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Headteacher: Mr M Rayner BA(Hons) NPQH

FURTHER DETAILS OF OUR ACADEMY

Aspire to be More

St Thomas More Catholic Academy is an 11-18 mixed Catholic comprehensive, which has an excellent reputation throughout the area. Since 1 November 2013 St Thomas More together with the following primary academies – St Gregory's, St Maria Goretti, Our Lady's and St Augustine's formed the All Saints' Catholic Collegiate. This provides us with an exciting opportunity to work collaboratively with our four main feeder schools.

At St Thomas More Catholic Academy there are 1138 students on roll including an open Sixth Form of 125 students. The academic ethos of the school is based upon the development of excellence in the individual student.

Our Motto is "*Aspire to be More*" which encompasses our aspirations for all our students within our school and recognises our patron St Thomas More. As a Catholic school, we offer an education firmly based upon our Gospel values and our Mission statement puts 'our community' at the heart of all we do.

The entire school community is very proud of the OFSTED inspection outcome in October 2022 which once again rated the school as a *Good* school.

The school was rated as *Good* in every category including Sixth Form. Inspectors recognised the transformation of the school, the changing culture and the positive impact on the life chances of the students.

The Catholic Schools Inspection was completed in March 2023 which judged the school as a good school across all areas noting that 'The head teacher and his team are passionate in their commitment to the Catholic identity of the academy and have created a nurturing and inclusive community that genuinely has Christ as its centre.'

We fervently believe that a major strength of our school is the positive relationships that exist within it and within our local and Catholic community. We work very closely with all our partner primary schools to ensure the smooth transition to high school for all our students. Furthermore, we consider it important to get to know the families of our pupils, so that we can work together for the benefit of every child placed in our care. The school values the excellent support it receives from parents and carers.

We have a team of conscientious and professional staff who consistently encourage their students to be the best they can be. We aim for the highest standard in all that we do and we



can only achieve success with the co-operation of our students and parents. Working together in partnership we believe that anything and everything is possible.

This is a very exciting time in our history; improving examination success at both GCSE and A level, a full program of extra-curricular and enrichment activities, excellent facilities including sports facilities and an aspiration to improve further.

OUR CATHOLIC ETHOS

Christ is at the heart of our school where everyone is known and loved. Catholic Life of our school is one that is vibrant and growing. It is also one which is all-inclusive, no matter what faith or beliefs a young person has. We are constantly looking at ways to continue to grow the Catholic Life of our school to best serve the young people who belong to our school community, and to ensure that they fully realise how amazing, how special and how loved each one of them is. This is reflected in our mission. The school exists to educate students in the Catholic faith in the widest sense and is committed to represent Christian family values. As a Christian community, the Academy tries to embody Gospel values of love, justice, forgiveness and reconciliation

Our school is guided in its Catholic life by our enthusiastic and dedicated Chaplaincy team; made up of priest Chaplain, Fr David Newall and Lay Chaplain, Mrs Prudence Matthews.

The young people at St Thomas More Catholic Academy have a variety of opportunities to develop their faith. Prayer and liturgy are central to our daily practice, including weekly Mass celebrated in the Chapel as well as House Masses throughout the academic year and retreat opportunities for every year group.

Opportunities include the annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes in France, where our students join with hundreds of pilgrims across the Diocese of Birmingham to spend time with and assist the sick who go in hope of being healed, as well as to grow in faith and confidence themselves.

In line with Catholic Social Teaching we place the needs of the poor and vulnerable first through our charity fundraising which is done on a local, national and international level. Each year the students make donations of money, clothing and food to support our selected charities.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Christ is at the heart of our community, where everyone is known and loved. In fulfilling our mission, we are a school of prayer. We live as a community of love, peace and reconciliation, valuing everyone's dignity as a child of God to promote and celebrate the growth and achievement of the whole person.

CURRICULUM

All pupils follow a common KS3 curriculum in Years 7, 8 and 9. The school has a core curriculum of RE, English, Maths, Science and a Humanity, with the majority of students also taking a Modern Foreign Language and a Humanity

In the Sixth Form we are part of The Trinity Sixth Form Partnership. There is a wide range of academic and vocational subjects on offer. Most students study three A Levels or equivalent and all students study Core RE.

PASTORAL ORGANISATION

The pastoral system is led by the Deputy Headteacher, there are designated Heads of Year for each year and a Student Support Officer for each year group. Every member of staff is expected to promote the Christian ethos which is the 'raison d'être' of the school. A pastoral curriculum runs throughout the school with regular events every term.

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

The Senior Leadership team consists of the Headteacher, one Deputy Head, seven Assistant Heads and the School Business Manager. The Headteacher's philosophy strongly supports distributed leadership thus allowing individuals to take ownership and fully develop areas of responsibility. Staff development and support are at the heart of our work. There are a huge variety of staff development opportunities. Staff are encouraged to lead in many areas of the school and take the opportunities on offer to them

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Your application should be on the Catholic Education Service application form which can be downloaded from our website (www.stmca.org.uk). Your supporting statement should include any relevant experience and personal qualities you would bring to the role. The names and addresses of two professional referees are required. Completed applications should be returned to the Headteacher, at the school, by **9:00am on Monday 8th April 2024** via email to **swalker@stmca.org.uk**.

This post is exempt under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and as such appointment will be conditional upon the satisfactory response to a check of criminal records via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) before the appointment is confirmed. This will include details of cautions reprimands or final warnings as well as convictions. The appointment is also subject to satisfactory references, medical clearance and right to work in the UK.

St Thomas More Catholic Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education and the Prevent Duty.

Interviews are scheduled to be held week commencing Friday 12th April. If you have not been requested to attend for interview by then please assume that on this occasion your application has been unsuccessful.