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Headteacher: Mr D Watson BSc  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr M Henderson BA  
Senior Assistant Headteacher: Mrs K L Gammack BSc, MEd

DW/CM

August 2020

Dear Applicant

**Learning Support Assistant  
Grade 5 SCP 7 - 9 (£16,408 - £17,451 pa)**

Thank you for your interest in the above post. We are an 11 – 18 mixed, converter academy serving the Catholic community of St Oswin's Deanery (Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle). We have a well-balanced, genuinely comprehensive intake, which is one of our great strengths. The ability profile on entry is above the national average and free school meals uptake is below the national average. We have an excellent reputation locally and nationally for the quality of our ethos, teaching and learning, high achievement, and sustained improvement over time. Ofsted last inspected the school in October 2017, judging it as "Good" - *"Pupils make good progress because of their positive attitudes to learning, and the strong relationships they have with staff... The values of respect, tolerance and humility permeate the school and leaders' active promotion of pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is tangible and exceptional... There is a philosophy of continuous improvement in the school."* The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle also inspected the school in December 2014 under section 48 of the Education Act - *"The Catholic Life of St Thomas More Catholic Academy is outstanding in the way it lives out its mission to the school and wider community."* This is reflected in strong parental support for and confidence in the school. The academy website will give you an insight into our work and ethos: [www.stmacademy.org.uk](http://www.stmacademy.org.uk).

Our reputation and practice are excellent with regard to professional development for all staff. Our experience and expertise are especially strong in ITT and NQT work and in leadership development programmes at middle and senior leadership levels. There is a very strong, recognised learning culture across the school. Our collaborative approach extends to working with other schools within North Tyneside, and within the Hexham and Newcastle Diocese. We have dedicated professional developmental time each Tuesday afternoon and there are many opportunities for staff to deliver CPD activities both within school and at local level.

The successful candidate will provide academic support in lessons to students of all ages and abilities, as well as 1:1 and small group support outside of class. You must be prepared to develop your own professional knowledge in the academic subjects in which you will be supporting, and also in different areas of SEND. You must have a passion for working with young people, and the ability to liaise with teachers and other professionals. You should have the ability to motivate and enthuse the students in your care, and as well as understanding their specific needs. Excellent literacy and communication skills are essential.

I am enclosing the following:

1. Advertisement details

2. Job Description
3. Recruitment and Selection Policy Statement
4. A copy of the Mission Statement
5. Application Form (inc. Notes to Applicants, Recruitment Monitoring Form, Rehabilitation of Offenders Act).
6. DBS (formerly CRB) Information

The closing date for application forms is at 3.30pm on **Friday, 4 September 2020**. **Shortlisting** will take place soon after the closing date. Interviews are expected to be held the week commencing 7 September. If you have not heard from us by **Monday, 14 September** please assume that you have been unsuccessful, only the successful candidates will be contacted by the school.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Watson  
Headteacher

Encs.