

# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



# Receptionist

Candidate Information | January 2026



# 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:

- In 2025, **73% of students attained a Grade 4 or above in both English & Mathematics (the equivalent to the old Grade C)** with **46% achieving a Grade 5 or above in both English & Mathematics**
- **82 grade 9s and 115 grade 8s were awarded to our students in 2025**, 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



# Receptionist

Full time, Permanent 37 hours per week (term time only)

Scale 3: £25,583 - £25,989 (pro rata, actual salary £21, 882 to £22, 229)

Hours of work Monday - Thursday 8am - 4pm, and Friday 8am - 3.30pm

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, with "Outstanding" Outcomes for Pupils.

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

The governors of the school wish to appoint an inspirational, dynamic and highly motivated Receptionist

**Closing Date: Wednesday 21st January 2026 12 noon**

**Interviews: Friday 23rd January 2026**

Please note a current CES application form (version 14) and the 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



# Receptionist

## 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

## Purpose

- To provide a professional and personable reception service to all pupils, staff and visitors
- To provide high quality, comprehensive administrative support as required

## Specific Duties

- To complete reception duties efficiently and to provide a professional and positive welcome to all visitors, students and staff
- To oversee the Inventory system issuing visitor lanyards and ensure all persons are signed in/out, in accordance with safeguarding protocols
- To take receipt of and accurately record deliveries in liaison with the Site Manager
- To deal with enquiries, by email, telephone and in person, and to ensure accurate information is passed to the relevant parties in a speedy manner, maintaining confidentiality at all times
- To maintain a neat and tidy reception area, ensuring school publications and other relevant information is readily available for visitors
- To oversee 'lost property'
- To be responsible for incoming and out-going post and to monitor the general office email account directing and responding to emails accordingly
- To provide cover in the absence of the Attendance Officer
- To maintain the SIMS database and update information, in an accurate and speedy manner as required
- To be the first point of call for first aid ensuring prompt response to first aid requests by a qualified member of staff
- To be the first point of call for 'on call' ensuring prompt response to on call requests by the member the member of SLT as per the on call rota
- To assist in the organisation of school events and parents' meetings
- To collate and update information on new in-take students as required
- To provide clerical and admin support to colleagues as required
- To undertake photocopying as required and to collate and distribute documents as necessary
- To liaise with TFGM to ensure that the school bus services run effectively and to time
- To ensure SIMs information relating to pupils eligible for Free School Meals is kept up to date via information from the SAM portal
- Be aware of, and implement, security procedures such as Lockdown

- To distribute letters and other information to staff, parents and students as directed by line manager/Headteacher's PA
- Communicate and co-operate effectively and positively with specialists from outside agencies where applicable
- To manage the school Biometric system which records pupil thumbprints to allow the cashless catering system to operate efficiently

## General Duties

- To act in accordance with provisions of the School Staff Code of Conduct.
- To abide by the School Data Protection Policy
- To use information technology systems as required, in compliance with the School IT Policy
- To carry out the responsibilities of the post with due regard to all or any of the School equality and diversity policies
- To operate in accordance with Health and Safety Legislation, which specifies that all employees have a duty to work safely and not to put others at risk
- To take part in performance management and undertake/participate in training as appropriate
- To comply with and follow all other school policies and procedures in force and also with the conditions of service stipulated within the contract of employment
- To have an involvement in other associated duties as discussed and agreed with the Headteacher

## Other Specific Duties

Many specific responsibilities will require collaborative working with other team members across the school.

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 any manager to undertake work of a similar level, that is not specified in their job description



# Receptionist

Job Requirements	Status of Criteria		Method of Assessment	
	Essential	Desirable	Application	Interview/task
<b>Training and Qualification</b>				
Good standard of education to at least GCSE standard or equivalent; at least GCSE Grade C or equivalent in English and Maths	✓		✓	
Commitment to personal/professional development	✓		✓	
<b>Experience</b>				
Experience of working in a school environment		✓	✓	
Experience of using SIMS		✓	✓	
General office/reception/admin experience	✓		✓	✓
Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work within professional boundaries and relate well with visitors, students and staff	✓			
Experience of preparing work of a high quality with accuracy	✓		✓	✓
Ability to make sound judgements and prioritise multiple demands	✓		✓	✓
Ability to act on own initiative, dealing with any unexpected problems that arise	✓		✓	✓
<b>Professional Knowledge</b>				
Knowledge of and commitment to relevant school policies including Safeguarding/Child protection and Health and Safety		✓	✓	✓
Excellent, up to date, working knowledge of MS office suite of applications	✓		✓	✓
<b>Personal skills and qualities</b>				
Supportive of the ethos of a Catholic School n inspiring and highly skilled classroom teacher who modelsexemplary practice in Religious Education	✓		✓	✓
Ability to maintain confidentiality and to be able to deal with matters with discretion and sensitivity	✓		✓	✓
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	✓		✓	✓
Good interpersonal skills and able to communicate effectively with a range of people	✓		✓	✓

# Contact

**Kirsty Bowers**

PA to the Headteacher

0161 482 6900

[headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk)

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

St James' Catholic High School

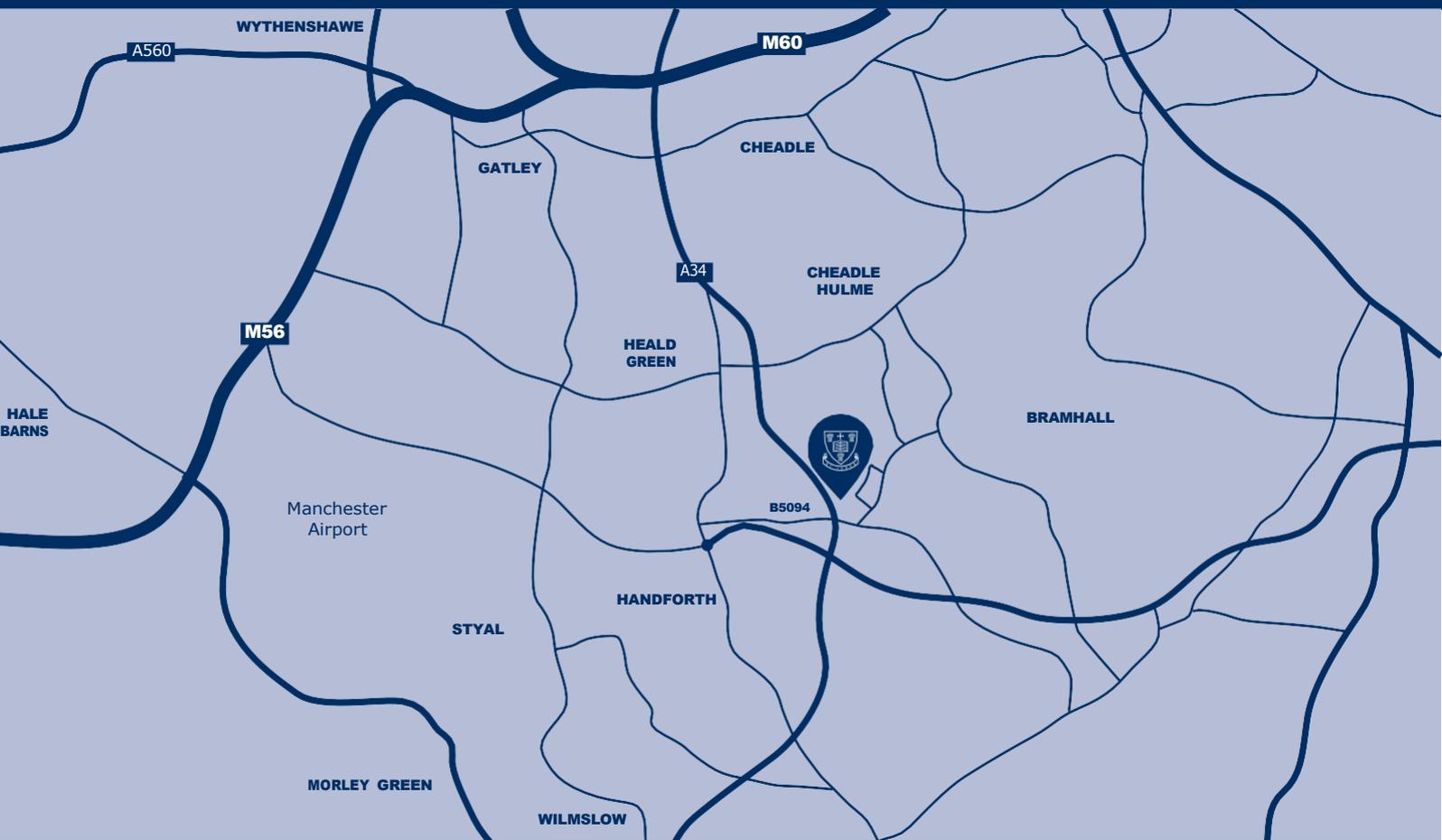
St James' Way

Cheadle Hulme

Cheadle

Cheshire

SK8 6PZ



**ST JAMES'**  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

With God all things are possible

Matthew 19:26