Dear Candidate

Thank you for expressing an interest in the post of Teaching Assistant at St Mary’s CE (VA) Primary School.

St. Mary’s is a church school, in the heart of our community, with a strong Christian ethos which is woven throughout all aspects of school life. We hold is a strong belief that all members of our school community are unique and have diverse gifts and talents which deserve to be nurtured and celebrated. Collectively, we work to ensure all feel valued, develop a positive sense of self-worth and a realisation that all can aspire to fulfil their dreams and ambitions. We believe that it is important that children are encouraged to widen their vision and expectations and so, out of classroom visits and experiences play a key role in our school, helping to ensure that the children leave school with happy memories of every school day.

St Mary’s Primary School is situated within walking distance of the centre of the City of Wakefield in a socially deprived area. The school is a Church Aided Primary School with a strong Christian ethos. It has close links to the parish of St Andrew and St Swithun. Many of the children are from Muslim families and Eastern European backgrounds. The school is well regarded and parents speak warmly of its provision.

The school caters for children from 2 - 11 years. There are currently 234 pupils on the school roll including part-time pupils in Lower Foundation Stage. Many of our children speak English as an Additional Language. We work closely with various groups to enhance provision for children. We have developed stronger partnerships with other EAL schools in the district and other CE (VA) Primary Schools. Through these partnerships we work together to address specific issues for our schools. The school is also a member of the Wakefield City Academy Pyramid.

St Mary’s is actively involved with the local community and we encourage parental engagement and interaction. We have Breakfast and After School Clubs, ESOL and Parenting classes, Parents Groups and Coffee mornings.

The best way to get a feel for St Mary’s is to come and visit us. To arrange to look round our wonderful school please contact the school to arrange a mutually convenient time on **01924 303625**.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs Janet Milne**

**Chair of Governors**