



**Westhead Lathom St James**

**Church of England**

**Primary School**

**Classroom Teacher Information Pack**

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Situated in the semi-rural village of Westhead, on the outskirts of Ormskirk, Westhead Lathom St James' is a small school with a big heart. An exciting, rich and creative curriculum nurtures children aged 3 to 11 to reach their full potential across all areas of learning and development.

## Letter from the Chair of Governors

Dear Colleague

I am delighted that you are interested in the position of Classroom Teacher (Y1/2) at Westhead Lathom St James' C of E Primary School, at the heart of the community of Westhead. As you read about our school, I trust that you will be encouraged to discover more through a visit to gain a real understanding of how we operate and how the school's values underpin daily practice at St James'.

As a governing body, we are immensely proud of everything the school has achieved and continues to achieve with its current team. We now seek to further strengthen our team with an outstanding Year 1/2 Classroom Teacher with dedication to both the school and the local community. We are blessed with truly lovely children in our school and our staff ensure that they flourish through opportunity, support and guidance to be the very best they can be. We are fully aware that in the current educational climate this is no mean feat with daily challenges to be faced!

Ofsted has judged our school to be outstanding in all areas. This is a fantastic accolade to the hard work of our pupils, staff and parents, but I absolutely assure you that this has not led to any complacency as we constantly seek to develop in all areas. Our children are particularly proud of their successes and their efforts in all areas and actively put into practice what they have learnt. They are totally committed to the wider life of the school with performances and sporting activities being a real highlight of life at St James'.

Parents, the local community and the Church are extremely supportive of the school and partnership working is highly valued. Our children have the benefit of an extremely supportive PTA and are blessed with frequent visits from the Church Ministry Team and visits to the Church.

We are looking for a highly skilled teaching professional who is both inspirational and passionate about providing the best learning opportunities and personal development for all within a Christian school environment. If you feel ready to share our journey of continuing excellence, we would be delighted to receive your application.

You are most welcome and encouraged to make an informal visit to the school. Please contact Tracy Comerford, Office Manager, who will be delighted to help.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Livesley  
Chair of Governors

# Mission Statement

## A welcoming place that **engages each child.**

Our school provides a secure, caring, stimulating and challenging indoor and outdoor environment that promotes a love of learning. Our children, parents, families, staff, governors and community work together to enable each child to become a happy, healthy, well-balanced individual in preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The ethos of the school is based on the Christian ideals of commitment, responsibility and respect and love for Jesus Christ, self and others. We are committed to working in partnership with all of those involved in our children's development to lead our children towards tolerance, understanding, justice, and sensitivity to the needs of others and appreciation of the world around them.

## Our motto **"Enjoy, Respect, Learn, Achieve"**

To provide role models who go the extra mile; give of themselves and their time to meet the needs of the whole child; promote spirituality and an appreciation of the wonders of the natural world; promote a love of learning; develop Christian ideals of commitment, responsibility, respect, team-work, tolerance, understanding, justice, sensitivity of self and others and love for Jesus Christ, within a secure, caring, inspiring, stimulating and challenging environment both indoors and outside.

For children, parents, families, staff, governors and community to work together in partnership to enable each child to become a happy, healthy, well-balanced individuals with self-confidence and belief that builds character to enable them to engage thoroughly, fulfilling each individual's potential through life's experiences, opportunities and responsibilities in a rapidly changing world.

## Aims

- Provide a broad and challenging curriculum and a stimulating learning environment that extends outside the classroom;
- Develop enquiring minds and spirituality through curiosity, awe and wonder of the world;
- Teach, demonstrate and praise Christian Values;
- Value the power of prayer;
- Teach with innovative and investigative approaches to learning;
- Provide an enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and visits;
- Plan a rich, varied and up-to-date range of learning resources;
- Encourage children to achieve their highest standards in all areas of the curriculum and to seek excellence within an ethos of support, challenge and encouragement to succeed;
- Teach children to work independently, collaboratively and become highly motivated lifelong learners;
- Include opportunities for creative thinking in problem solving settings, developing divergent thinking, adaptability and flexibility in preparation for the many changes ahead in life, including the rapid progress in technology;
- Build partnerships between the school, home and community;
- Strive for continuous improvement in all that we do;

- Continually self-evaluate and continue to improve upon current practice;
- Work collaboratively towards common goals;
- Place self-esteem and a positive and inclusive approach to behaviour as high priorities thus ensuring that individuals respect and value themselves, others and the environment and is motivated to do their best in school and beyond in order to become a fulfilled adult who gives to the community.

## We are proud of:

- **Our school:** is a half form entry primary school in Westhead, Lancashire. We are located close to the town of Ormskirk and our pupils come from Westhead village and the surrounding areas of Ormskirk and Skelmersdale. The school benefits from wonderful children, enthusiastic and dedicated staff, close links with our families and parish community and a friendly and open outlook.

Our children: we have 94 children on roll aged between 3 and 11. We encourage our children to develop a caring and helpful attitude through taking part in Playground Leader and Prefect opportunities. The School Council meets regularly and provides a forum for pupil participation in the running of the school.

- **Our Staff:** we have a highly committed group of teachers who are well trained, keep their training up-to-date and have a wide variety of teaching experience. This team is supported by a team of exceptional and dedicated teaching assistants and support staff. All staff work very closely with parents and carers to ensure that there is strong and effective communication with home. The staff run a number of lunchtime and after school clubs, giving the children every opportunity to express themselves in a creative or sporting way.
- **Our Home-School Partnership:** we are fortunate to benefit from excellent relationships between school and family and these form the basis for an extremely supportive and creative learning environment. A number of parents and grandparents help out in classes with activities such as reading, and extra-curricular activities such as clubs. The Friends (PTA) organises fund-raising and social events throughout the year and has recently worked extremely hard to provide funds to improve outdoor facilities at our school.
- **Our Community and Parish:** the school is a central part of the local community and Parish of St. James'. Our relationship with the Church is extremely important to us and is a vital element of our identity. We have strong links with other schools in the area through shared activities and events and our membership of SHARES.
- **Our Governors:** The school benefits from a very active and supportive governing body, which draws membership from many different professions and walks of life to provide both challenge and support to the leadership team.

## Your Application

When making your application, please bear in mind the Person Specification and Job Description which we have provided. At shortlisting, we will be looking for evidence in each application of the positive impact that an applicant has had in their previous involvement with children.

Your letter to accompany your application should be no more than two sides of A4 when typed (11 size font). Please send your completed application form and letter to:

Miss Helen Clark,  
Westhead Lathom St James' Church of England Primary School,  
School Lane,  
Westhead  
L40 6HL

Visits to school: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2:00pm, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 11:00am or Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 4:00pm

Closing date for applications: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 12 noon

Interviews: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. There will be a need for the successful applicant to undertake a criminal record check via the DBS.

References, one of which should be from your current Headteacher/Chair of Governors. Both references will be sought as soon as applicants have been shortlisted. All applications will of course be treated in the strictest confidence.