriculum is designed to not only foster a love of reading and allow pupils to make cross-curricular links to improve their cultural capital but to also build the skills needed to be successful at not only GCSE and further education but also the wider world. English is a key tool in pupils being able to fulfil their aspirations and we encourage pupils to explore a diverse range of literature from across the last 500 years, giving them a wider insight into the human condition. The key skills of reading, writing and speaking and listening are woven through both KS3 and KS4, making links with other subjects and allowing pupils to make outstanding progress within our subject.

'Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying and most of all, the love of what you are doing or learning to do.'