

St John's Catholic Primary School, Horsham

Headteacher Information Pack

“The school recognises the uniqueness of each individual pupil, striving to promote their self esteem and self confidence. It is committed to enabling all pupils to reach their full potential socially, personally, academically and spiritually. The care the school provides for its pupils is outstanding.”

Section 48 Inspection, February 2014

“The way the school promotes pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exceptional.

Pupils are polite and courteous. Their outstanding behaviour contributes to the strong sense of community in the school. Exceptional attitudes to learning make a significant contribution to achievement.”

Ofsted , November 2013

Letter from the Chair of Governors

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the post of Headteacher at St John's Catholic Primary School and I am delighted to enclose the information and application pack.

This is a very exciting opportunity and the successful applicant will be joining a warm, friendly and popular school, whilst being supported by a team of dedicated and experienced staff and Governors alike.

We wish to ensure continuity for children and staff and are therefore looking to appoint an enthusiastic, inspirational and dedicated Headteacher with the ambition and drive to build on the recent successes with both Ofsted and Section 48 inspections and continue the strong Catholic ethos of the school.

I hope that you find the enclosed information of interest. However, to really appreciate the school and what we have to offer I would strongly advise a visit, when you will fully understand, why one of our children in the recent Ofsted inspection said:

'Our school is above all words. It's the best in the world.'

Visits can be arranged directly with the school by contacting Mrs Rhoda Hatton on 01403 265447.

It remains for me to say that we look forward to receiving your application and to understanding what you would be able to offer our school community and, specifically, its pupils, staff, parents and governors.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Dee Nash

Acting Chair of Governors





Our Mission

At St John's Catholic Primary School we provide the opportunity for our children to develop spiritually, morally, emotionally, intellectually and physically towards their own full potential.

We strive to create a happy working environment with co-operation, consideration and forgiveness where each individual is highly valued and respected.

Within our Catholic community we encourage confidence, creativity and independence.





We are proud of

- **Our school:** is a single form entry Catholic primary school in Horsham, West Sussex. We are located close to the town centre and our pupils come from across Horsham and the surrounding area. The school benefits from wonderful children, enthusiastic and dedicated staff, close links with our families and parish community and a friendly and open outlook.
- **Our children:** we have 205 children on roll aged between 4 and 11. We celebrate the fact that our children come from a wide range of home cultures and speak many different languages. We encourage the children to develop a caring and helpful attitude through taking part in our Play Leader and Buddy Systems and the opportunity to become House Captains and Prefects. The School Council meets regularly and provides a forum for pupil participation in the running of the school.
- **Our Staff:** we have a highly committed group of teachers who are well trained and have a wide variety of teaching experience behind them. They are supported by a team of exceptional and dedicated teaching assistants and an active Inclusion team. The Staff work very closely with parents and carers to ensure that education is mutually reinforced and supported at home and at school. The Staff run a number of after school clubs, giving the children every opportunity to express themselves in a creative or sporting way.



We are proud of

- **Our Home-School Partnership:** we are fortunate to benefit from excellent relationships between school and family, these form the basis for an extremely supportive and creative learning environment. A number of parents and grandparents help out in classes with activities such as reading, and extra-curricular activities such as clubs. The Friends (PTA) organises fund-raising and social events throughout the year and has recently provided funds for improving the IT facilities throughout the school.
- **Our Community and Parish:** the school is a central part of the local community and Parish of St. John the Evangelist. We have strong links with other schools in the area through shared activities and events and membership of the West Horsham Schools Network. We benefit from outreach from the Deanery Catholic Secondary School, St. Wilfrid's. The Priest and Deacon of St John's celebrate Mass and liturgies in the school and contribute to religious education of the pupils. The children visit the Parish church to enhance the R.E. teaching. A Mother and Toddler group meets weekly in the school hall during term-time.
- **Our Facilities:** we have recently refurbished our school building . All classrooms have wireless broadband access, iPads and timetabled access to a class set of laptops. We continue to develop our outdoor learning environment which includes a playing field and two playgrounds with a variety of play equipment and a sheltered EYFS open-air outdoor play and learning area.
- **Our Governors:** The school benefits from a very active and supportive Board of Governors, which draws membership from many different professions and walks of life.

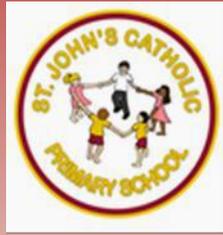
Who are we looking for to lead us?

The Governors are looking for an enthusiastic, visionary and inspirational Headteacher to build upon the recent successes of our school.

We are looking for someone who:

- Will continue to strive for excellence and is dedicated to the achievement of high educational standards.
- Is committed to the supporting the Catholic ethos, which is tangible in the relationships of the whole school community and soon evident to visitors.
- Is both a leader and a team player who is able to form strong working relationships and inspire and motivate others.
- Will uphold and develop St John's supportive and community ethos.
- Is an outstanding classroom practitioner and has the ability to support and encourage outstanding teaching practice.

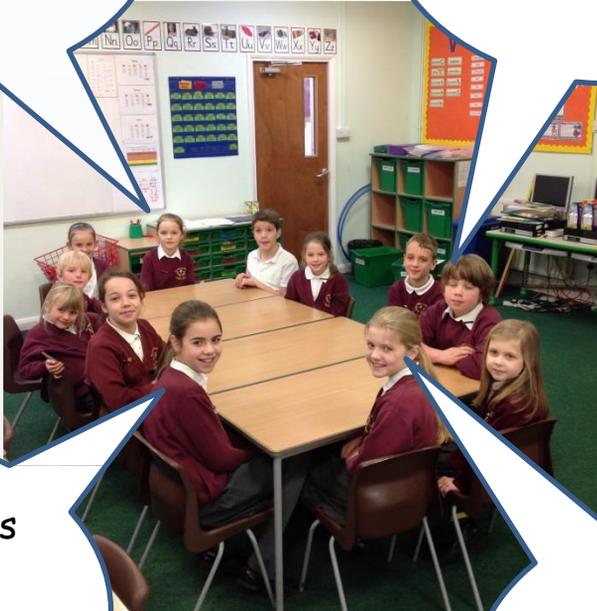




Our pupils would like

someone who does amazing assemblies

someone who is creative and sporty.



someone who is kind, helpful, happy, joyful, funny and generous.

someone who will bring new things to the school.



Your Application

When making your application, please bear in mind the Person Specification which we have provided. At short listing, we will be looking for evidence in each application of the positive impact that an applicant has had in their current post in the key areas of school life, in particular:

- strategic planning and self review
- the analysis and use of data and other strategies for school improvement
- the leadership, management and development of staff
- the school's role in the parish and its impact on community cohesion

At interview, we will also wish to explore with applicants:

- their understanding of the distinctive nature of the Catholic school and education
- their understanding of the role of the Headteacher in monitoring the quality of teaching and learning and the performance management of the whole staff
- their views and experience of the management of the school finance
- the knowledge, experience and personal strengths they can bring to the role
- their current active participation in the Catholic Church

Your letter to accompany your application should be no more than two sides of A4 when typed (11 size font). Please send your completed application form and letter to:

Sue Goddard, Schools Recruitment Team, Job Reference No 16194,
West Sussex Capita Partnership, Ground Floor, The Grange, CHICHESTER PO19 1RG

Or email HRSchoolAdverts@westsussex.gov.uk

Closing date for applications: 6th October 2015

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. There will be a need for the successful applicant to undertake a criminal record check via the DBS.

References, one of which should be from your Parish Priest (or the Priest of the Parish where you worship regularly), a second from your Chair of Governors/Headteacher and a third from your local authority may be sought as soon as applications are received. All applications will of course be treated in the strictest confidence.