



# HOLY CROSS

Multi-Academy Company

HEAD OF SOCIOLOGY  
APPLICATION PACK

Our Motto, Mission and Aims

Our Schools

Coventry



*Achieving together in faith*



## Holy Cross Catholic Multi-Academy Company

March 2024

Dear Candidate

On behalf of the Board of Directors for Holy Cross Catholic MAC, we would like to thank you for your interest in the post of Head of Sociology at Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary Academy within our Multi Academy Company. The school is one of the seven Catholic schools (2 secondary and 5 Primary) that are part of the Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company (HCCMAC) which opened on 1 September 2019.

This letter is intended to help you complete the application form. Please read it carefully before the completion of your application form. If you have any difficulties, please contact the school.

The application form is your opportunity to provide all the information we will require to help us understand how you meet the requirements of the post advertised. Similarly, it plays an important part in the selection process allowing us to short-list candidates for interview and helping as a basis for the interview itself. To ensure fairness to all applicants, short-listing decisions are based solely on the information you supply on your application form. Even if we already know you as a current or previous employee, it is important that you complete the form in full.

All vacancies are accompanied by a job description and a person specification setting out the main duties and responsibilities of the post in the job description, and the knowledge, skills and experience we are looking for in the person specification.

**Please read this information carefully as you will not be short-listed for interview unless you meet the essential criteria described in the Person Specification.**

Depending on the number and quality of applications, it may not be possible to shortlist for interview all candidates who meet the Essential Criteria. *However, we guarantee to interview all disabled applicants who meet the Essential Criteria.*

We are unable to accept CVs so please do not attach your CV, references, or copies of educational certificates to your form. If there is insufficient room on the form in a particular section, you can simply attach an extra page and mark it clearly with your name and the job title, indicating the number of the relevant question.

The 'Relevant skills & experience' section of the form is your opportunity to tell us specifically why you wish to apply and what makes you a suitable applicant. You should



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include anything you feel would be useful in support of your application telling us as much as possible about yourself in relation to all the items listed in the job description.

Please remember that those involved in the selection process cannot make assumptions about you. - **tell us everything relevant to your application and complete all the sections on the form.**

The closing date for receipt of applications is by 9.00am on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

### **DATA PROTECTION**

Information provided by you as part of your application will be used in the recruitment process. Any data about you will be held securely with access restricted to those involved in dealing with your application and in the recruitment process. Once this process is completed the data relating to unsuccessful applicants will be stored for a maximum of 6 months and then destroyed. If you are the successful candidate, your application form will be retained and form the basis of your personnel record. By signing and submitting your completed application form you are giving your consent to your data being stored and processed for the purposes of the recruitment process, equal opportunities monitoring and your personnel record if you are the successful candidate. Romero Academy reserve the right to check the validity and accuracy of your application if successful.

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Information provided by you on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form will be used to monitor our equal opportunities policy and practices. This part of the form will be detached from the main body of the application form and will not form any part of the selection process.



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### WORK PERMITS

Under the Asylum and Immigration Act, we are required to check that anyone taking up employment with us has the legal right to work in the UK. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to provide us with documentary evidence to support their entitlement to work in the UK prior to any offer of employment being made.

### DBS CHECKS

In line with our safeguarding and child protection policy, all employees and volunteers working in specific roles at the Academy will be subject to satisfactory clearance being obtained from the Disclosure and Barring Service. The check will be undertaken as part of the appointment process with the successful candidates. If you are invited to interview, you will be asked to bring this information with you.

**PLEASE NOTE** We will take up references for all shortlisted candidates prior to interview and reserve the right to validate all information entered on the application form. Please ensure that any person who is asked to act as a Referee knows this information and is available to give a reference during this time.

We expect all our staff and employees to be in sympathy with our Catholic values and help us to achieve the vision that we have set ourselves to work towards.

Yours faithfully

**Ms E O'Connor**  
**Headteacher**  
**Cardinal Newman Catholic School**



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## Holy Cross Catholic Multi-Academy Company

### Motto

*Achieving Together in Faith.*

### Mission

Our school communities are united as the family of God to provide an outstanding Catholic education for all our pupils. With Christ at the centre of all we do, we will inspire every child to be the best person they can be by developing their God given gifts and talents.

### Aims:

**H**igh aspirations for all

**O**utstanding education - To create an ethos of collective responsibility, through which we will promote achievement and improve pupil performance

**L**iving out Gospel values and celebrating the Catholic ethos in all our schools with reconciliation and peacefulness at the heart of all we do

**Y**oung people – who are resilient and make a positive contribution to their diverse and changing communities

**C**ommunity - strengthening and nurturing the Catholic life of our schools

**R**ealising talent by developing pupils, staff, academy representatives and Directors for the benefit of the Holy Cross community

**O**ptimising our resources to realise best-value by sharing assets and using economies of scale

**S**tandards - To maintain the highest quality of Catholic education by ensuring accountability at all levels

**S**ervice to God by serving others in our school and local communities and national and international communities in need.



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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Head of Sociology**

**Job Purpose:** To provide the professional leadership and management of Art teachers to ensure high attainment of their subject across the School.

**TLR:** 2B

**Responsible to:** Senior Leader

**Responsible for:** Sociology

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

##### **a) Strategic development and direction of the Sociology curriculum**

- Take responsibility for the Head of Department designated role as given by the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher.
- Strategic development and direction of the department curriculum.
- Drive the school vision.
- Encourage the development of all students to participate actively in all aspects of the curriculum, acquiring the skills and knowledge to achieve successfully.
- Liaise with the department to help develop appropriate programmes of study, unit plans and overviews, lesson plans and appropriate, high-quality resources to enhance the delivery and outcomes of the subject.
- Keep up to date with current educational research and disseminate relevant information to colleagues.
- Raise student attainment and achievement in all key stages.
- Liaise with external practitioners, clubs and sporting initiatives to provide opportunities to enhance the students' experience.
- Liaise with tutors/Heads of Year where appropriate to celebrate students' achievements.
- Liaise with the Exams Officer to ensure the administration of all examination programmes within the subject are managed effectively.





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- When required, ensuring effective induction of staff in line with school procedures.

### Teaching and learning

- Rapidly and sustainably, improve the quality of teaching and learning across the department and subsequently the outcomes within the department.
- Consistently teach high quality lessons which deliver excellent outcomes for students.
- Set and agree academic targets for each student in liaison with SLT.
- Rigorously analyse and use data to monitor student progress and support staff to implement intervention strategies to tackle any underachievement including the identification of patterns across the department.
- Lead on appropriate intervention strategies to raise attainment.
- Ensure high quality, well planned lessons are facilitated across the department which include excellent learning activities and resources to meet the needs of all students particularly those with SEN needs, disadvantaged students and the most able.
- Ensure that the structures of delivery, assessment and monitoring of programmes are in line with school policies and demonstrate the criteria to meet external and internal quality measures.
- Ensure the effective operation of quality assurance systems are in place within the department.
- Improve the on-going monitoring records for standards of teaching and learning within the department.
- Create a vibrant and positive environment within the department so that students experience exemplary teaching, including the management of resources and budget.

### Leading and managing staff

- Organise and lead calendared meetings for the department.
- Liaise and meet with parents and carers at consultation evenings or whenever necessary.
- Liaise with tutors and Heads of Year to support students' in their learning.
- Ensure that the Leadership Team is kept well informed of the department and extra-curricular developments.
- Facilitate training for staff to develop their teaching skills and professional progression, ensuring that staff development needs within the department are identified and that appropriate support is designed to meet such needs.



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- Make appropriate arrangements for classes when staff are absent.
- Promote effective teamwork and motivate staff to ensure effective working relationships.
- To ensure that the behaviour management policy and procedures are implemented to create a productive and positive learning environment across the department.
- Identify and take actions on issues arising from data, systems and reports -setting deadlines where necessary and reviewing progress on the actions taken.
- Challenge the underperformance of staff.
- Be fully committed and passionate about continuously developing leadership and competencies.
- Support with the induction and recruitment of geography staff where appropriate.

### Pastoral system and school ethos

- Carry out the duties associated with the role on a tutor as outlined in the generic job description.
- Support the school's distinctive mission and ethos and encourage and ensure the staff and students follow this example.
- Actively promote the school's policies as outlines in the school handbook.
- Maintain regular and productive communication with students, parents and carers, to report on progress, sanctions, rewards and all other communications.
- Teach elements of the PSHE scheme of work.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified.



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**Person Specification**

**Job Title:** Head of Sociology

**TLR:** 2B

**Job Purpose:** To provide the professional leadership and management of the Sociology Department to ensure the highest quality of standards

**CODE:** E/D = Essential or Desirable

A = Application, I = Interview, R = Reference

Qualifications and Training		Measured
Degree or equivalent in Sociology	E	A
Certificate in catholic Education	D	A
Qualified teacher	E	A
<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b> The successful candidate will demonstrate:		
Safeguarding issues in Education	E	A, I
The role to be played by a Head of department	E	A, I
Developing differentiated schemes of work	E	A, I
Effective strategies for supporting staff to improve teaching and learning	E	A, I
Experience of using pupil voice to impact on teaching & learning	D	A, I
Current educational developments especially related to the curriculum at KS3, KS4 and KS5	E	A, I
Management of staff including professional development	D	A, I
Capable of initiating and maintaining innovative curriculum design and delivery	D	A, I
<b>Experience</b>		
Experience of teaching subject to A level standard	E	A, I, R
High quality teaching to pupils of all abilities	E	A, I, R
Collaborative teaching methods and working with colleagues in the preparation, assessment and monitoring of work	E	A, I, R
Leadership experience, including managing staff and pupils	D	A, I
Demonstrable experience of improving student outcomes	E	A, I
High quality outcomes	E	A, I
A record of continuous professional and career development	E	A, I, R
Experience as a form Tutor and with Pastoral work	E	A, I
<b>Skills and Abilities</b>		
Energy and enthusiasm	E	A, I, R



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Vision and initiative	E	A, I, R
Ability to plan effectively, setting priorities and targets for implementation	E	A, I, R
Solution focussed skill set that is ready to challenge and inspire learners	E	A, I, R
Good inter-personal skills including the ability to work in a team and independently, using their own initiative	E	A, I, R
The ability to use ICT effectively to report and track	E	A, I
The ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in written form to students, parents/carers, teachers and Senior Leaders	E	A, I
The ability to lead the Sociology enrichment experiences offered to students and contribute to Liturgical celebrations	E	A, I
Prioritise workloads and work to deadlines	E	A, I, R
Report and account to line manager as appropriate	E	A, I, R
The ability to use data to inform planning and to monitor progress	E	A, I, R
Knowledge of the Sociology curriculum in Key Stages Three, Four and Five	E	A, I
<b>References</b>		
Two references	E	
Clear and unequivocally supportive	E	
<b>Other Areas</b>		
Being prepared to engage creatively with new ideas or ventures	E	A, I
<b>Special Requirements</b>		
Good health and attendance records	E	A, I, R

This post is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. A Disclosure and Barring Service check will be required prior to appointment.



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## **Our Schools**



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## Bishop Ullathorne Catholic Secondary Academy



At Bishop Ullathorne Catholic Secondary Academy, we recognise the uniqueness of each child and the need to build upon the firm family Catholic values established in the home and in our partner primary schools. Our mission as a Catholic school is to be an active Christian community of love and service where all feel they belong and are valued. We believe strongly that each child has a right to excellence and to be actively encouraged to be the person God wants them to be.

Working together, we enable our students to recognise and to have confidence in their own abilities. It is important to us to raise the aspirations of each of our students and provide them with the love and support to grow as the very special person that they are. We focus on rounded development: spiritually, morally, socially, physically and academically. Every member of our school community is valued and their sense of belonging is paramount. Whilst great emphasis is placed on each student's academic achievement, we also foster traditional values. Your child's sense of belonging at school contributes to our sense of community in a happy supportive atmosphere. Hard working, caring and sympathetic staff work in partnership with parents to ensure that your child's secondary school career is enjoyable and successful.

Our outstanding Catholic school has a long standing record of high quality education and academic excellence. Student achievement is a continued strength at both key stage 4 and key stage 5. All progress and attainment measures significantly exceed the national averages. Each member of our school community is highly valued.

We are guided daily through our own expectations, known as the Ullathorne Way. This calls us to be:

- Compassionate
- Faith filled and Prophetic
- Attentive
- Eloquent
- Curious and Wise
- Grateful



Only by extolling these virtues can we show the love of Christ in our daily actions and grow to be our true self.



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## Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary Academy



Our school is named after one of England's foremost Catholics, the Blessed John Henry Newman and we are very proud to be associated with his love of learning and his strong commitment to providing the best pastoral support for those in his care.

Our mission statement "Knowledge through the light of faith" is at the heart of all we do and we endeavour to make known to every student that they are made for greatness because they are a child of God and are uniquely created and loved by God.

Every student is called to live out the gospel values by loving God, others and themselves and by being prepared to always do their best and be the best person they can be.



We insist on the highest standards of behaviour, uniform, attitude to learning and respect for one another and the environment. By providing a traditional, yet broad and balanced curriculum for all our students regardless of ability and background, we are able to recognise and develop individual talents and interests including academic, creative and sporting provision that is appropriate for every child from our special needs students to our Oxbridge applicants. We also have a varied extra-curricular activities

programme that includes a wide variety of clubs as well as day and residential visits to enhance each student's learning experience.

We are blessed to have an amazing staff who work tirelessly for our students so that they are given every opportunity to fulfil their true potential and we pride ourselves on excellent relationships, where we work together to form a happy, loving and caring community, based on clear boundaries, accepted values and high expectations.

We are very proud of our successes and our GCSE results in 2018 placed us as one of the highest performing secondary schools in both the Diocese and Coventry Local Authority. As we prepare for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of our wonderful school in September 1969 we are determined to continue to improve to meet the needs of our students in an ever-changing world and we are confident that we will achieve our vision, which is simple: to become an outstanding catholic school in all we do.

At Cardinal Newman we want for your child exactly what you want as parents – the best and nothing but the best.



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## Christ the King Catholic Primary Academy



Christ the King Catholic Primary Academy provides an excellent, Christ centred education through inspirational teaching and empowerment of all pupils to reach their full potential spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially and morally, in a happy, caring, stimulating environment promoting self-esteem and confidence. Our school offers all-through primary education for 420 pupils, complemented by 52 nursery places.



Our teaching philosophy is centred on an environment of mutual respect where the staff, the pupils and the whole community work together for the common aim of educating to achieve the highest standards of competence and ability and to be responsible and worthy citizens of the world.

The diverse backgrounds represented by our pupils and staff contribute to a rich learning environment where the communication of knowledge is informed by professional expertise and personal experience. A differentiated teaching programme delivers the curriculum at the rate appropriate to the individual child.

We aim to develop and extend every pupil to enable them to achieve their full potential, irrespective of academic ability or social background. Our curriculum encompasses the widest range of concepts, attitudes, skills, responsibilities and cross-curricular issues relevant to a pupil's life in its widest perspective.



The school offers a wide range of sporting and artistic activities to complement the core academic expectations of the National Curriculum.

Our pupils make excellent academic progress, and impressive results are achieved on the sports field and in the arts arena.



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## St Augustine's Catholic Primary Academy



St Augustine's Catholic Primary Academy is located in the heart of Radford in Coventry. We are a happy and vibrant two form of entry school with a Nursery. As a school we aim to work in partnership with parents, guardians, the parish and the Academy family of schools to support our children and families on their journey of Faith. As part of the family of God we work hand in hand.

*'To listen to God's call, to learn from God's word and to share God's love through service.'*



Our extensive grounds include a Forest School site which is used to develop a range of skills with pupils, a Thrive nurture room, a sports Muga and counselling facilities.

Our staff here are committed to working together to support our children to be the best they can be spiritually, morally, academically, mentally and physically. We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that will both engage and educate our pupils shaping them into caring future disciples and knowledgeable, responsible citizens.



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## St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary Academy



St Elizabeth's is truly a special place, a happy place where staff, parents, governors and children work in harmony together. The school has developed an individual identity since its creation over 100 years ago which combines the best of traditional educational values with a modern vibrant vision.

At St Elizabeth's we pride ourselves on celebrating the cultural diversity of our locality. We are a school community in which all children are welcomed and valued as unique members of God's family, a family of different faiths and backgrounds living, loving and learning together joyfully following in the footsteps of Jesus Christ.



Central to our philosophy are the values and virtues Christ taught us through the Gospels, these values run through every aspect of school life like a golden thread, intertwined and bound throughout all of our relationships and the experiences we provide for our children. Our reliance on these values ensures the spiritual formation of every member of our school family.

We aim to provide a rich and diverse curriculum that develops our children morally and socially as well as academically. Children leave St Elizabeth's as faithful, aspirational, responsible and resilient young people ready to make positive contributions to the wider communities in which they live.

At St Elizabeth's we take enormous pride in knowing all of our children and families very well. We are fully committed to ensuring that each child is offered the finest start to their education in a stimulating, caring and loving environment, an environment which influences a lifelong love of learning and one in which our children thrive and live life to the full.



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## St John Vianney Catholic Primary Academy



Welcome to St John Vianney where Christ is at the centre of everything we do. We have one school rule which is:

Love one another as I have loved you

We strive to promote the values of our Christian faith throughout our daily life. We provide a religious syllabus, which develops our children's knowledge and understanding of our faith. However, more important to this school are those values, which we try to relate to all the aspects of our life within the faith community of St John Vianney Parish.



St John Vianney is a happy and caring school where every child is known and loved. We seek to challenge and support all our children and make them excellent citizens of the future, knowing how important it is to do their best and care for those around them.

We are conscious of the necessity to provide our pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum and constantly review and evaluate the achievements of the school. Our curriculum is exciting and engaging aiming to bring the humanities alive through first-hand experience wherever possible. We aim to provide both high academic and non-academic standards, a good faith basis and involvement in the wider community. Moreover, developing the whole child by enabling them to acquire knowledge, appreciate their creative abilities and master the challenges of physical education and sport.



St John Vianney Catholic Primary Academy strives to achieve its aims through a strong partnership between governors, staff, children, parents and Parish. Most of our governors are parents or past parents and members of our Church community. We believe that this improves the level of co-operation and the sense of shared commitment and responsibility. We believe that we can only achieve the best for your child by close co-operation between home and school. Without the involvement of parents, our task is that much more difficult and less enjoyable. We hope that parents will take a

close interest in what their children are doing in school and will encourage learning and its importance in later life.

It is our view that Primary School years lay the foundations for a lifetime of learning and work hard to cultivate the fundamental partnership between Home and School by welcoming parents to become involved in their child's education.



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# St Thomas More Catholic Primary Academy



St Thomas More's motto is "Learn and Grow as God's Holy People" and this underpins everything we do at the school. We believe that every child should be pushed and supported to achieve their God-given potential and that it is our responsibility to get the best out of all of our students – academically, socially and spiritually. We are a very diverse, multi-ethnic community with a highly inclusive ethos.

Children are happy to come to school here and they thrive on the nurture and support offered. We are situated in a suburban residential area of south Coventry, a 30 minute walk from the city centre, but we draw our children from a much wider catchment area. The school is housed in a modern building which opened in September 2014 and we have very generous grounds which include a large field, allotment, forest school, a pond and a chicken pen.



We are committed to academic excellence and are always keen to innovate, using research-based methods to develop and improve our practices further. We keep our curriculum under constant review so that it is appealing and relevant to our current situation and we place great emphasis on the importance of a consistent approach from Nursery to Year six. Our children's learning experience is very hands-on: an example of this is our maths mastery programme which focuses on underlying mathematical concepts and number sense through the use of manipulatives all the way from Reception to Year 6. We see it as our duty to produce well-mannered, respectful and motivated young people and our behaviour and discipline policies are reflective of this. Children leave St Thomas More with all the qualities they need to make a positive contribution to society. We have excellent relationships with

our local parish and the children make good use of the church. Our vocation to Catholic life is evident across the curriculum and throughout the school. Our families are very supportive of our ethos and work well with school leaders to ensure positive outcomes for all. Many parents comment that St Thomas More is like an extension of the family.



The school received a highly positive Ofsted inspection in January 2018 and we aim to build on this as we continue to improve and push ourselves to be the best we can possibly be.



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## Holy Cross MAC Schools





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## **Why work in Coventry?**



Coventry is an innovative city that boasts two cathedrals, old and new. It combines medieval architecture with vibrant regeneration which is rich in bars, restaurants and culture. Coventry has recently been awarded the City of Culture for 2021. You will find both the Belgrade theatre and the Warwick Arts centre on the doorstep, along with open green spaces such as the War Memorial Park and Coombe Abbey.

The Ricoh Arena hosts both football and rugby, along with music concerts. Road and rail links are exceptional. Birmingham and Leamington Spa are under 15 minutes by train and London just over an hour. Stratford upon Avon, Warwick and Solihull are also nearby. From Coventry it is only one rail stop to Birmingham International Airport and the National Exhibition Centre. In December, Birmingham was named host city for the 2022 Commonwealth Games, and local town, Leamington Spa, was recently named as one of the best places to live in the Midlands in 2017 by the Sunday Times. The city hosts a variety of annual events such as the Coventry Half Marathon, the SkyRide and the Godiva Festival, which is the biggest free family festival in the UK.

Coventry also has two universities, Coventry University which was awarded 'University of the Year for *Student Experience*' by The Times in 2014 and the University of Warwick, which is in the top





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10 on the league tables. Both universities have links with three of the city's biggest employers, Jaguar Land Rover, the NHS Trust and Coventry City Council.

