



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



Teacher of Expressive Arts

Candidate Information | April 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

Anthony Pontifex
Headteacher

Governors seek the following appointment



Teacher of Expressive Arts (Part time, Permanent)MPS/UPS 0.6 FTE

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 Teacher of Expressive Arts

Closing Date: Friday 8th May 2026 12noon
Interviews: Wednesday 13th May 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@stjamescheadle.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



Teacher of Expressive Arts

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

- Ensure an outstanding Catholic educational experience which is engaging and fulfilling for all pupils
- Deliver an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students within Music and Drama
- Be accountable for student progress and development within the teaching groups allocated
- Maintain an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Music and Drama curriculum
- Inspire and engage pupils in the vision for the school

Progress

- Be accountable for outcomes within the teaching groups allocated
- Ensure effective strategies are in place to enable all pupils within your classes to make good progress
- Track student achievement regularly across the teaching groups allocated, transforming data into action

Teaching and Learning

- Set high expectations for yourself for quality teaching and learning in your Music and Drama classes
- Ensure planning meets the needs of all learners
- Deliver engaging lessons which have frequent and accurate assessment, feedback and intervention

Curriculum

- Assist in the development of schemes of work, resources, marking and assessment policies and teaching strategies within designated curriculum areas
- Keep up to date with national developments in the subject area and how they might affect student learning and teaching methodologies
- Display highly effective subject knowledge

School Ethos and Culture

- Help foster the spiritual development of pupils in accordance with the school's Mission Statement
- Ensure that the school's vision is understood and clearly and effectively articulated to all pupils
- Promote the school's ethos and culture to the broader community

Developing self and working with others

- Actively partake in the school's development scheme through participation in arrangements for further training and professional development
- Treat pupils, staff and parents fairly, equitably and with dignity and respect, to create and maintain a positive school culture
- Celebrate the achievements of individual students
- Work effectively with Technicians and Teaching Assistants as appropriate
- Regularly review own practice, set personal targets and take responsibility for own personal development
- Engage in research around current educational initiatives including government policies in areas commensurate with the post
- Willingness to deliver extracurricular activities including afterschool sessions

Other Specific Duties

All Teaching Staff are expected to meet the relevant Professional Standards for Teachers in addition to the job description detailed above

Many specific responsibilities will require collaborative working with other team members which the Deputy Director of Expressive Arts will develop proactively

Our Teacher of Expressive Arts will be expected to raise the profile of Music and Drama across the school and have the willingness to offer extra-curricular activities e.g. lead a choir, band, and/or orchestra

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 the Headteacher to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in their job description

This post is subject to Enhanced DBS disclosure



Teacher of Expressive Arts

Job Requirements	Status of Criteria		Method of Assessment	
	Essential	Desirable	Application	Interview/task
Training and Qualification				
Qualified teacher status	✓		✓	
Graduate qualification	✓		✓	
Experience				
Experience of highly effective teaching and learning in Music and Drama	✓		✓	✓
Evidence of pupils making highly effective progress over time		✓	✓	✓
Development of good working relationships with parents or carers, and other stakeholders	✓		✓	✓
Experience of using data to track and monitor the progress of students	✓		✓	✓
An active member of a Catholic church community		✓	✓	✓
Professional Knowledge				
Knowledge of current opportunities and challenges within the Music and Drama curriculum	✓		✓	✓
Understanding of how different strategies can be used to secure effective pupil progress in Music and Drama	✓			✓
Knowledge of the distinctive nature of a Catholic school	✓			✓
Understanding of how to safeguard pupils	✓			✓
Personal skills and qualities				
An inspiring and highly skilled classroom teacher who models exemplary practice in Music and Drama		✓	✓	✓
Have a passion for teaching Music and Drama and be able to work within an Expressive Arts team	✓		✓	✓
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	✓			✓
Practising Catholic		✓	✓	✓
Excellent communication skills	✓		✓	✓

Contact

Kirsty Bowers

PA to the Headteacher

0161 482 6900

headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

www.stjamesheadle.co.uk

St James' Catholic High School

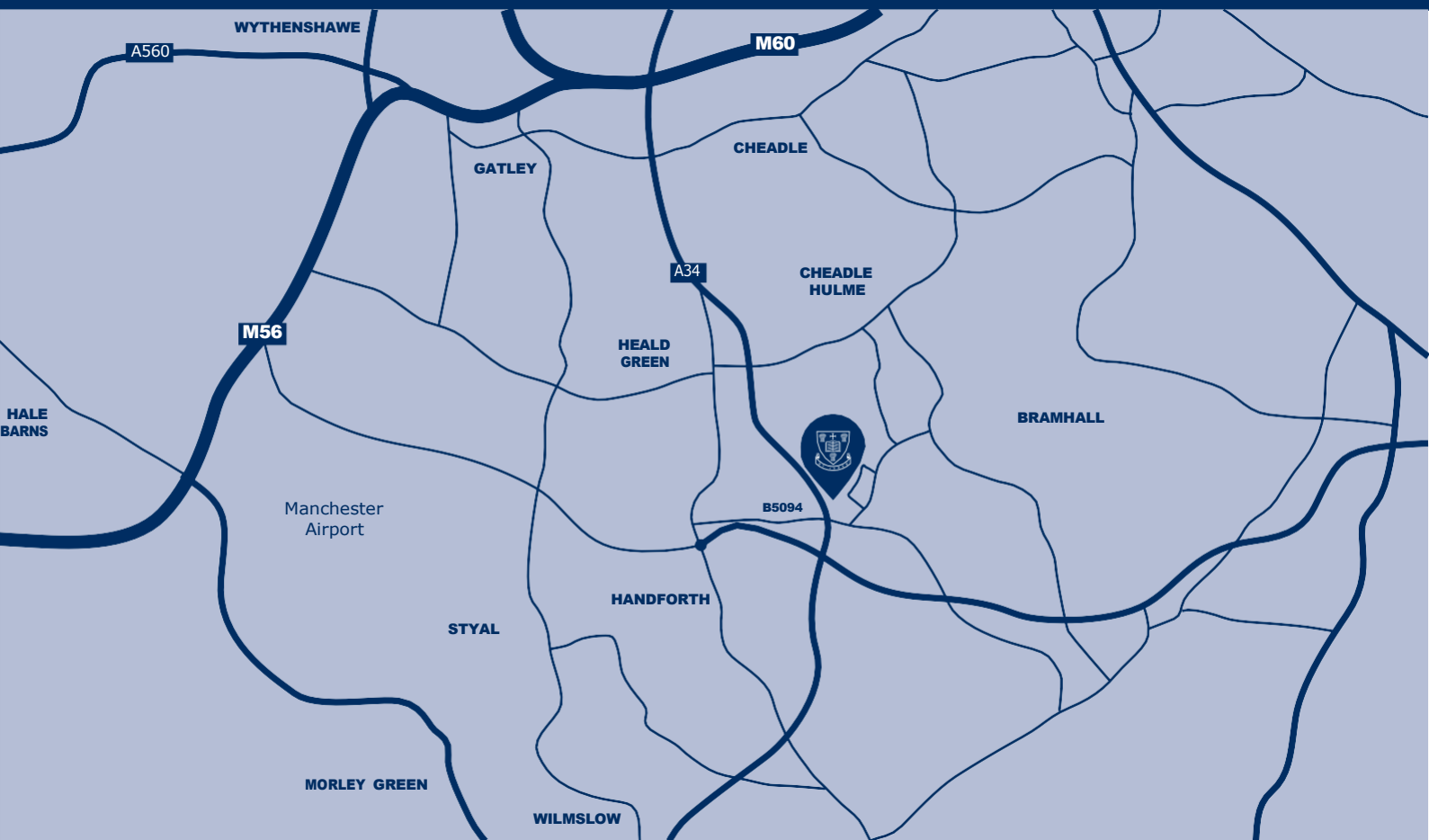
St James' Way

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Cheadle

Cheshire

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CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Matthew 19:26