



Application pack for:

Deputy Headteacher The Cathedral School of St Mary, Plymouth

Plymouth CAST

Closing date for applications: Monday 21st September 2026 at 09:00 a.m.



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Plymouth CAST is a trading name of Plymouth CAST Ltd. VAT Number: 163038231. Company Number: 08438686.
A list of directors is available on request. Registered Address: Plymouth CAST Ltd, Edmund Rice Building, St Boniface's RC College,
21 Boniface Lane, Manadon Park, Crownhill, Plymouth, Devon, PL5 3AG



Letter

FROM THE BOARD

Thank you for your interest in applying for the post of Deputy Headteacher of The Cathedral School of St Mary, Plymouth within Plymouth CAST Multi Academy Trust.

This is an exciting opportunity to join the skilled leadership team within our Multi Academy Trust of thirty-four Catholic schools and one nursery, formed in 2014. There are two secondary schools in the Trust, both are single sex schools based in Plymouth, and thirty-two primary schools. In geographical terms the Trust extends across seven local authority areas from Cornwall to Dorset. We have 1,150 staff and educate 6,700 children and young people. Our head office is located at St Boniface College in Plymouth.

Plymouth CAST has a strong focus on school improvement, underpinned by our Catholic values.

We are passionately committed to the core aspiration of Catholic education which is the flourishing of the human person for the common good. To that end we have developed collaborative working through a cluster model to ensure that local expertise and best practice in our schools is shared and developed. Each of our schools are supported by a School Improvement Officer. The School Improvement Officers are managed by the Director of Education, who, with the Chief Finance Officer and Chief Operating Officer, make up the Senior Executive Management Team, led by the Chief Executive.

The Diocese of Plymouth has appointed a Diocesan Schools Commissioner, who works closely with the Chief Executive and the schools within the Trust, to ensure that the Bishop's vision for education is actively promoted and embedded in all that we do.

If you would like an informal discussion about this role with our Director of Education, please contact our HR Team by email to careers@plymouthcast.org.uk

The deadline for applications is 09:00 a.m. on Monday 21st September 2026 and the interview process will take place shortly after this date. We will contact shortlisted candidates with further details of the selection process soon after the deadline. Our application form for this post can be accessed [here](#).



Deputy Headteacher

Job Title	Deputy Headteacher
Remuneration	L2 - L4 and appropriate pension scheme
Main Location	The Cathedral School of St Mary, Plymouth
Required for	01st January 2027

Plymouth CAST is a Multi-Academy Trust comprising thirty-four schools plus a nursery situated within the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth with whom there is a close working relationship. The Trust is seeking to appoint a dynamic, strategic and practicing Catholic Deputy Headteacher at The Cathedral School of St Mary, Plymouth within Plymouth CAST Multi Academy Trust.

This is an exciting time to join a forward thinking and committed team, to both embed as well as shape working practices for the future. You will be joining a dedicated and supportive team and will have the opportunity to work with your Executive Headteacher, School Improvement Officer and the Director of Education to help shape the way in which you will lead the schools to positively impact the education and development of the pupils.

The core purpose of the Deputy Headteacher is to support the Headteacher in leading and managing the school and taking responsibility in the absence of the Headteacher. This will promote a secure foundation from which to achieve high standards in all areas of the school's work. You will play a major role under the overall direction of the Headteacher in formulating and reviewing the School Development/Improvement Plans and the aims and objectives of the school. You will be committed to establishing a positive and proactive culture that promotes excellence, focusing on collaboration and driving internal excellence, underpinned by our Gospel Values.

As a member of SLT, you will play an important role in the overall leadership and management of the school. In particular, you will work closely with the Headteacher to lead and develop an outstanding, inclusive, comprehensive education that serves the local community.

Within our Multi Academy Trust we operate a core business function which works to support Headteachers and school communities in all areas of financial, personnel, estates and facilities, procurement and operational management.

You will need to develop excellent relationships with parents, colleagues, local authorities and relevant agencies for children. Through such relationships you will play a key role in contributing to the development of the education system as a whole and collaborate with others to raise standards locally.

Our Trust governance model is designed to ensure our Board of Directors has a direct line of communication to schools, local governing boards and school leaders.



You will be a practising Roman Catholic in full communion with the Catholic Church. You should be able to evidence collaborative and inspirational leadership that creates a culture of high expectations and aspirations that raises standards and ensures that all children reach their full potential. You will have the interpersonal skills to guide and inspire your pupils and staff.

As a Deputy Headteacher you will need diplomacy, openness, approachability, and a personable style of leadership, as well as the ability to converse confidently with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders.

If you feel that you have the necessary skills and competencies, and the passion to make a difference to our children and young people, we would love to hear from you.

Essential requirements are:

- A Catholic with a strong understanding of the structures and values of the Catholic Church
- Qualified to degree level relevant to the post and/or equivalent through professional experience
- PGCE (or equivalent) – Qualified to Teach in the UK
- Recent, substantive and successful leadership experience would be preferable
- The ability to manage change through bringing innovative ideas to traditional approaches to teaching and learning
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills – an attentive listener and team builder.
- A wide knowledge of current and proposed education policy and the legal framework within which schools must operate, particularly in relation to safeguarding, when part of a Multi Academy Trust.

How to apply

If you would like an informal discussion about this role with our Director of Education, please contact our HR Team by email to careers@plymouthcast.org.uk

Our application form for this post can be accessed [here](#).

Closing Date

09:00 a.m. on Monday 21st September 2026



Board STRUCTURE

The Board and its committees are structured as below. The Board of Directors links to schools' local governing boards through its link directive structure.

Plymouth CAST Members

Bishop Nicholas Hudson Canon Mark O'Keeffe Canon Paul Cummins
Canon Kristian Paver Abbot David Charlesworth

Plymouth CAST Board

Foundation Directors

Ruth O'Donovan (Chair)
Deacon Nick Johnson
Steve Hole
John Andrews
John Cosgrove
Nick Baldwin
Ingrid Quaife
Alison McDonald

Co-opted Directors

Graham Briscoe
Alison Nettleship
Matt Richards

Plymouth CAST Board Sub-Committees

Remuneration

John Andrews (Chair)
Ruth O'Donovan
Alison Nettleship
John Cosgrove

Finance

John Andrews (Chair)
Ruth O'Donovan
Nick Baldwin
Matt Richards

Audit & Risk

Graham Briscoe (Chair)
Deacon Nick Johnson
Steve Hole

Education & Standards

Alison Nettleship (Chair)
John Cosgrove
Ingrid Quaife
Alison McDonald

Organisational CHART



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Zoe Batten (EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT– Danielle Eves)			
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER Karl Murphy Barnes		CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER Rose Colpus-Fricker	DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION Kevin Butlin
<u>SBM TEAM</u> SBM Claire Garden SBM Nichola Nelson SBM Helen Newman SBM Janice Williams SBM Pat Rushton SBM Belinda Burton	<u>FINANCE TEAM</u> FINANCE MANAGER James Reed LEDGER CLERK Rosalind Booth LEDGER CLERK Clare Carter FINANCE SUPPORT OFFICER Zoe Dawe	<u>OPERATIONS TEAM</u> HR MANAGER – Adelle Pope SENIOR HR ADVISOR – Sarah Lugg HR ADMINISTRATOR – Chloe Rawle TRUST GOVERNANCE OFFICER – Leah Paiano GOVERNANCE ADMINISTRATOR – Melanie Harris ESTATES & FACILITIES MANAGER Paul Stewart PROCUREMENT & SERVICES MANAGER Tina Parkes IT MANAGER Russell Warren SECONDARY SCHOOLS BUSINESS MANAGER Helen Laird ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Sharman Wood	<u>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM</u> SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT OFFICER (PRIMARY) Charlotte Targett SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT OFFICER (PRIMARY) Jo Flower SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT OFFICER (PRIMARY) Alyson Tyler SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT OFFICER (PRIMARY) Alan Frame SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT OFFICER (PRIMARY & TRUST SEND LEAD) Suzie Franklin SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT OFFICER (SECONDARY) Stuart Gale EYFS ADVISOR Lauren Stone SAFEGUARDING & STAFF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER Leah Paiano

Plymouth CAST MAP

Plymouth CAST - Our Schools



WEST	
1	St John's Catholic Primary School (Camborne)
2	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Penzance)
3	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Bodmin)
4	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Falmouth)
PLYMOUTH SECONDARY	
5	Notre Dame
6	St Boniface's RC College
PLYMOUTH PRIMARY	
7	Cathedral School of St Mary
8	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
9	Holy Cross Catholic Primary School
10	St Paul's Roman Catholic Primary School
11	Keyham Barton Catholic Primary School
12	St Peter's Roman Catholic Primary School
TORBAY	
13	Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Primary School (Torquay)
14	St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School (Brixham)
15	Priddy Catholic Primary School (Torquay)
16	Sacred Heart RC Nursery and Primary School (Plympton)

DEVON NORTH	
17	Our Lady's Catholic Primary School (Barnstaple)
18	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Axminster)
19	St John's Catholic Primary School (Tiverton)
20	St Nicholas Catholic Primary School (Exeter)
21	Our Lady & St Patrick's Roman Catholic Primary School (Taigumouth)
DEVON SOUTH	
22	St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School (Dartmouth)
23	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Buckfast)
24	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Newton Abbot)
25	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Exmouth)
DORSET WEST	
26	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Weymouth)
27	St Mary's Catholic First School (Dorchester)
28	St Catherine's Catholic Primary School (Bishopstoke)
29	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Barnstaple)
30	St Mary and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Wool)
31	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Swanage)
DORSET EAST	
32	Christ the King Catholic Primary School (Bournemouth)
33	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Poole)
34	The Orchard Nursery (Bournemouth)
35	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Poole)



Job DESCRIPTION

Job Title

Deputy Headteacher with 0.6 FTE Teaching Commitment

Salary Range

L2-L4 and appropriate pension scheme

Line Manager

Headteacher

Base Location

The Cathedral School of St Mary, Plymouth

Purpose of Role

- Help to create and foster the Christian community of the school and to work with the families and the parishes in the Christian nurture of the child.
- Teach children to know God as a loving Father and to respond to him in love, praise, and thanksgiving.
- Be a member of the senior leadership team, assist the head teacher in leading and managing the school and to take responsibility in the absence of the head teacher.
- Work with the head teacher and Governors to formulate school policies and lead the staff in their delivery.
- Play a major role under the overall direction of the head teacher in formulating and reviewing the School Development/Improvement Plans and the aims and objectives of the school by:
 - o establishing the policies through which they shall be achieved;
 - o leading and managing staff and resources to that end;
 - o monitoring progress towards their achievement.
- By example, assist in leading the staff to act and work in a conscientious, enthusiastic and professional manner.
- Develop and maintain good relationships with parents.
- Undertake the usual responsibilities of the class teacher.
- Undertake such duties as are delegated by the Headteacher/Executive Headteacher.



The internal organisation, management and control of the school:

To contribute to:

- Maintaining and developing the ethos, values and overall purposes of the school;
- Formulating the aims and objectives of the school and policies for their implementation;
- Planning improvement which will translate school aims and policies into actions;
- Implementing the school's policies;
- The efficient organisation, management and supervision of school routines.

Key Accountabilities

Main Tasks

- To ensure own professional development and leading colleagues for their professional development in a designated subject leadership role.
- To keep the catalogue of resources for the designated subject leadership role.
- To take a leading role in developing the teaching and learning across the school, however with a particular focus on one key stage.
- To keep up to date subject leader file/s to demonstrate impact on raising standards.
- To participate in arrangements for further training and the development of own professional skills and knowledge with particular reference to the new curriculum.
- To ensure colleagues have the knowledge and support necessary to ensure attainment is monitored and raised with progress identified.
- To conduct frequent book scrutiny throughout the school ensuring at least good progress is being made.
- To conduct lesson observations and assess the impact of teachers on the learning of the children in their class, supporting professional development when necessary.
- To complete tasks agreed with the head teacher during leadership and management time.
- To lead the development of teaching and learning, working collaboratively with teachers.
- To support the induction and development of student teachers and teachers new to the profession.
- To contribute to the pastoral work within the school.
- To take the lead on one of the key stages within the school.
- To assist the head teacher in the monitoring of core subjects throughout the school and to keep colleagues informed to enable development as appropriate.
- To ensure that safeguarding is enshrined in school policies and practice.

Class teacher responsibilities

- To carry out duties of a school teacher as set out in the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document.
- To lead effective learning providing an opportunity for the children to take responsibility for their own learning.
- To ensure the good behaviour of all children and to develop within them positive attitudes towards adults, peers, property and work.
- To keep records of children's work and achievement in accordance with school policy.
- To have high expectations and to encourage the children in the class to make at least good progress.
- To ensure effective liaison with the teaching assistants
- To ensure effective liaison with the meal time assistants.
- To supervise the children during and after school in accordance with the rota.
- To discuss the child's progress and needs with the parents at twice yearly parents' evenings and at any other reasonable time on request.
- To be prepared to meet with designated governors to report on the teaching of the specific role.
- To keep up to date with developments in the specific role by reading, attending courses and reporting back to colleagues.
- To provide the head teacher with a copy of the long and medium term planning and to prepare a synopsis for parents.
- To provide the head teacher with detailed weekly plans and evaluations of these in accordance with



school policy.

- To take full part in and contribute to staff meetings.

The management of staff

- To be responsible for the line management, performance management and appraisal of specific staff.
- To contribute to good management practice by ensuring positive staff participation, effective communication and procedures.

Relationships

- To be responsible for fostering positive relationships across the school community.
- To help maintain and develop effective communications and links with parents and to provide positive responses to concerns and problems regarding their children's education and wellbeing.
- To assist liaison with other educational establishments in order to promote the continuity of learning, progression and curriculum developments.
- To develop and maintain positive links and relationships with the community, local organisations and employers.

Specific Responsibilities (Teaching and Learning)

- To be responsible with the Head Teacher for improving the quality of teaching across the school through monitoring, developing and evaluating teachers and other support staff.
- To drive improvements in children's progress rates across the school.
- To identify and promote innovative teaching strategies and learning styles to meet the needs of all students.
- Contribute to school policies on curriculum, teaching and learning, assessment, recording and reporting.
- To be the mentor for both newly qualified and student teachers who are based at the School.

Knowledge and Experience

- Qualified Teacher Status.
- A degree or equivalent qualification.
- Evidence of continuous professional development that includes training in leadership and management.
- Experience of supporting, training and helping to co-ordinate the professional development of colleagues.
- Evidence of good management, which incorporates detailed planning, successful implementation and effective monitoring and evaluation of strategies.
- Experience of leading change.
- Experience in using of a range of tools and evidence, including performance data, to support, monitor, evaluate and improve aspects of school, including challenging poor performance.
- To have a good knowledge and understanding of what constitutes an effective school and have the necessary skills of leadership and management to help create such a school.
- Have a good understanding of what contributes to successful learning and the ability to promote the most effective teaching strategies to bring this about.
- Knowledge of how assessment strategies and target-setting are used to inform learning in order to help pupils make progress.



- Understanding of what constitutes a broad and balanced curriculum and which is well differentiated and resourced to meet the needs of all pupils.
- Knowledge of statutory education frameworks, including governance.
- Knowledge of effective models of learning and teaching.
- Knowledge of effective models of behaviour and attendance management.
- Knowledge of strategies to promote individual, team and organisational development.
- Ability to have a vision of the overall aims and direction of a successful school and be able to communicate these in order to inspire and motivate others.
- Able to effectively communicate to a varied audience.
- The ability to relate positively with the headteacher, pupils, colleagues, parents, governors and others who contribute to the work of the school.
- Ability to organise and manage work effectively i.e. being able to prioritise and organise tasks, make decisions, support and delegate where appropriate.
- Ability to use initiative.

Personal Qualities

- Practising Catholic with a strong understanding of the structures and values of the Catholic Church.
- Passionately committed to safeguarding and the welfare and wellbeing of children and young people.
- Willingness to undergo appropriate checks, including enhanced DBS checks.
- To work hard and remain fully committed, even when under pressure, always acting with consideration for yourself and others.
- Forgiving and committed to healthy inclusive relationships (strong interpersonal & diplomatic skills).
- Emotionally resilient and therefore patient and persevering with challenging behaviours and attitudes.
- To be hopeful, honest and always act with integrity, taking a rigorous approach to improving standards in order to ensure transformation of pupil's lives and their wider communities.
- Act with humility and as a team player by serving others both in the school and across the trust.
- Able to demonstrate and communicate the CAST ethos in your behaviours and actions.
- Positive, passionate, enthusiastic, and able to help others be the same.
- Able to keep a sense of proportion by acting with self-control.
- Act with authenticity and integrity.
- To have high aspirations and a commitment to excellence, and to role model this behaviour to others .
- Self-disciplined and able to reflect and learn in order develop wisdom and understanding.
- A willingness to promote and maintain the human face of the church ensuring that practices are consistent with the values in the Gospel.

Expected Outcomes

- To provide professional leadership and management of a key area of the School Development Plan as agreed, on an annual basis, with the Headteacher.
- To assist the Headteacher in the day to day running of the school including taking assemblies, leading duty teams, overseeing the organisation of parents' evenings, promoting health and safety, and through attendance at extracurricular events.
- To work closely with the Governing Board as a member of sub committees and through joint working.
- To line manage staff according to school policy and support, challenge and develop them in their roles thus ensuring a culture of accountability at all levels.
- To prepare agendas for relevant meetings.
- To participate in SLT meetings including early morning briefings, weekly meetings and termly strategic sessions including weekends.



- To carry out other responsibilities as required by the Headteacher from time to time.
- Good working relationships are promoted with Trustees, Diocesan staff, School staff and Go Plymouth CAST staff.
- Responsible for own continuing self-development, undertaking training as appropriate or as directed as part of CPD.
- Being aware of and complying with all relevant policies and procedures relating to child protection, health safety and security, confidentiality and data protection and reporting all concerns to the appropriate person.
- Good working relationships are promoted with Trustees, Diocesan staff, School staff and Governors and Plymouth CAST staff.
- Plymouth CAST fully complies with its statutory obligations and records are maintained as required by law and made available when required by authorized persons.

This document outlines the duties for the time being to indicate the level of responsibility. It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list, and the duties may be varied from time to time which do not change the general character of the job, or the level of responsibility entailed.

The contents of this job description will be reviewed with the postholder on an annual basis in line with the Trust's appraisal policy. Any significant change in level of accountability that could result in a change to the grade will be discussed with the postholder before submitting for any re-evaluation.

Changes can be made to this job description under consultation to reflect the changing needs of the role at any time. This job description is currently subject to consultation.



Our Gospel Values

Humility - seeing life as a gift

Compassion - empathy

Kindness - gentleness

Justice - working for a fairer world

Forgiveness - reconciliation

Integrity - do what you say

Peace - committed to peace-making, non-violence

Courage - standing up for truth

Our Mission

“Our mission is to be a community of outstanding schools in which our students flourish in safe, happy and stimulating environments and leave us with the knowledge and skills, personal qualities and aspirations, to make the world a better place, inspired by the Gospel”.