

9th December 2025

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in applying for our headship post at Corpus Christi Catholic Academy Trust. St Joseph's has undergone a four-year period of successful transformation and continuous improvement, as evidenced by the current data set and self-evaluation status, standardised by the Trust's quality assurance process. This is an ideal time for a new leader to arrive at St Joseph's, as you will have the opportunity to evaluate the strengths and areas of development of the school for yourself and plan the next steps to make this a truly exceptional place of faith and learning.

Any selection process is a two-way process and, therefore, you have to determine whether working for our Trust is the right decision for you. Within our Trust, our Scheme of Delegation states that day-to-day decisions are made by the headteacher in conjunction with the Local Governing Body. I believe this will make working for our Trust more appealing to many than working for a MAT which doesn't provide leaders with the same level of autonomy to make local decisions at a local level. However, by working in a Trust, we do have the exciting opportunity to work together to secure the best possible outcomes for the children and young people in our care. In an address to an Italian association of Catholic teachers, educators and school administrators, Pope Francis called on teachers to reach out to and "love with greater intensity" the children on "the peripheries" of their schools; those who do not like studying, who are labelled as "difficult", who have disabilities, come from other countries or face other problems and disadvantages. My personal vision is that we can respond best to the Pope's plea by working as a collective, rather than acting unilaterally; making key decisions together when setting budgets, sharing our resources to provide support where the need is greatest, deciding who to employ as a panel and not alone, and by reaching consensus on key priorities. Together we are stronger.

In terms of where you fit into this, it is likely to be the right decision for you if you genuinely believe that by working collaboratively, each school benefits educationally from others' strengths and expertise within the Trust and benefits practically from high-quality services provided and procured centrally. We would be delighted to receive applications from any leader who wants to belong to a dynamic, faith-driven organisation, whose focus is to serve the children, young people and families within their communities.

We would welcome an opportunity to meet with you in person and provide you with a tour of our school.

Yours faithfully,

Martin Bourke, Chair of Governors

Sacha Humphries, Chief Executive Officer

Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Sacha Humphries

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