



**St John Fisher**  
Catholic High School

**Head of Faculty – Maths**  
**(TLR 1b - £9273 pa)**

**Additional Information**  
**for Applicants**

We require an excellent classroom teacher to be Head of Faculty for Maths. The school is arranged in eight faculties with Maths, English, RE and Science being the four core faculties. The eight faculty leaders form the main middle leadership team and thus contribute to the forward development of the school. Four Heads of House oversee the pastoral provision at this level and meet in parallel.

We are fortunate to have been fully staffed in the subject for many years. There are currently five full time and one part-time specialists, plus two Assistant Heads and myself. We have successfully appointed and developed newly qualified teachers over the last four years, each of which has stayed with us, creating an effective and collaborative team. We took our first participant from Teach First last year and this person is now an NQT in the faculty.

We are therefore looking to appoint a leader to take the faculty forward. You will be aware of the current issues nationally, and especially around changing courses and assessment procedures. We need to ensure that we remain on top of all of these and that our students continue to receive a high-quality education.

We use SISRA for our data analysis and are part of the PiXL group of schools. We work closely with the other city secondary schools, but especially Jack Hunt School and Nene Park academy. There is a strong and effective network among the subject leaders across the city and we have a direct link with the Suffolk Maths teacher network.

The school was rebuilt in 2009 and enjoys excellent facilities, including a new network of over 400 computers. We have not been hit by financial constraints so far, partly because our Sixth Form numbers have increased in recent years. We trigger a significant amount of funding for Pupil Premium, EAL, and so on, and this is all used effectively. There are strong and effective systems in place for data tracking and behaviour management so you will not find yourself distracted by such things being lacking. One member of SLT line manages each faculty leader with the Assistant Head responsible for Assessment doing so for Maths and English.

All lessons are 75 minutes long and we operate a four period day over a two week timetable. The subject is compulsory at GCSE and has become a popular choice for A level. In fact, more students chose Maths A level last year than any other subject.

Generally students achieve decent results but we experienced a dip in 2015. Grade boundary changes have had an impact but we are not complacent and have put in place additional plans for 2016, including a change of board at GCSE (to AQA). I would want to say more about this at interview but would stress that we are open to ideas and there is no predetermined restriction on how we should take the subject forward.

Examination results have improved across the school, especially in 2013 and 2014, and these are a consequence of our focussing on the quality of teaching; we are therefore looking to appoint someone whose teaching is consistently judged to be good or better. Ofsted inspected the school in October 2013 and judged us to be Good overall, with Good also being the judgement on each of the four main areas. In December 2013 we had the corresponding Diocesan Inspection and were judged to be Outstanding; this inspection looks at RE and the Catholic ethos and life of the school.

Our students come from a wide range of ethnic and religious backgrounds. About half are Catholic, with the second largest religious group being Muslim. Just over half have English as an Additional Language and we have a team of Teaching Assistants to support these students, where needed, in their own language.

This is an exciting time to be joining the school as we continue our journey to Outstanding. We have a teaching staff that is younger than most, including in several leadership positions, and this is making the school an attractive place to work for people that are new to the profession or in the early years of their career.

This letter is intended as a brief introduction to the school and more information is available on the website. You would be most welcome to visit us as well if you would like to: I would suggest that the facilities and atmosphere here now will certainly persuade you to apply if you do visit.

Yours sincerely

**Sean Hayes**  
**Headteacher**