



Job Application Details

HEADTEACHER

St John Fisher RC Primary School, Denton



EMMAUS

CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

DIOCESE OF  **SALFORD**

Welcome from the Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust (Diocese of Salford)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the advertised Headteacher role at St John Fisher RC Primary School, Denton. Emmaus CAT (Diocese of Salford) is a growing Catholic Academy Trust with a footprint covering Manchester, Oldham, Stockport, Tameside and Trafford.

We believe that the Headteacher role at St John Fisher RC Primary School will contribute significantly to the strategic direction of the school over the coming months and years, and we are excited for the future of the Emmaus Catholic family of schools.

Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust is one of three Catholic Academy Trusts serving the Diocese of Salford. The Diocese of Salford provides Catholic Academy Trusts, schools and colleges for the following reasons:

- To assist in the mission of making Christ known to all people;
- To assist parents, who are the prime educators of their children, in the education and religious formation of their children;
- To be of service to the local Church – the Diocese – the Parish and the Christian home;
- To be of service to society.

Working with the Central Executive Team and the Local Governing Body at St John Fisher we are very much looking forward to recruiting an effective Headteacher. The successfully appointed Headteacher will join our Schools Leadership team, working with our education and safeguarding teams and the local communities, ensuring that pupils get the very best Catholic formation and education for years to come.

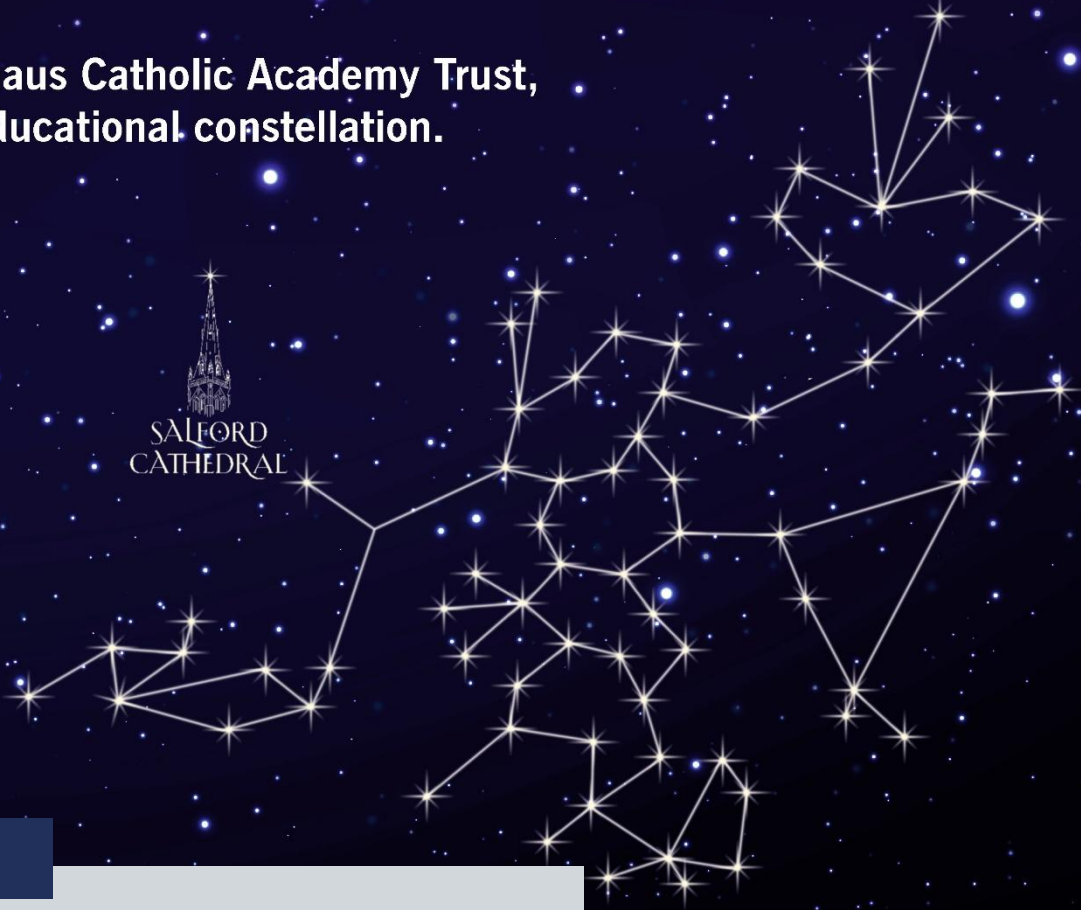
Emmaus CAT is an integral part of The Right Rev John Arnold, Bishop of Salford's vision for the Diocese of Salford to 'Rebuild the Church, fit for future generations'. Our team looks forward to working collaboratively with the successful candidate, providing a wide range of support and training to strengthen the school.

Catherine Anderson
Chair of Directors

Daniel Copley
CSEL/CEO



Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust, an educational constellation.



MISSION

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- To assist in the mission of making Christ known to all people;
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- To be of service to the local Church – the Diocese – the Parish and the Christian home;
- To be of service to society

VISION

We enable our schools to provide great Catholic education across Greater Manchester.

As one Catholic Academy Trust we will work collegially to ensure that children get the very best Catholic education and faith formation.

STRATEGY

Strategic Focus 1

Mission. To promote a distinctive Catholic Mission and culture to ensure Emmaus CAT continues to be strong in faith.

Strategic Focus 2

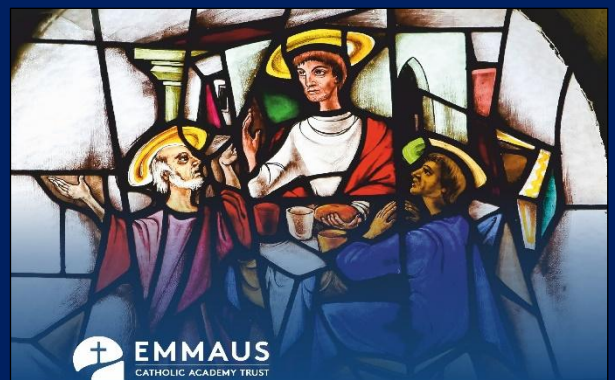
Quality of Education. To ensure Emmaus CAT enables great schools to provide an ambitious curriculum for all pupils to flourish and serve society.

Strategic Focus 3

Academy Improvement. To build strong and sustainable infrastructure, making effect use of resources, enabling the Emmaus CAT school communities to serve society.

The Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust Prayer

Meet us, Lord, on the road to Emmaus,
Guide us on the path toward our destination,
and renew our strength as we continue to walk and
commune with you.
Open our eyes, so we see the signs of your presence
around us;
open our hearts, so we may receive your peace
and love; and empower us to pass on to others
the grace you have shared with us so freely.
Amen.



 **EMMAUS**
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

SALFORD
CATHEDRAL

Welcome from our
Chair of Governors



‘Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men.’

Thank you for your interest in the post of Headteacher at St John Fisher RC Primary School

Our school is a vibrant and welcoming Catholic school with approximately 240 pupils on roll. Our Catholic faith is central to everything we do and underpins the life, relationships and aspirations of our whole school community. We are proud of the strong partnerships we share with our local community and the wider community within the Diocese of Salford. In July 2025, we were delighted to voluntarily join Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust. This partnership provides valuable support, collaboration and opportunity as we continue to develop and strengthen our provision for all pupils.

The Governing body is seeking to appoint a practising Catholic who will lead our school with faith, integrity and ambition. We are looking for an inspirational and committed leader who will nurture and further develop the Catholic ethos of our school, while bringing a clear vision for excellence in teaching, learning and pastoral care. The successful candidate will be someone who motivates and empowers staff, supports our pupils to flourish academically and spatially and works in partnership with families, the parish and Emmaus CAT.

St John Fisher is a friendly, inclusive and supportive school community where children are valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential. We are proud of our strong foundations and the positive relationships that exist across our school.

We now look forward to appointing a Headteacher who will build upon these strengths, lead with confidence and compassion and guide St John Fisher into the next exciting chapter of its journey.

Yours faithfully,

Claire Higgins
Chair of Governors



Headteacher

St John Fisher RC Primary School, Denton

Start Date: September 2026

Salary: L15 – L21

The Directors of Emmaus CAT, the St John Fisher RC Primary School Local Governing Body and the Diocese of Salford wish to appoint an exceptional leader, a dynamic and inspirational practising Catholic to take their school forward.

Could this be you?

If it was you, you would:

- Be a practising Catholic, with a strong faith and commitment to the Catholic ethos of the school and its community
- Be aspirational in your approach to the quality of teaching and learning and of the achievement and wellbeing of every child
- Be a role model who inspires and motivates others through their commitment, enthusiasm and dedication to raising standards
- Be a highly effective leader who can manage and organise the personnel, financial and professional needs of the school's resources and staff
- Be an experienced leader with the interpersonal skills to develop strong working relationships with staff, children, parents, parish and governors
- Be a skilled communicator who can share and develop their vision of what makes a good school with the school's shareholders

Visits to St John Fisher RC Primary School are encouraged and strongly recommended.

If so, we can offer you:

- Wonderful children who love school with very supportive parents
- Caring, dedicated and hardworking staff, who welcome new ideas
- An attractive, stimulating and safe environment
- Exceptional links with the Diocese, Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust and other local Catholic schools
- Commitment to your own personal development
- The opportunity to work within a growing Catholic Academy Trust

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to enhanced DBS clearance.

To arrange a visit to the school, please contact the school direct to arrange a mutually convenient date and time via; sbm@st-johnfisher.tameside.sch.uk

Closing date: Thursday 23rd April, 9am

We will be shortlisting after the closing date and successful candidates will be informed in due course.

Interviews will take place on: Thursday 7th May 2026

Please return completed application forms and supporting documents to:

Jodie Urmston, Office Manager
at Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust by email;
recruitment@emmauscat.com.



Headteacher Job Description

St John Fisher Roman Catholic Primary School,

a Voluntary Academy, Denton

Introduction

The Academy is a designated Catholic school. The Directors are accountable to the Ordinary of the diocese, or a Vicar or delegate where that is determined, to ensure that the Academy is conducted as a Catholic school in accordance with Canon law and the teachings of the Catholic Church so that, at all times, the Academy may serve as a witness to the Catholic faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, this post requires a practising Catholic who can show by example and from experience, that they will ensure that the school is distinctively Catholic in all its aspects.

This appointment is made by the board of directors of the **Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust** under the terms of the Catholic Education Service (CES) contract. It is subject to the conditions of service for Headteachers contained in the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document as well as other current education and employment legislation and statutory guidance.

This job description is based on the key areas identified in the National Standards for Headteacher (2020). These standards are in turn built upon the Teaching Standards (2012) which apply to all teachers, including Headteacher.

The **Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust** and the diocese acknowledge the importance of the role of the Catholic Headteacher and will actively offer continuing support, encouragement, affirmation and realistic challenge to the successful candidate.

The Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The Headteacher must ensure that the highest priority is given to following the guidance and regulations relating to safeguarding and child protection. Appointment is conditional upon receipt of satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks in relation to criminal and child protection matters.

A. The Core Purpose of the Headteacher

The core purpose of the Headteacher is to provide professional leadership and management of the school. This will promote a secure foundation from which to achieve high standards in all areas of the school's work. To gain this success, a Headteacher must establish high quality education by effectively managing teaching and learning and using personalised learning to realise the potential of all pupils. The Headteacher must establish a culture that promotes excellence, equality and high expectations of all pupils. This will include ensuring that religious education is in accordance with the teachings, doctrines, discipline and general and particular norms of the Catholic Church.

The 'preferred future', expressed in the strategic vision and development of a Catholic school, stems from the educational mission of the Church, which is reflected in the school's mission statement and school improvement plan.

The Headteacher, working with the **Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust** and others, is expected to draw on the person, life and teachings of Jesus Christ to create a shared vision and strategic plan, which inspires and motivates pupils, staff and all other members of the community. The vision should explore Gospel values, core educational values and moral purpose and be inclusive of stakeholders' values and beliefs.

The Headteacher is the leading professional in the school. Accountable to the **Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust**, the Headteacher provides vision, leadership and direction for the school and ensures that it is managed and organised to meet its aims and targets. The Headteacher, working with others, is responsible for evaluating the school's performance to identify the priorities for continuous improvement and raising standards; ensuring equality of opportunity for all; developing policies and practices;

ensuring that resources are efficiently and effectively used to achieve the school's aims and objectives and for the day-to-day management, organisation and administration of the school.

The Headteacher, working with and through others, secures the commitment of the wider community to the school by developing and maintaining effective partnerships with, for example, schools, other services and agencies for children, parishes, the diocese, higher education institutions and employers. Through such partnerships and other activities, the Headteacher play a key role in contributing to the development of the education system as a whole and collaborating with others to raise standards locally.

Drawing on the support provided by members of the school community, the Headteacher is responsible for creating a productive learning environment which is engaging and fulfilling for all pupils

B. The Headteacher Standards 2020

1. Culture and Ethos

The strategic direction and development of the school stem from the educational mission of the Church. The Headteacher will ensure that his/her leadership demonstrates commitment to promoting and developing the school's distinctive Catholic identity through the search for excellence in all area of this work.

Critical to the role of headship is working with the **Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust** and others to create a shared vision and strategic plan which inspires and motivates pupils, staff and all other members of the school community. This vision should express core educational values and moral purpose and be inclusive of stakeholders' values and beliefs.

The Headteacher will:

1. Recognise the authority of the bishop in relation to the provision of education in the diocese and work within the school and parish community to create and promote an educational vision and values for the school which take account of the school's Catholic mission and of the diversity, values and experiences of the school and the community it serves.
2. Hold and articulate clear Catholic values and moral purpose focused on providing a world-class education for the pupils they serve and reflecting the Catholic foundation of the school.



3. Demonstrate optimistic personal behaviour, positive relationships and attitudes towards their pupils and staff, and towards parents, governors and members of the local church and wider community.
4. Lead by example, with integrity, creativity, resilience, and clarity, drawing on their scholarship, expertise and skills and that of those around them.
5. Sustain wide, current knowledge and understanding of education and school systems locally, nationally and globally, and pursue continuous professional development that reflects the needs of a Catholic school.
6. Work with political and financial astuteness, within a clear set of principles centred on the school's Catholic vision, ably translating local, national and diocesan policy into the school's context.
7. Communicate compellingly the school's vision and drive the strategic leadership, empowering all pupils and staff to excel thus ensuring a culture of high staff professionalism.

2. Curriculum and Teaching

In a Catholic school the Headteacher leads a learning community rooted in Catholic belief and principles. The search for excellence is given expression in learning and teaching which recognise pupils' individual worth as made in the image and likeness of God. The Headteacher will lead the school community in promoting positive attitudes to learning amongst pupils and staff which stem from Christ's vision for humanity.

The Headteacher has a central responsibility for raising the quality of teaching and learning and for pupils' achievement. This implies setting high expectations and monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of learning outcomes. A successful learning culture will enable pupils to become effective, enthusiastic, independent learners, committed to life-long learning.

In accordance with the school's Catholic ethos, the Headteacher will:

1. Demand ambitious standards of achievement and attendance for all pupils, overcoming disadvantage and advancing equality, instilling a strong sense of accountability in staff for the impact of their work on pupils' outcomes. Ensure high quality personal, social, health education and citizenship in accordance with the teachings and doctrines of the Catholic Church. Ensure quality provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education in line with the distinctive Catholic nature, purpose and aims of the school.
2. Secure excellent teaching through an analytical understanding of how pupils learn and of the core features of successful classroom practice and curriculum design, leading to rich curriculum opportunities and pupils' well-being, taking full account of the school's Catholic foundation.
3. Establish an educational culture of "open classrooms" as a basis for sharing best practice within and between schools, drawing on and conducting relevant research and robust data analysis.
4. Create an ethos based on Catholic values within which all staff are motivated and supported to develop their own skills and subject knowledge, and to support each other.



5. Identify emerging talents, coaching current and aspiring leaders in a climate where excellence is the standard, leading to clear succession planning. Hold all staff to account for their professional conduct and practice.

3. Organisational effectiveness

In the Catholic school all deployment of staff, finance, material resources, time and energy should promote the common good of the community in accordance with the school's Mission Statement.

The Headteacher needs to provide effective organisation and management of the school and seek ways of improving organisational structures and functions based on rigorous self-evaluation. The Headteacher should ensure that the school and the people and resources within it are organised and managed to provide an efficient, effective and safe learning environment. These management responsibilities imply the re-examination of the roles and responsibilities of those adults working in the school to build capacity across the workforce and ensure resources are deployed to achieve value for money.

The Headteacher should manage themselves and their relationships well. Headship is about building a professional learning community which enables others to achieve. Through performance management and effective continuing professional development practice, the Headteacher supports all staff to achieve high standards. To equip themselves with the capacity to deal with the complexity of the role and the range of leadership skills and actions required of them. The Headteacher should be committed to their own continuing professional development.

The Headteacher should work in partnership with others. In a Catholic school the Headteacher is responsible for the mission of the school to the local and wider Catholic community and beyond. He/she will collaborate with the parish and other Catholic organisations as well as with the wider educational community for the benefit of the school's community and others. He/she will demonstrate a belief that community and school are interdependent and that engagement with the community promotes school development.

The Headteacher should commit to engaging with the internal and external school community to secure equity and entitlement. The Headteacher should collaborate with other schools in order to share expertise and bring positive benefits to their own and other schools. The Headteacher should work collaboratively at both strategic and operational levels with parents and carers and across multiple agencies for the wellbeing of all children. The Headteacher shares responsibility for leadership of the wider educational system and should be aware that school improvement and community development are interdependent.

In accordance with the school's Catholic ethos, the Headteacher will:

1. Ensure that the school's systems, organisation and processes are well-considered, efficient and fit for purpose, upholding the principles of transparency, integrity and probity within the Catholic context. Ensure arrangements for the daily Act of Collective Worship and the spiritual life of the school. Ensure the diocesan policy for Religious Education is fulfilled.
2. Provide a safe, calm and well-ordered environment for all pupils and staff, focused on safeguarding pupils and developing their exemplary behaviour in school and in the wider society.



3. Establish rigorous, fair and transparent systems and measures for managing the performance of all staff, addressing any under-performance, supporting staff to improve and valuing excellent practice.
4. Welcome strong governance and actively support the **Local Governing Body and the Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust** to understand its role and deliver its functions effectively – in particular its functions to set school strategy and hold the Headteacher to account for pupil, staff and financial performance.
5. Exercise strategic, curriculum-led financial planning to ensure the equitable deployment of budgets and resources, in the best interests of pupils' achievements, the school's sustainability and its Catholic character.
6. Distribute leadership throughout the organisation, forging teams of colleagues who have distinct roles and responsibilities and hold each other to account for their decision making.

Working in a spirit of collaboration to secure Catholic principles of equity and entitlement, the Headteacher will:

7. Create an outward-facing school which works with other schools, organisations and the local community, in a climate of mutual challenge, to champion best practice and secure excellent achievements for all pupils. Build a school culture and curriculum based on Gospel values, the teaching of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church, which take account of the richness and diversity of the school's communities.
8. Develop effective relationships with fellow professionals, colleagues in other public services, parents/carers and the parish community to improve academic and social outcomes for all pupils.
9. Challenge educational orthodoxies in the best interests of achieving excellence, harnessing the findings of well-evidenced research to frame self-regulating and self-improving schools.
10. Shape the current and future quality of the teaching profession through high quality training and sustained professional development of all staff.
11. In the context of the school's Catholic ethos, model entrepreneurial and innovative approaches to school improvement, leadership and governance, confident of the vital contribution of internal and external accountability.
12. Inspire and influence others, within and beyond schools, to believe in the fundamental importance of education in young people's lives and to promote the value of education especially within a Catholic context.

This job description forms part of the contract of employment of the person appointed to the post. It reflects the position at the present time only and may be reviewed in negotiation with the employee in the future. The appointment is subject to the current conditions of employment in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document as they relate to Headteacher.





'Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men.'



Headteacher Person Specification

St John Fisher Roman Catholic Primary School,
a Voluntary Academy, Denton

The Academy is a designated Catholic school. The Directors are accountable to the Ordinary of the diocese, or a Vicar or delegate where that is determined, to ensure that the Academy is conducted as a Catholic school in accordance with Canon law and the teachings of the Catholic Church so that, at all times, the Academy may serve as a witness to the Catholic faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

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St John Fisher RC Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

The applicant will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people

Source Key: A = Application Form I = Interview R = References CC = Checking Certificates

Note: Candidates failing to meet any of the essential criteria will automatically be excluded

[A] Faith Commitment

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Practising Catholic	E		A/I/R
Involvement in parish community		D	A/I/R



[B] Qualifications

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Qualified teacher status	E		A/CC
Degree	E		A/CC

[C] Professional Development

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Evidence of appropriate professional development for the role of headteacher	E		A
Evidence of recent leadership and management professional development	E		A
Up to date safeguarding training and knowledge of legislation for the protection of young people	E		A/I/CC
Has successfully undertaken Designated Safeguarding Lead training	E		A/I/CC

[D] School leadership and management experience

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Recent successful leadership as a headteacher or deputy headteacher	E		A/I/R
Evidence of successfully leading school improvement	E		A/I/
Evidence of the application of strategies to review, implement, evaluate and improve learning and teaching	E		A/I/R
Experience of curriculum leadership and development	E		A/I/R
Experience of working constructively with parents	E		
Experience of monitoring staff performance	E		A/I/R
Experience of effective budget management and financial analysis	E		A/I/R
The ability to provide advice and support to the Governing Body to enable it to meet its responsibilities	E		A/I/R
An understanding of strategic financial planning in relation to its contribution to school improvement, curriculum development and pupil achievement	E		A/I/R
To have experience of guiding, coaching, mentoring or training individuals or teams	E		A/I/R
Is able to demonstrate a good awareness of current national education policy and strategy	E		A/I/R



[E] Experience and knowledge of teaching

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Successful teaching of pupils/students in the primary phase	E		A/I/R
To have a working and current knowledge and understanding of the Key Stages in the primary phase	E		A/I/R
Displays commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people, showing an awareness of legislation and working with other agencies where appropriate	E		A/I/R
Experience of providing professional challenge and support to others through the performance management process		D	A/I/R
To be able to effectively use data and assessment to raise standards/address weaknesses	E		A/I/R
To be able to exemplify how the needs of all pupils (SEND, AEN, AGT, EAL, GRT) have been met through high quality teaching	E		A/I/R

[F] Professional Attributes

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Be able to demonstrate an understanding, awareness and empathy for the needs of the pupils at the school and how these could be met	E		A/I/R
Be able to demonstrate a clear rationale for behaviour management and a proven track record of the effective implementation of a range of behaviour management strategies	E		A/I/R
To have excellent written and oral communication skills (which will be assessed at all stages of the process)	E		A/I
To be a leader of learning demonstrating, promoting and encouraging outstanding classroom practice	E		A/I/R
Show a good commitment to sustained attendance at work	E		A/I/R

[G] Professional Skills

(Based on the National Standards for Headteachers 2020)

The headteacher is expected to have a good knowledge of the National Standards for Headteachers (2020) upon which the job description is based and be willing to work towards the achievement of these standards. In addition, the Headteacher will be expected to work with the governors to set annual personal objectives within the framework of these standards:

- Culture and Ethos
- Curriculum and Teaching
- Organisational effectiveness including Governance and Accountability



Candidates are therefore asked to structure their supporting statement under the above headings

[H] Personal Qualities

All of the following are considered essential for the post and will be assessed through interview and reference:

- Continue to promote the school's strong educational philosophy and values
- Inspire, challenge, motivate and empower teams and individuals to achieve high goals
- Demonstrate personal enthusiasm and commitment to leadership aimed at making a positive difference to children and young people
- Build and maintain quality relationships through interpersonal skills and effective communication
- Demonstrate personal and professional integrity, including modelling values and vision
- Manage and resolve conflict
- Prioritise, plan and organise themselves and others
- Think analytically and creatively and demonstrate initiative in solving problems
- Be aware of their own strengths and areas for development and listen to, and reflect constructively and act upon as appropriate, feedback from others
- Demonstrate a capacity for sustained hard work with energy and vigour
- Uphold the 7 Nolan principles of public life

[I] Confidential References and Reports

A positive and supportive faith reference from a priest where the applicant regularly worships.	E
Positive recommendation from all referees, including current employer.	E
A supportive reference from the Local Authority, if possible, or a further supportive professional reference	E

The directors/governors reserve the right in exceptional cases to seek additional references from other former employees where this seems appropriate.

[J] Application Form and Supporting Statement

The form must be fully completed. The supporting statement should be clear, concise and related to the specific post, *following the guidance outlined in section G above.*

The CESEW Leadership Application Form must be fully completed. The supporting statement should not exceed 1300 words in length, be clear, concise and related to the post and setting applied for.





EMMAUS Catholic Academy Trust
2nd Floor, Crossgate House, 47-55 Cross Street, Sale, M33 7FT

0161 470 5114

CSEL - Daniel Copley
ceo@emmauscat.com

Chair of Directors - Catherine Anderson
chair@emmauscat.com

Company No. 12206105

www.emmauscat.com

 @EmmausCAT

Applications need to be made using the CES application form, sent with this pack.

Closing date: Thursday 23rd April 2026, 9am

We will be shortlisting after the closing date and successful candidates will be informed in due course.

Interviews will take place on: Thursday 7th May 2026

Please return completed application forms and supporting documents to Jodie Urmston, Office Manager at Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust by email;

recruitment@emmauscat.com

