St Joseph's Catholic Academy

Acting Headteacher: Mrs S Lewis-Dale Chair of Local Governing Committee: Mrs G Kilgour

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Dear Applicant,

Can I start by saying thank you for showing in interest in becoming part of our community at St Joseph's? St Joseph's Catholic Academy is a growing, and now oversubscribed, Catholic secondary school. We primarily serve a community in Hebburn, but our students also come from across South Tyneside and Gateshead.

I believe that every individual, made in the image of God, has the right to achieve their potential. We are very proud of the academic achievements of our students at all key stages, but we also have a clear focus in our school on developing the 'whole child' including character qualities to flourish in order that all will grow into positive, resilient, empathetic and responsible young adults contributing towards the common good. Our Catholic ethos is at the heart of our school community and strengthens us in all that we do in our drive to allow each student to let their light shine.

Our FLAME values are our golden thread at St Joseph's. Our values run through all aspects of school life. For you to best get a sense of our school, you need to understand what FLAME means for our students, staff and wider community.

FAITH. We want our students and staff to have faith in themselves, faith in God, faith in others, and a belief that anything is possible. As a school, we support our staff and students in their journey of faith, providing opportunities for reflection, and challenging stereotypes, to enable us to celebrate diversity, equality and inclusion. We always try our hardest to live out our faith through witness and example.

LEARNING. We are all lifelong learners. We will always challenge ourselves to be the best version we can be for St Joseph's. As staff we are on a lifelong journey of learning. We want our students to leave St Joseph's with rich and varied knowledge, the ability to ask questions, and the facility to discuss and challenge perceptions, improving society as we go. As staff we help students with this through our carefully planned curriculum, which is strategically sequenced, with clear intent, and by implementing this curriculum with lessons that make students think, whilst meeting individual needs so that students know more and can do more. We create an environment in which the intellectual, physical, social, moral and spiritual development of every student can flourish.

ATTITUDE. We celebrate our own achievements and those of our students. We encourage our students' lights to shine, and shout about their successes, so that this becomes our norm. We want every individual at St Joseph's to be able to rise and meet new challenges - to get up if they fall down - because we all will meet challenges at points in our lives. We want everyone in our school community to be positive and to show determination.

MUTUAL RESPECT. We want our community to continue to care for one another. We want inclusion and equity within our school. We want our students to take part in raising awareness of key issues and become involved in charity work. Our students should become outward facing members of society in the way that our patron saint, St Joseph, was.

Caritas Christi Urget Nos — The love of Christ spurs us on













ENRICHMENT. St Joseph's is about the formation of the whole child. We want all our students to have a range of opportunities, to explore their passions, and to experience new things. This, of course, goes beyond the purely academic.

FLAME does not start and end with our students. We are all part of the St Joseph's community. When we are supporting our students to be the best version of themselves, we remember to provide ourselves with opportunities to meet and collaborate. We provide development and experience for our staff in leadership, pastoral, and curriculum aspects of the school.

You can absolutely expect from us that we will remember the 'why' and hold to our core values. We are a true community at St Joseph's. It is a privilege to be part of this, to rise to meet challenges, to listen, and to communicate.

We expect our staff to live out our values by committing to being an active part of the St Joseph's community, keeping our students at the centre of all we do and dedicating time to being lifelong learners ourselves.

I hope that the above explains more about us as a school, and I look forward to reading your application and personal statement to discover what experience, interests and qualities you would bring to our school community.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Lewis-Dale
Acting Headteacher