



**OUR LADY
OF LOURDES**

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



Application pack

Deputy Headteacher

Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy,
Nottingham

Leadership 8 - 12

£61,534 - £67,898 per annum



**Nottingham
Diocese**
Multi Academy Trusts

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Moving Forward Together

Outstanding Catholic education for all

We are, first and foremost, a Catholic Multi-Academy Trust and aim to provide an outstanding faith-based education; we place the life, teachings and person of Jesus Christ at the centre of everything we do. Jesus taught us to put children first:

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.

Matthew 19:14

Thank you for expressing an interest in this vacancy within Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (CMAT).

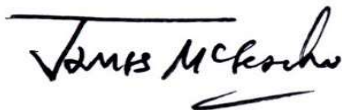
The Our Lady of Lourdes Trust, founded on 1 September 2018, is fundamentally a Catholic organisation. Originally comprising 21 schools, the Trust expanded to 36 in September 2022, following the merger of 15 Catholic schools from the Lincolnshire area into our community. Today, the Trust comprises of six secondary schools and 30 primary schools, providing education to over 14,000 students and employing nearly 2,000 staff.

Our aim is to provide a first-class Catholic education for all our students, who come from across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire. Consequently, we set everything we do within Christian values and look to follow the example of Christ in all our work.

I believe that our Deputy Headteachers are central to ensuring the very best spiritual, social, and academic education for all our young people. Recruiting an outstanding Deputy Headteacher at Holy Cross Catholic Voluntary Academy is a priority for us. This school is high performing both in terms of the Catholic Life of the school and academic outcomes. It is oversubscribed and full in all year groups. The pupils are supported by well qualified, hard-working, and committed staff and outstanding Governors.

This vacancy offers a wonderful opportunity for a talented and successful leader to take their career to the next level. The successful candidate will work closely me, in my role as CEO, my Deputy CEO, and our Directors of Performance and Standards. We work as a team, and you will also be expected to make a positive contribution to the overall development of the Trust.

Thank you again for your interest in this post. I wish you every success in your application.



James McGeachie, CEO, *Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust*



"My vision is that all of our children and young adults will be happy, safe and inspired to flourish spiritually, socially and academically."

Working in the Diocese of Nottingham

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about the Deputy Headteacher post at *Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy* in the Diocese of Nottingham.

The role of the Deputy Headteacher in a Catholic school is a key appointment and one which brings with it tremendous joys and responsibilities. In addition to the many other duties of a Deputy Headteacher, the Deputy Headteacher in a Catholic school is the faith-leader of the school community. For this reason, the continued promotion and development of the school's Catholic ethos must be integral to everything else that happens.

The Diocese of Nottingham, which was established on 29 September 1850, covers a wide geographical area comprising the counties of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Rutland with the exception of the District of Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire and the area around Chesterfield, Derbyshire which was given to create the Diocese of Hallam in 1980.

There are 84 maintained schools in the Diocese of Nottingham (69 primary schools and 15 secondary schools) and one independent school.

We serve around 30,000 children and young people. Each maintained school is part of one of our Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts which were established in September 2018. In January 2022, Bishop Patrick McKinney and the Members of the diocesan Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts made the decision to merge the St Thérèse of Lisieux Catholic Multi-Academy Trust with the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust. Our three Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts are:

- Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust – Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire
- St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust – Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Stockport
- St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust – Leicestershire and Rutland

Our Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts work in very close partnership with us at the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service (NRCDES) particularly in terms of promoting the Catholic Life and Mission of our schools and providing a range of continuing professional development opportunities.

On behalf of Bishop Patrick McKinney, I would like to thank you once again for your interest in one of our schools. I hope that you will consider applying for the post and I wish you every success.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Giorgio, Director of Education

www.dioceseofnottingham.uk

X: [@NRCDES](https://twitter.com/NRCDES)



Working within the Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT

Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT central office is in Nottingham, and our central team supports schools with Finance, HR, Estates, Health and Safety, IT, Procurement and compliance matters, as well as school improvement and CPD for all staff.

'Inspired by Mary's love for God'

Our Catholic faith is of paramount importance to us, and we place Christ at the centre of all we do. As our patron, Our Lady inspires us with the unconditional love she shows for God and we seek to follow in Jesus' footsteps, learning from his teachings and the example of his life.

Our Trust Strategic Plan is underpinned by our key principles of: Faith, Community, Safety, Happiness and Equality and looks to achieve our vision of 'Outstanding Catholic Education for all'. The children and young adults in our schools are wonderful individuals; all have amazing God-given talents, and it is our calling to help them fulfil their potential and to help them to understand that they are loved as God's children.

A key pillar of our trust strategy is being an employer of choice, so that our staff feel valued, have opportunities to develop in their roles and can progress their careers within our Trust. A key component of this is our well-established CPD hub, which provides training and development for all staff, whatever their roles

'Outstanding Catholic education for all'



Working at Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy

At Holy Cross, we are very proud of our school motto and our Catholic ethos: *Loved, Valued, Challenged.*

Loved: We love one another as Jesus taught us – our friends, our families and our brothers and sisters around the world.

Valued: We value everyone – everyone is important; pupils, staff, parents, governors and members of the community– no matter their race, religion ability or need. We try to live like Jesus taught us.

Challenged: We challenge each other – not only in our learning but challenge each other to be more merciful to others, have a little more understanding of others' needs and challenge each other to be better people.

Our Vision at Holy Cross- we are a caring Catholic community rooted in the teachings, life and example of Jesus Christ, which inspires the life and lives of everyone and everything in our school. It is through Christ's message of love and forgiveness that the children, staff, parents and governors, preserve the essential Catholic ethos of the school.

The school aims to provide a challenging curriculum that reflects our philosophy, broadly balanced and relevant, and to support the development of the whole child to their full potential. At Holy Cross, everybody matters, therefore, we encourage all to show respect to each other and the environment.

Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy is a vibrant, caring school community whose mission and motto 'Loved, Valued, Challenged' is reflected in every aspect of school life. It has been at its current site since 1967 but has its origins in Hucknall dating back to 1939.

It has always been a popular school with a family atmosphere and an excellent reputation for attainment, behaviour and care.

Within our school we recognise, not only the importance of helping students to flourish academically but also spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, so they are fully prepared for life in British society and for their role as citizens, able to make the strongest possible contribution to the Common Good of all.

The Holy Cross staff are a committed, caring and positive team who are dedicated to providing the very best Catholic education which is ambitious for all. We look forward to being led by and working with a headteacher who has the same outstanding vision for our whole school community.

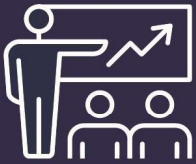
The school is currently graded Good for Ofsted (May 2023) and Outstanding for Catholic Schools Inspection (November 2024).

Why work for us?



Access to first class CPD opportunities

We have a specialised CPD Hub to deliver meaningful and relevant CPD for all our staff. Our Leadership Academy identifies and develops future leaders.



Opportunities for career progression

With 36 academies in our family, and 84 academies across the Diocese, opportunities for career progression are a reality.



Professional assistance

Our Employee Assistance Programme gives you access to confidential, independent and unbiased information and guidance 24/7. If clinically advisable, it also offers face-to-face counselling sessions.



Cycle to Work scheme

As well as saving money and improving your mental health and wellbeing, you can help reduce your carbon footprint.



Pension

As a teacher, you will automatically enrol into the Teachers' Pension Scheme with 23.68% employer contributions. As support staff you can opt-in to the Local Government Pension Scheme – one of the most competitive on the market, with employer contributions of above 20% in most cases.



Terms and Conditions

We have committed to following nationally agreed terms and conditions for pay for both teachers and support staff.

How to apply

Prior to applying for this role, please contact Paul Tibble, Headteacher via email, to discuss the role: PTibble@holycross.notts.sch.uk

If you wish to apply for this post, please:

- Apply online by the closing date on our [vacancies page](#).
- **Include** a supporting statement of no more than two sides of A4 (included within the online application form)
- **Include** an additional single side of A4, **summarising the impact** of your work as a leader in your current / recent roles. This can be uploaded via our online recruitment system or emailed to vacancies@ololcmat.co.uk.

Indicative timescales:

Closing date: Monday 11 May 2026 at 9.00am
Interview date: To be confirmed.
Start date: 1 September 2026

The successful applicant will:

- Be a practising Catholic (please see the accompanying NRCDES document '*Catholic Schools and the Definition of a Practising Catholic*') with a strong personal faith and a clear commitment to Catholic education.
- Ensure that the example and teachings of Jesus Christ are central to all aspects of school life.
- Place safeguarding and the wellbeing of pupils at the heart of all decision-making.
- Have a proven track record of successful leadership, effective management, and sustained school improvement.
- Demonstrate the vision, drive, and energy to initiate, lead, and manage strategies that build on the school's current successes and achievements.
- Be passionate about enabling every pupil to fulfil their unique potential.
- Be a confident, positive, and visible leader, able to build strong relationships with staff, pupils, parents, Governors, Directors, colleagues within the CMAT, and external partners.
- Look strategically ahead, working closely with the CMAT, Governors, and Senior Leadership Team to develop a compelling, faith-centred vision that drives continuous improvement.
- Be able to build and sustain successful teams, working collaboratively to achieve shared goals.
- Motivate themselves and others to perform at a high level.
- Respond positively and adapt effectively to change, maintaining high standards and performance.
- Listen actively and communicate clearly and effectively with a wide range of audiences.

What is the objective definition of a 'practising Catholic' for appointments to key posts in Catholic Schools?

To objectively define what a 'practising Catholic' is when assessing applicants for key leadership posts within a Catholic school, it is necessary to understand that there are general obligations as well as essential components that constitute 'practice' of the faith in the teaching of the Catholic Church.

The Church's general obligations for its members require that they strive to live lives of holiness by being faithful to the teaching of the Gospel, by trying to uphold the values proclaimed in the Beatitudes, by assisting in the Church's mission to make Christ known to all peoples, by upholding privately and publicly the Church's moral and social teaching, by endeavouring to follow an informed conscience and by making every effort to keep the precepts of the Church.

This is the 'practice' of the Catholic faith in its widest and all-encompassing sense. At the heart of these general obligations though, there are essential components for "*full communion*" with the Catholic Church.

These are sacramental initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist) and the bonds of profession of faith, the sacraments and ecclesiastical governance. The preservation of this full communion is not limited to purely religious activity but is to be an integral part of the whole pattern of behaviour of a member of the Church. It is what essentially constitutes being a committed and 'practising Catholic'.

For further information, including examples where there may be a reason why somebody is not able to take up a key responsibility in a Catholic school, please see '*Christ at the Centre*' by Mgr. Marcus Stock, CTS Publications ISBN 978-1-86082-843-0.

Deputy Headteacher – Job description

Introduction

Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy is a Catholic School, part of the Catholic Church, and is to be conducted as a Catholic school in accordance with Canon Law, the teachings of the Catholic Church and the diocesan trust deed. At all times, the school is to serve as a witness to the Catholic faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ. The post is, therefore, reserved for a practising Catholic who can show by example and from experience that he or she will ensure that the school is distinctively Catholic in all its aspects.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The Deputy Headteacher must ensure that the highest priority is given to following the guidance and regulations relating to safeguarding and child protection.

A. The core purpose of the Deputy Headteacher

Responsible to : The Headteacher

This primary academy has been designated by the Secretary of State as a school with a religious character and is part of the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (the Trust). The Articles of Association for the Trust state that it and the academies within the Trust are part of the Catholic Church and the academies are to be conducted as Catholic schools in accordance with Canon Law, the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church and the Trust Deed of the Diocese of Nottingham. At all times, the school is to serve as a witness to the Catholic Faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is a reserved post which means that applicants must be practising Catholics.

Please consult the document produced by the Diocese of Nottingham '*Catholic Schools and the Definition of a Practising Catholic*' for further information. A copy of this document is included as part of the application pack.

This appointment is with the directors of the Trust under the terms of the Catholic Education Service contract signed with the Trust as employers. It is subject to the current conditions of service for Deputy Headteachers contained in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document and other current education and employment legislation. In carrying out his/her duties the Deputy Headteacher shall consult with the Headteacher and, when appropriate, with the school governing body, the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service, the Local Authority, the staff of the school, the parents of its students, the parish/es served by the school and the other schools within the Trust.

Catholic Purpose and Identity of the School

The Deputy Headteacher (DHT) must understand the nature and purpose of Catholic education and know that his or her first responsibility is to support the Headteacher in establishing and sustaining the Catholic identity of the school and safeguarding the teachings of the Church.

You must help to ensure that this Catholic identity is reflected in every aspect of the life of the school, in particular: in the curriculum; the day-to-day organisation of the school; staff development; staff and student relationships; the partnership between school, home, parish; extended partnerships with the wider local community, other schools, the LA and other agencies.

This duty provides the context for the proper discharge of all other duties and responsibilities.

Leadership in Catholic Education

With the Headteacher, the Deputy Headteacher shares responsibility for the leadership of a Catholic school community. A Catholic Deputy Headteacher has the responsibility to develop an ever-deeper understanding of this leadership role through regular reading and participation in appropriate courses, together with frequent reflection.

The Deputy Headteacher must support the Headteacher to establish a culture that promotes excellence, equality, and high expectations of all students.

KEY AREAS OF THE ROLE

Strategic direction and development of the academy and Trust

The Deputy Headteacher will:

- Be able to clearly articulate the school's faith values, mission and ethos.
- Help to formulate the aims and objectives of the school and to develop policies and whole school strategies to achieve them.
- Lead the implementation of new strategies for academy and when required Trust improvement.
- Effectively take a significant lead in school improvement and staff development in the academy
- Work with the senior leadership teams on Trust improvements and staff development
- Work in partnership with the Headteacher, Governors and Directors of Performance and Standards to contribute to the cycle of planning, implementation, review and evaluation of the School Improvement and Development Plan
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of the school's policies, practices, targets, and priorities, identifying developments needed and work with the Headteacher to achieve them.

Teaching and Learning

The Deputy Headteacher will:

- Share responsibility for the whole-school curriculum.
- Assist the Headteacher and RE coordinator in the delivery of the school's Religious Education programme.
- Provide an excellent role model of teaching in a Catholic school.
- Assist the Headteacher, through rigorous monitoring activities, to maintain high standards of teaching and learning throughout the school.
- Provide additional support for colleagues whose performance has been identified as requiring improvement over time.
- Ensure that students across the school make good progress by regularly monitoring classroom practice and analysing assessment information.
- Take a lead in planning for intervention support when students are identified as in danger of falling behind.

Leadership and Management

The Deputy Headteacher will:

- Undertake, in the absence of the Headteacher, the professional duties of the Headteacher.
- Take a major role in the leadership of the school as a member of the Senior Leadership Team
- Take a significant role in the leadership of the Academy Trust
- Support the Headteacher in organising the day-to-day running of the school.
- Provide an excellent model of subject leadership.
- Recognise and develop leadership potential in others.
- Challenge and support colleagues and support the Headteacher in holding staff to account for poor performance.
- Support the Headteacher in the recruitment and deployment of staff.
- Support the Headteacher in the performance management of staff.
- Have an ongoing commitment to personal continuing professional development.
- Have a commitment to promoting safeguarding, in all its aspects.
- Provide analyses and reports on the school's performance to a variety of audiences.
- Motivate and enthuse children and colleagues by a positive, active, and supportive attitude.
- Be responsible for the school's financial management, working with the Trust Finance team in the absence of the Headteacher.
- Be responsible for income and expenditure of any specifically allocated budget(s).
- Adhere to the School's Financial Policy and Procedures

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

The Deputy Headteacher will:

- Strive to live out the school's Mission Statement.
- Provide an excellent model of positive professional behaviour and self-discipline.
- Promote the highest standards of behaviour for students.
- Ensure the school's policies on personal development, behaviour and welfare are fairly and consistently implemented across the school.

- Ensure that all safeguarding policies and procedures are followed rigorously.

Communication

The Deputy Headteacher will:

- Fully support the ethos and educational mission of the school
- Help maintain and further develop positive relationships with parents, Governors, local parishes, and the wider community.
- Help maintain and further develop positive relationships with the Diocese, the LA, and Support Services
- Provide information and support to the Governing Body to enable it to meet its statutory responsibilities.

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check and other pre-employment checks are required for successful applicants.

Our Trust strives to be a supportive, inclusive, caring, and positive community where every staff member has a sense of belonging. We are committed to cultivating an equitable working environment where staff treat one another with dignity and respect and where every individual can fulfil their potential.

We are a Disability Confident Committed employer and welcome applications from people with a disability or long-term health condition.

Person specification

FAITH COMMITMENT/PERSONAL QUALITIES	Essential	Desirable	Source
Practising Catholic	E		A, R
Ability to build and sustain relationships with the wider community including the Parish	E		A, I, R
Commitment to curriculum Religious Education and Catholic Life	E		A, I, R
Experience in leading collective acts of worship		D	A, R
Understanding of school's role in the community	E		A, I
Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, in a wide range of situations	E		I, P
Commitment to working flexibly	E		A, I
Good attendance record	E		A, I
Caring pastoral attitude towards staff and pupils	E		A, I
Not afraid to make difficult decisions	E		I, R
Ability to relate to and work effectively with others as part of a team.	E		I

EXPERIENCE	Essential	Desirable	Source
Teaching experience of Primary aged pupils	E		A, R
Teaching experience in Foundation, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2		D	A, R
Experience in a Catholic School		D	A
Excellent classroom management and practice	E		I, R
Experience/evidence of initiating, implementing, managing and evaluating curriculum development	E	D	
Experience of whole school assessment procedures	E		A, I, R
Experience of interpreting and analysing assessment information in order to set targets for raising standards	E		A, I, R
Experience of monitoring and evaluating Teaching and Learning		D	A, I
Experience in more than one school		D	A
Experience of working with a school's community including Parish		D	A, I, R

EDUCATION AND TRAINING	Essential	Desirable	Source
Qualified teacher status	E		A
Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies or equivalent		D	A
Extended and appropriate professional development	E		A

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING	Essential	Desirable	Source
Understanding of School Development/Improvement process	E		A, I, R
Understanding of Curriculum Development	E		A
Knowledge and understanding of moral, spiritual and cultural development of pupils	E		I, P
Commitment to school improvement and aspiration to be outstanding	E		I, P
An understanding of contemporary issues in education	E		A, I, R
Detailed knowledge of the structure and content of the National Curriculum and assessment arrangements	E		A, I, R

Ability to monitor and evaluate the performance and progress of the school, in particular standards, achievement and the quality of teaching and learning	E		A, I, R
Confidence in using ICT to support teaching	E		I, R
Knowledge and understanding of target setting at classroom and whole school level	E		A, I, R, P

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS	Essential	Desirable	Source
A commitment to sound equal opportunities practice and inclusion	E		A, I, P
Clear understanding of all elements of educational inclusion		D	I
Ability to promote the school's Catholic ethos in line with its Mission Statement	E		I
A positive approach to managing school discipline and behaviour	E		A, I
Commitment to continuous professional development and promotion of INSET to other staff and leading training	E		A, I
Willingness to undertake NPQH or equivalent		D	I
Experience as a School Governor		D	A, I
High quality personal ICT skills	E		A, I, R
Flexibility and adaptability to work with a wide range of people from the community	E		A, I, R

LEADING AND MANAGING STAFF	Essential	Desirable	Source
Commitment to develop and drive staff CPD and provision that is evidence informed and research based.	E		I
Ability to demonstrate and implement a range of management and leadership styles	E		A, I, R
Ability to solve problems under pressure	E		A, I, R
Understanding of the importance of coaching and mentoring and its impact on staff development at all levels	E		A, I, R
Ability to establish effective relationships and work with others – staff and volunteers – often under pressure and within given deadlines	E		A, I, R
Knowledge and understanding of implementing effective procedures for Performance Management and professional development		D	A, I
Awareness of the need for all staff to maintain suitable work/life balance		D	A, I, R

SAFEGUARDING	Essential	Desirable	Source
Understanding of responsibilities in ensuring compliance with Health and Safety Legislation	E		I
Clear commitment to and understanding of child protection and safeguarding arrangements	E		A, I
Safer Recruitment Training		D	A

A – Application I – Interview R – Reference



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

Thank you for your interest in working for our Trust.

To find out more about us and our schools, please visit us online:

www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk

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