



**St PAUL'S
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE**

“Life at St Paul’s”

Thank you for your interest in the positions currently being advertised at St. Paul’s Catholic College. I would like to take this chance to give you a taste of “life at St. Paul’s” to help you decide if this role is the right opportunity for you.

St. Paul’s is an 11-18 mixed Catholic comprehensive school with a total of 1150 students on roll including 340 students in the Sixth form. The College has a strong ethos and is a vibrant Christian community. We are committed to making sure we never accept second best for the students in our care and look to give them a full experience of education that supports their academic, personal and faith development. This is summarised in our mission statement and educational vision which is:

“To provide an innovative, inspirational and Christian education which challenges, nurtures and informs our students to enable them to take their place in a changing world.”

We are proud of all that students achieve at St. Paul’s and we have been successful in consistently achieving results and progress in the top 10% nationally at GCSE and A level. Essentially these results are built on a belief that we have a duty to ensure that every student achieves their potential with us. We also believe it is essential to give our students the best opportunities to develop as learners, personally and in their faith journey.

The College moved to our current site 15 years ago on the outskirts of Burgess Hill and we are proud of the modern and innovative learning environment. The school is situated with strong travel links from Brighton and London. We have worked hard to develop the highest standards of learning and teaching and have built a national reputation for using technology to enhance learning. Students have access to learning “anytime, anywhere” through a scheme which looks to provide an iPad for every student to support their learning at home and at school. As you can imagine this transforms the way we teach and the way students learn.

Our approach to learning and teaching is based on the accelerated learning cycle and we are actively engaged in research and development to continue to learn professionally and develop the most effective teaching to benefit the students in our care. We really focus on developing the curriculum to ensure we support students as learners not just their understanding of subject knowledge. We believe this will ensure every student becomes an independent learner and gives them adaptable skills to ensure they can become life-long learners ready for the modern world.

St Paul’s is a Teaching School and Leading Edge School. Leading the Inspire Teaching School Alliance and the Sussex Maths Hub we work on professional learning, leadership and raising achievement. This leads us to working extensively on “outreach” work with other schools both locally and nationally. This provides a wide range of opportunities to work collaboratively with others, both at St Paul’s and in our partner schools, as well as developing exceptional leadership opportunities for all staff.

Outside the classroom there are numerous opportunities for students to take part in a very wide range of activities - drama, sport, music, exchanges, away days, Duke of Edinburgh, retreats and trips. This includes opportunities for prayer and reflection as well as many examples of living an active faith through service, pilgrimage and fundraising.

St Paul's is heavily over-subscribed and has built an excellent reputation in the community. We only recruit the best possible staff and have high expectations to ensure we develop the highest standards of learning and teaching. It is this 'rich diet' in the classroom that engages and motivates students as well as leading to positive behaviour and an exciting learning environment. Each teacher is expected to work hard to keep up these high standards. All staff are given extensive opportunities to develop professionally and we only look to recruit and retain the best teachers. This is why any underperformance is challenged and it is because of this commitment that both staff and students really enjoy being at College each day and we build on the current success which can never be taken for granted. We invest highly in the best opportunities for staff development. Staff at St Paul's tend to be young, dynamic and ambitious and there are plenty of opportunities to develop in the classroom and as a school leader. Many staff are promoted, internally or externally, very rapidly.

"St Paul's is an outstanding school where all learn, thrive and succeed together." Ofsted, November 2007

In 2007 we had our last full Ofsted inspection in which we were graded 'outstanding' in all key categories, when you read it you will see why we were proud of this achievement. This was followed up in 2008 by an Ofsted survey visit on 'creative learning' in which we were again graded as outstanding. In April 2011 this was followed by an interim assessment that grades us as 'outstanding' once again. Since this point we have continued to flourish and develop all we do to the point where we now aim to be the top 5% of schools nationally at GCSE and A level.

We believe it is important to work hard to maintain and build on the current standards as well as looking to move forward and continue to improve at St Paul's in every way. Are you ready to be a part of this exciting opportunity?

The ideal candidates would be energetic, enthusiastic, ambitious and excellent teachers who are willing to be dedicated to all that we believe in at St Paul's. You do not have to be Catholic to work here, we have staff from a wide range of backgrounds, all we ask is for you to support and embrace our ethos. If you are interested in this post then please download the application pack and feel free to visit the College at any time to see for yourself prior to applying.

You can play initially online through the TES which is then followed by a full application which can be after interview. This is by letter of no more than two pages and a CES application form. St Paul's is committed to the highest standards of safeguarding.

I believe St Paul's is an exceptional place to work and it is a privilege to appoint the right staff to help us move into the next chapter of our development as a College. We have fantastic students, supportive families and dedicated staff – this is a winning recipe. By applying to work at St Paul's you will have great opportunities to develop professionally and gain opportunities for rapid promotion. I hope you will decide St Paul's is the right place for you and will look forward to meeting you.



Rob Carter
Headteacher