



St Gabriel

the Archangel

Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

Trust Lead – Secondary School Performance and Transformation

Job Description

Forming Christ-centred pilgrims of hope, with kind hearts,
questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.

Salary	Leadership Pay Scale: L26–L32
Start Date	September 2026 (or sooner if available)
Location	Trust-wide
Reporting to	Chief Executive Officer
Works alongside	Catholic Senior Executive Leaders (CSELs) and the Executive Team
Contract Type	Senior non-executive leadership role (Senior Partner)

About St Gabriel the Archangel CMAT

'Forming Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.'

Purpose of the Role

This is a Trust-wide senior leadership role offering a unique opportunity to influence the education, life chances, and formation of young people across our secondary schools.

The Trust Lead – Secondary School Performance and Transformation will work shoulder-to-shoulder with principals, teachers, and school leaders, alongside the CEO, Catholic Senior Executive Leaders, and the Executive Team, to design, lead and embed transformation programmes that are deeply aligned with our mission.

Through this role, you will:

- Ensure every secondary school is a Christ-centred community where pupils and staff are nurtured as pilgrims of hope.
- Coach leaders to foster kind hearts and high expectations across classrooms, corridors, and communities.
- Promote questioning minds and a thirst for knowledge, ensuring curricula are ambitious, coherent and engaging.
- Embed a culture of hunger for justice, championing equity, inclusion and opportunity for all.

This role combines hands-on leadership, strategic vision and visible presence, allowing you to drive innovation, improvement and impact across the secondary phase.

Key Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership and Trust-wide Improvement

- Provide mission-led strategic direction for secondary education across the Trust, in partnership with the CEO, Executive Team and Catholic Senior Executive Leaders.
- Embed a Christ-centred culture of high expectations, continuous improvement, and accountability across all secondary schools.
- Analyse school performance data to identify areas for targeted intervention and share best practice across the Trust.
- Ensure improvement plans are rooted in our mission, supporting pupils to grow as pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.

School Performance and Transformation

- Lead targeted school improvement programmes, directly supporting curriculum quality, teaching, assessment, behaviour and leadership.
- Ensure every programme respects the uniqueness of each school community, embedding practices that foster Christ-centred pupils and staff.
- Design interventions that accelerate progress, raise standards and promote hope-filled, inclusive school cultures.

Collaboration and System Leadership

- Work with school leaders and subject experts to codify and share the best practice across secondary schools.
- Co-design programmes that are scalable and sustainable, ensuring every student benefits from high-quality education.
- Encourage a culture of collaboration, curiosity and learning, developing leaders who model kindness, curiosity and justice in their daily work.

Coaching and Leadership Development

- Coach and mentor school leaders and staff to build leadership capacity aligned with the Trust's mission.
- Support leaders to create questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice in their communities.
- Lead professional development initiatives that strengthen Christ-centred, hope-filled leadership.

Curriculum and Quality of Education

- Promote excellence in curriculum design, teaching, assessment and inclusive practice.
- Ensure curricula are ambitious, coherent and well-sequenced, enabling pupils to develop a thirst for knowledge.

- Support schools to embed innovative teaching strategies, ensuring every pupil is challenged and supported to thrive.

Behaviour, Culture and Personal Development

- Foster safe, purposeful, and hope-filled learning environments across all secondary schools.
- Promote attendance, positive behaviour and resilience, nurturing pupils' development as kind-hearted pilgrims of hope.
- Support programmes that embed character education, leadership and social responsibility.

Equity, Inclusion and Justice

- Champion equity, inclusion and social justice, reflecting the Trust's hunger for justice in every initiative.
- Ensure every pupil has the opportunity to flourish, regardless of background or need.
- Build communities where kindness, faith and opportunity intersect.

Leadership Assurance and Governance

- Provide guidance and assurance on leadership, management and governance across secondary schools.
- Support preparation for Ofsted inspections and external reviews.
- Report regularly to the CEO, Trust Board, and relevant committees, demonstrating impact on standards, pupil outcomes and mission-aligned development.

Transition and Progression

- Support seamless transitions from primary to secondary, ensuring continuity of learning and pilgrim progress across key stages.
- Monitor progress, belonging and engagement to ensure equitable outcomes for all pupils.

Additional Responsibilities

- Lead coaching initiatives and improvement programmes as required.
- Provide temporary support for principal vacancies, ensuring continuity of mission-led leadership.
- Represent the Trust externally where appropriate, showcasing our Christ-centred mission in action.

Person Specification

Essential

- Significant experience as a secondary principal, vice principal, or senior strategic leader.
- Proven track record of transforming schools and driving improvement.
- Deep understanding of curriculum, teaching, assessment and inclusion.
- Excellent communication and influencing skills to work with multiple stakeholders.
- Demonstrated commitment to the mission of forming Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.

Desirable

- Experience of leading in a Multi-Academy Trust.
- Successful track record preparing schools for Ofsted inspection.
- Expertise in behaviour management, pastoral care and pupil wellbeing.
- Experience designing and leading large-scale school transformation programmes.

Safeguarding

St Gabriel the Archangel CMAT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

All appointments are subject to:

- Enhanced DBS check
- Satisfactory references
- Pre-employment medical clearance

In line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE), online searches will also be carried out for shortlisted candidates. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.