



## Curriculum Leader of Drama

### **Working at St Joan of Arc Catholic School**

St Joan of Arc Catholic School is a comprehensive, Catholic, 11-18 co-educational school of approx. 1220 students, including 200 in the Sixth Form. Academic results are consistently high and the school is heavily oversubscribed. Our most recent Ofsted inspection, in October 2023, was an ungraded inspection, in which the inspectors stated that we continue to be a good school. The inspectors noted that, "The school has high expectations that all pupils will learn and remember the curriculum. This includes those pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Pupils are well supported to meet these expectations. They work very hard as a result."

The last Catholic School Inspection, carried out by the Diocese, confirmed that the school is an "outstanding Catholic school". The report stated that, 'Pupils are proud of their school, understanding and embracing its distinctive Catholic identity,' and that "there is a real sense of community at St Joan of Arc with relationships throughout the school based on the highest levels of care."

As a large secondary academy belonging to the All Saints Catholic Academy Trust, we have many opportunities for both teaching and support staff.

### **An attractive and easily accessible location in South West Hertfordshire**

Situated on a greenbelt site in Rickmansworth, St Joan of Arc Catholic School is a 10 minute drive from the M25 motorway and there is ample parking for cars on site. The school is only a 5 minute walk from Rickmansworth station which is served by the Chiltern overground line (Aylesbury-Marylebone) and the Metropolitan underground line (Amersham - Aldgate). The school site is very attractive and is close to the town centre where there are numerous shops and services.

### **A strong ethos with clear vision and values**

The ethos of St Joan of Arc Catholic School is epitomised by the school's mission statement – 'Love Christ- Inspire Others'. Students and staff commit to the acts of love, service, respect, justice and faith. As members of the school community, we are committed to serving each other, the students and the wider community.

### **Committed and friendly staff**

Our dedicated staff work hard, share a positive outlook and enjoy working and engaging with the students. New members of staff are made welcome and settle in quickly. There is a low turnover of staff each year. We provide in-house training for staff and combine this with collaborative work across the schools within the Trust as well as offering access to external training courses as appropriate.

### **Talented, committed and friendly students**

The students are from a diverse range of backgrounds and from a wide catchment area. Our students behave well. This supports learning and creates a safe environment for all. Students of all abilities make good or better progress throughout the school. Standards are identified as significantly above average because students have outstanding attitudes towards their learning and are keen to make the most of the opportunities that the school gives them. The school aims to develop each student to reach their potential and to develop into caring, active and well-rounded citizens. Students get on very well with each other because of the school's emphasis on care and respect, they feel safe and pastoral systems are effective.

### **Our commitment to the staff**

The governors, headteacher and senior leadership team remain committed to recruiting high quality staff to the school. They are committed to supporting continuing professional development and to ensuring that St Joan of Arc Catholic School remains a stimulating and pleasant environment in which to work. The success of our students is underpinned by the strong partnership that is nurtured between school, parents, governors, trustees, past students and the local community.



## Drama

Students are taught in form groups in year 8 and have the option of choosing Drama for GCSE and A-Level. The subject is a popular option at both KS4 and at A-Level. Trips are frequent, with at least one theatre visit being offered to students in Y10 and above.

There is a well-equipped Drama studio with lighting equipment as well as brand new hall with state of the art lighting and sound system which will enhance theatrical school productions.

May 2025



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**Line Managed by: SLT Line Manager**

**Salary: Salary to be discussed at interview and placement on St Joan of Arc Catholic School pay scale will depend on qualifications and experience**

Drama is taught to all pupils in Year 8 and at both GCSE and A level following the Edexcel specifications.

### **Purpose of Role:**

- To lead and develop the Drama department to provide challenging and rewarding learning experiences for students
- To ensure the provision of an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant, challenging and differentiated curriculum for students studying drama, in accordance with the school's curriculum aims
- To provide a programme of learning and deliver high quality lessons to enable high outcomes for students
- To support the work and professional development of the Drama department staff
- To monitor and support the overall progress and development of students within Drama.
- To contribute to the school's Catholic ethos
- To contribute to the school's extra curriculum programme

### **Role & Responsibilities**

- To meet the statutory Teachers' Standards
- To teach Drama as directed on the Drama department qualification courses
- To teach GCSE Drama and A Level Drama
- Lead self-evaluation and improvement planning as part of school cycle
- To implement assessment, recording and reporting systems to monitor student progress in accordance with national, school and departmental policy
- To undertake all necessary exam preparation and administration as required
- To share in the supervision of Drama areas
- To attend school and departmental meetings and INSET

# JOB DESCRIPTION

- To undergo any training required in order to perform duties efficiently
- To be a form tutor to an assigned group of students
- To contribute to PSHEE and Citizenship according to school policy
- To undertake any other duty as specified by School Teachers' Pay & Conditions Body (STPCB) not mentioned in the above
- To comply with the school's Health & Safety policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate.
- To exercise a commitment to the school's mission statement and Catholic ethos including the equal opportunities policy, health and safety policy and all other current school policies
- To undertake any other duties or one-off tasks at the reasonable request of the Headteacher / SLT

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**It is expected that the person appointed will have the following qualifications, experience, knowledge / skills and personal qualities and / or special requirements for the post**

### **1. Qualifications**

- A good Honours degree or higher qualification
- Qualified Teacher Status or currently completing a course of professional training leading to QTS
- Any other relevant qualifications specific to this post

### **2. Experience**

- A proven record of successful classroom teaching
- School experiences which have provided a thorough preparation for this post
- Experience of teaching across the full age and ability range
- Experience of monitoring and evaluating students' progress
- Experience of initiating, implementing and managing developments within the subject area would be desirable
- Form tutor experience would be desirable

### **3. Knowledge / Skills**

- Knowledge of current educational issues
- Administrative skills to support the work of the department
- Excellent classroom behaviour management skills
- The ability to communicate effectively with students and adults
- Secure knowledge of current curriculum developments
- Understanding of the learning process

### **4. Personal Qualities**

- Commitment to the best interests of the students
- Willingness to take responsibility
- Enthusiasm and sense of humour
- An ability to co-operate with colleagues
- Reliability and resilience
- Ability to use a variety of teaching strategies
- Ability to monitor and evaluate students' progress

# PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Excellent written oral and communication skills
- Excellent presentation skills and smart appearance
- Excellent organisation, prioritisation and time management skills
- Excellent classroom behaviour management skills
- Ability to use ICT to enhance teaching and learning

## 5. Special Requirements

- Sympathy with the aims of a Catholic School
- Commitment to raising standards
- Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
- An enthusiastic and effective team player

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