



# Senior Network Manager

Grade 9

Required from 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025



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That person is

*like a tree*

planted by streams of water, which

*yields its fruit*

in season and whose leaf  
does not wither

*whatever they do*

*prosper.*

Psalm 1:3



# A LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER

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Dear Colleague,

Thank you for expressing an interest in applying for the position of **Senior Network Manager** at St Christopher's. This vacancy will provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to join an outstanding school and to occupy a position of strategic importance and influence.

Following the retirement of the previous post-holder, we are looking to invest in and develop our ICT systems in a manner which makes them fit for the second quarter of the 21st Century. The successful candidate will play a pivotal role in leading these initiatives and we trust that the salary grade offered reflects our ambitions and expectations.

St Christopher's is a rewarding place in which to work. The school enjoys a well-earned reputation as a warm and inclusive community, one which engenders real loyalty from all who are associated with it.

The application form should be completed electronically and emailed to **[vacancies@st-christophers.org](mailto:vacancies@st-christophers.org)**, marked for the attention of Mrs Grimshaw, my PA. It should be accompanied with a supporting letter of not more than two sides of A4 paper, in 11-point font, explaining your suitability for the post, including reference to your skills, experience and a flavour of your vision for the post. We are keen for applicants to make reference to:

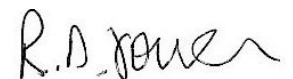
- Vision and plans for upgrading and migrating key infrastructure and services
- Thoughts on developing the digital safety and security of the school site
- Ideas on how best to ensure that all members of the school community can become competent and responsible users of technology
- Plans to ensure that educational technology complements outstanding teaching and learning, this leading to excellent outcomes.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February (midday)** and interviews are planned for **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February**.

If you would like to find out more about the school or position, or to organise a visit, please feel free to email my Mrs Grimshaw ([c.grimshaw@st-christophers.org](mailto:c.grimshaw@st-christophers.org)).

I took up my present position at St Christopher's in September 2013 and still recall the time and commitment required to go through the application process for a new post. If, having considered the supporting documents you feel you have the necessary qualities we require, I would be delighted to receive your application.

Yours sincerely,



**R D Jones**  
Headmaster



*"The clear Christian vision of the senior management team (SMT), ably led by the headteacher and well supported by governors and the director of spirituality, ensures that the academy is a caring and inclusive community in which learners flourish as 'children of God'."*

# ABOUT ST CHRISTOPHER'S

## Introduction

St Christopher's is a highly successful and popular 11-18 co-educational Church of England single academy with 1,300 pupils and students on roll. We are situated in the Lancashire town of Accrington close to the Ribble Valley. Good motorway links mean that Preston, Burnley, Blackburn, Manchester, and North Yorkshire are all within a 30–40-minute car journey. The school is situated in a pleasant setting with views towards Pendle Hill.

Our pupils come from a wide catchment area. Pupils join us in Year 7 from over fifty primary schools, and the sixth form receives students from around thirty secondary schools. We enjoy an enviable reputation, built-up over many years, for providing high quality education for a comprehensive intake of pupils. Our reputation means that we are a popular school, and always over-subscribed. However, we do not allow ourselves to become complacent, always striving for higher standards in all areas. This year, for example, well over 750 applications were received for the 195 on offer. Ten per cent of our pupils are eligible for the Pupil Premium and 3% are from minority ethnic groups.

Our teaching comprises of 80 teachers and 12 teaching assistants. The core Senior Leadership Team is substantively the headmaster, two deputy headteachers, three assistant heads and the School Business Manager.

The school's commitment to learning extends to staff as well as pupils; there is a well-developed support structure for early career teachers and other new members of staff, and a strong culture of ongoing professional development among our teaching and support staff. We are continually looking to develop and further improve the quality of teaching and teachers are encouraged to think deeply about how pupils learn. Whilst we appreciate the contribution that technology can play in assisting learning, we remain committed to the idea that it is the teacher who makes the difference.

## Academic results

Our pupils achieve very well with typically over 80% of Year 11 pupils gaining 5+ GCSE passes at grades 9-4, including English and mathematics. The proportion of pupils moving on to high quality destinations is the highest for any Lancashire secondary school. Our Sixth Form, which opened in 2010 and now has over 300 students studying A-level, continues to achieve impressive results, with 84% of students gaining A\*-C. Attainment and progress are at record levels.

The school has grown significantly in recent years, but this period of change has been managed without compromising the high standards of pastoral care and academic achievement for which we are well known.

## Curriculum

We offer a genuinely broad and balanced curriculum to all year groups rooted in a strong and coherently expressed sense of educational purpose and intent. Pupils acquire the skills, concepts, knowledge, and skills necessary to prepare them to take place their place as active and successful citizens of the 21st century.

At Key Stage 3, subjects are taught according to the National Curriculum guidelines and a wide range of proven learning styles are used to ensure that all pupils are engaged and able to progress. Teachers use their expertise to identify the key knowledge that pupils need, and this helps pupils to strengthen their ability to recall information and to deepen their understanding.

In Years 10 and 11, all pupils follow a core curriculum of English, mathematics, science, RE, PSHE and RE. In addition, pupils select courses from a wide range of GCSE options. Pupils are encouraged to study the EBacc suite of qualifications, with the most able following separate science courses.



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Nearly thirty A-level courses are offered in the Sixth Form. Most students continue to study four subjects for most of the Lower Sixth and continue with three of these in the Upper Sixth. All sixth formers participate in our extensive enrichment programme. A wide range of options are available including pre-professional work experience, sports academies, archery, and dance. Most students progress to university with many making successful applications to Russell Group universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

The curriculum is based around five sixty-minute periods per day, organised as a two-week 48 lesson timetable.

### Extra-curricular activities

Pupils are encouraged to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities including the largest school-based Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in Lancashire, an award winning eco group, and a vibrant music department which enjoys a national reputation. Opportunities for foreign travel are numerous, including, in recent years, visits to India, Iceland, USA, Paris, Rome and Barcelona.

All staff are encouraged to participate to the extra-curricular life of the school and contribute in any way they can.

### Pastoral care

The Heads of Year and Form Teachers (Personal Tutors in the Sixth Form) have responsibility for the welfare, academic progress, and discipline of the pupils in their care. Time is set aside each day to enable form teachers to get to know each pupil as an individual.

Pupils are offered many opportunities to accept positions of responsibility in addition to the senior roles of prefect, Head Boy, and Head Girl. Pupil Voice is active and encouraged and most notable through the work of an active School Council.

### Spiritual care and worship

St Christopher's opened in 1958 to educate the children of Church going families of east Lancashire. Admission to the main school is primarily based on parental patterns of worship at churches recognised by Churches Together or the Evangelical Alliance.

The school motto of 'Ad Gloriam Dei' informs all that we do. We try to establish caring attitudes and lasting values through worship and work done in the classroom, as well as, on a more practical level, supporting charitable appeals.

Each school day begins with an act of worship within the Anglican tradition. A Chaplaincy Team supports our worship and pastoral work, each year group having its own chaplain.

At the last SIAMS inspection (2024) the school was judged to be 'inspirational'.

### Ofsted

The school was inspected by Ofsted in December 2016 and was judged to be Good with several Outstanding areas. Inspectors reached some telling judgements.

- **'Leaders have created an ambitious culture. Pupils are expected to become the best they can be, both academically and socially.'**
- **'Pupils' attendance is excellent.'**
- **'The work the school does to keep pupils safe is exemplary.'**
- **'The behaviour of pupils is outstanding.'**
- **'Tolerance and respect are strongly evident throughout the harmonious school community and the warm and inclusive ethos permeates every aspect of the school's work.'**
- **'Pupils are proud of their school. Pupils of all abilities demonstrate resilience and enthusiasm in lessons.'**
- **'Attainment is at record levels.'**

These judgements were confirmed in our Section 8 report which was published in May 2022.

We all work hard to ensure that every child at St Christopher's is known, supported, and challenged. In the words of one of our former students...

***"I am still not sure what I want to be but after studying at St Christopher's I know who I want to be."***

***"St Christopher's Christian virtues give all pupils a caring, structured environment in which we flourish into capable and successful young adults. Our school ethos establishes a compassionate atmosphere that guides us to become positive, appreciative members of the St. Christopher's family."***



# WHAT'S IT LIKE TO WORK AT ST CHRISTOPHER'S?

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**Linda (main scale teacher of science)**

*"St Christopher's saved my teaching career! My last job in teaching left me feeling demoralised and wanting to get out of the profession but here I feel supported and appreciated. The staff are unbelievably welcoming and the pupils are hard-working, conscientious and respectful."*

**Margaret (reprographic technician)**

*"My work-life balance has flourished since taking on this role. The staff form a great team and are dedicated to inspiring all pupils. I know that I am valued and enjoy every day working at St Christopher's."*



**Rebecca (Wellbeing and Senior Mental Health Lead)**

*"Joining the staff team four years ago I instantly recognised that St Christopher's is a school that cares for its staff. I feel privileged to work alongside an array of skilful colleagues whose shared goal is to maximise the potential of our pupils. At St Christopher's we all flourish."*

**Scott (ECT Science)**

*"St Christopher's has provided me with the skills and knowledge to thrive in the classroom since starting as an ECT. Teaching is tough and so it is good to know that my wellbeing is considered and that I am provided with the autonomy to try out new ideas and approaches, safe in the hands of supportive middle leaders and senior leadership team."*





**Sian (upper pay range teacher of English)**

*“Joining St Christopher’s helped me fall back in love with teaching. This is a school which is committed to creating well-rounded pupils and which takes its responsibilities at the centre of the community very seriously. While the school maintains its reputation for academic excellence, it is this emphasis on the wider impact of education which makes St Christopher’s a unique and special place to work.”*

**Devaki (PSHE and Careers Lead)**

*“The school is more than just a place to work. St Christopher’s is a school community in every sense of the word, where staff genuinely care about the well-being and personal development of the pupils and students in their care, and support one another in doing so.”*



**Peter (Catering Manager)**

*“I came to St Christopher’s having worked in schools and for a multi-academy trust and I’ve been delighted with the warmth of the welcome that I’ve received. From the headmaster down there is a deep sense of connectedness and desire to pull together for the sake of the whole community. St Christopher’s has given me the trust and encouragement to deliver positive changes across my area of responsibility, improvements that have allowed the children to thrive and grow.”*

**Ebony (middle leader and teacher of mathematics)**

*“St Christopher’s is a fantastic place to work. It is more than just a school, it is a community of pupils and staff who look out for each other and strive to be the best version of themselves. I have worked here for four years and been offered great opportunities to advance and progress.”*



# JOB DESCRIPTION

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<b>Post Title:</b>	Senior Network Manager
<b>Grade:</b>	Grade 9 (NJC Spine Points 30 - 35)
<b>Hours:</b>	Full time - 37 hours per week (8am - 4pm)
<b>Contract:</b>	All year round (52 weeks)
<b>Salary:</b>	£39,513 - £44,711

**Responsible to:** Business Manager

## **Main Purpose**

To develop and implement the school's ICT strategy and service provision including managing all aspects of ICT technical support in the school, including the work of ICT technician(s). This role would usually only be found at the largest schools.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

1. Take full responsibility for managing the service on a strategic level, with minimal direction from the Senior Lead for ICT Strategy
2. Negotiate and liaise with Headteacher, SMT, Governors and external organisations over the provision of an appropriate level of service
3. Develop school policies and procedures for the use of ICT within the school environment
4. Maintain a comprehensive database of all support requests
5. Undertake full line management responsibility for staff providing technical support to staff and pupils, including recruitment and selection and performance management
6. Identify school staff training issues and liaise with Senior Lead for right to deliver appropriate training
7. Create and manage all network user accounts, ensuring correct access rights and audit as required
8. Undertake training of all staff and pupils
9. Support the Head of Department in Computing to deliver a curriculum under an agreed system of supervision, to plan appropriate teaching and learning objectives/lessons
10. To keep abreast of best practice within ICT and with relevant developments and changes in information communication technology, particularly in relation to security and data environments and advise on their adoption, where appropriate. To advise on and investigate any apparent breaches of security.
11. Design and implement changes to the schools ICT software and hardware and liaise with consultants on the specifications of new software / hardware as appropriate
12. Procure ICT equipment on behalf of the school which may include managing associated budget.
13. Carry out audits of student and staff internet usage, add filters where necessary and report as appropriate in line with school policy.
14. Market the service and direct the school in making available sufficient financial resources to develop the service
15. Assess and analyse risks to key ICT systems; maintain, develop and review recovery procedures and service cover and contingency plans.
16. Securing any funding from national and local initiatives
17. Representing the school in any collaborative projects
18. Undertake any ICT maintenance requirements including the PAT Testing of ICT equipment throughout the school.
19. Contribute to the School Improvement Plan.



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20. To work within school policies and procedures
  21. To take care of their own and other people's health and safety

### **Individuals in this role may also:**

1. Advise teaching staff on the likely compatibility of new software / hardware, install software / hardware as requested by teaching staff, and maintain records of all installations carried out
2. Negotiate on-line service provision from external suppliers

The list of duties in the job description should not be regarded as exclusive or exhaustive. There will be other duties and requirements associated with your job and, in addition, as a term of your employment you may be required to undertake various other duties as may reasonably be required, including duties at a lower grade and deputising for a higher grade.

### **Equal Opportunities**

- We are committed to achieving equal opportunities in the way we deliver services to the community and in our employment arrangements. We expect all employees to understand and promote this policy in their work.

### **Health and Safety**

- All employees have a responsibility for their own health and safety and that of others when carrying out their duties and must cooperate with us to apply the school's health and safety policy.

### **Safeguarding Commitment**

- We are committed to protecting and promoting the welfare and children and young people. All successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure.

*This job description will be reviewed regularly and may be changed, in consultation with the post-holder, to reflect or anticipate changes in the job requirements which are commensurate with the job title and grade in line with the school's changing needs.*

*The appointment is subject to the current conditions of employment of deputy headteachers contained in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document, other current educational and employment legislation, relevant teacher and headteacher standards.*

*“St Christopher’s offers a friendly and supportive environment, where teachers strive to support each individual pupil to fulfil their potential. The varied curriculum and rich opportunities provided ensure that pupils flourish both socially and academically.”*

# PERSON SPECIFICATION

Candidates for this post should have or be able to demonstrate the following:

## Training, qualifications and experience

- Recognised Level 4 ICT qualification in a relevant discipline..... E
- Industry practitioner qualification (e.g., Microsoft, Cisco)..... E
- ITIL Service Management Qualification (Foundation or above)..... D
- Considerable experience of working in a busy ICT environment working independently providing technical support on a wide variety of ICT systems, equipment and IT software..... E
- PAT Testing qualification or willingness to under-take the training..... E
- Experience in the management and procurement of ICT equipment and service/maintenance contracts..... E
- Experience of managing large networks and major software upgrades..... E
- Experience of managing budgets and/or resources deployed to assist with the delivery of service provision..... E
- Experience of managing challenging and competing workloads..... E
- Experience of training others in the use of ICT systems and software..... E
- Experience of delivering ICT services within a school environment..... D

## Professional knowledge and understanding

- Good analytical, organisational and problem-solving skills with the ability to develop the most appropriate solution to meet the business need..... E
- Ability to interpret technical information and have the ability to relay this to non-technical customers..... E
- Professional and friendly, with a flexible approach to working hours..... E
- Ability to work under minimal supervision and also as part of a team..... E
- Ability to organise, lead and motivate any responsible staff..... E
- Awareness of current ICT trends and developments..... E
- Committed to continuous improvement, enabling the delivery of solutions that provide an increase in efficiency and reduced costs..... E
- Good written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to negotiate and influence..... E
- Ability to coach, guide and mentor staff and/or pupils..... E
- Ability to influence others practice based on technical or professional expertise..... E
- Ability to remain calm under pressure..... E
- Ability to set up and interpret management information systems to ensure ongoing review of performance and progress towards targets and objectives..... E

## Personal and professional qualities

- A passionate belief in the school's mission statement, aims and objectives..... E
- Highest levels of professional and personal integrity (including maintaining confidentiality and discretion at all times)..... E
- Highly motivated, enthusiastic and flexible to change..... E
- Excellent Interpersonal skills (verbal and written communication)..... E
- Personal resilience, persistence and perseverance..... E
- Commitment to on-going learning and professional development..... E
- Hard working, loyal and flexible in approach to work..... E
- Excellent time keeping and attendance record..... E
- Willingness to support the ethos of a Church school..... E
- Christian commitment..... D
- Commitment to support the school's agenda for safeguarding and equality and diversity..... E
- Enhanced DBS clearance will be required..... E

## Confidential references

Professional references should show a strong level of professional support and a positive recommendation from the applicant's current employer.

E = Essential | D = Desirable

*"I was a bit nervous on my first day, but afterwards I knew that somebody would always be there for me if I needed help."*







**St Christopher's CE High School**

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 **01254 232 992**

 **[www.st-christophers.org](http://www.st-christophers.org)**

