



St Michael's Church of England High School
A Church of England Academy

Growing in Body, Mind and Spirit

Teacher of Science (maternity cover)



Candidate Information

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the position of Teacher of Science (maternity cover) currently being advertised at St Michael's CE High School, a Church of England Academy.

Our Vision and Christian Ethos

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF OUR CHRISTIAN VISION




Our motto is **'Therefore choose [life]'** from Deuteronomy.

We understand this to mean growing in **body, mind and spirit**, so that all who learn and work here may **flourish**, experiencing the joy and hope of **'Life in all its fullness'**.

This is further explained in our Mission Statement,

*'As a vibrant learning community
we choose to serve God,
pursue excellence
and celebrate the uniqueness of each individual.'*

We aim to achieve this mission through a Christian learning experience which focuses on opportunities for growth in body, mind and spirit:

 <p>BODY</p>	The safety, happiness and wellbeing of pupils is paramount. At St Michael's it's not just that 'every child matters' but more crucially, that they know that they matter.
 <p>MIND</p>	High expectations and aspirations in all areas of school life create a disciplined and ordered learning environment. Our ambitious, knowledge rich and carefully sequenced curriculum, combined with evidence informed pedagogical approaches, creativity and enthusiasm help to engender a life-long zest for learning and secure excellent pupil outcomes.
 <p>SPIRIT</p>	Pupils are supported to find for themselves the person that they aspire to be, the person that God wants them to be and really experience the joy and hope of 'life in all its fullness'. (John 10:10)

We hope that through opportunities to grow in body, mind and spirit our young people and staff will flourish.

As a thriving, oversubscribed Church of England Academy within the Diocese of Blackburn, our values are rooted in the Christian faith. Serving God, pursuing excellence and celebrating the uniqueness of each individual are at the heart of our distinctive ethos. We create and sustain our caring Christian community by encouraging positive supporting relationships based on Christian values and striking a genuine balance between the highest academic standards and opportunities for personal development and spiritual growth.

Worship is at the heart of our school life and is led by various staff, the Christian Youth Worker and/or pupils, with occasional support from local clergy or visitors. The school Chapel Choir (Hughes Tutorial) and the use of The Arts help to create a contemporary vibrant experience. Each day begins with a year group worship, assemblies and school prayers. In addition, we hold Eucharist services in the school chapel throughout the year both at the start of the day and at lunchtimes during Advent and Lent. These services are led by various members of the local clergy who are always willing to support the school.

The chapel in the magnificent Armstrong Centre is also used for staff prayers and reflections. We hope that the school's distinctive Christian ethos shines through in all aspects of our life and work here. Our belief and vision at St Michael's is based on a shared understanding that education is about much more than qualifications and success in pupil outcomes, as essential as they are. Educating for Spiritual growth acknowledges that we should focus on more than the development of a physical body and mind and embrace the opportunity to reach into the heart and soul of our young people too. This growth cannot be measured in league tables or statistics, although academic success might be the visible fruit of this growth.

Pupil Outcomes

We are a high achieving school committed to the pursuit of academic excellence, with 91.1% of pupils achieving grade 4 or above in both English and maths, and attainment 8 at 58.9 (equivalent to an average grade 6 in all subjects). In 2025 34.2% of all GCSE results were grade 7 or above.

The school is consistently in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for pupil attainment and the top 20% for progress. (SSAT)

Although these high academic standards have been sustained for many years there is no sense of complacency. We are confident that our pupils are provided with a rigorous and productive learning environment where they are both challenged and supported. Pupils who leave St Michael's are confident, articulate, resilient and well prepared for college, university, apprenticeships and their next steps. Details of our curriculum offer is available on the website.

Personal and Spiritual Development

All staff take responsibility for behaviour and wellbeing around school on a day-to-day basis and model the qualities and Christian values we believe are important for children and adults to flourish.

The school has a unique, highly acclaimed and multi-faceted programme of Personal Development. This includes a Character and Spiritual Education lesson in Year 7, a planned assembly programme, fully resourced and planned programme of Personal and Spiritual Development (PSHEE) lessons led by tutors, and a highly acclaimed Curriculum Enrichment Programme in Year 9 which facilitates extensive links with organisations in the local community and provides all of our young people the opportunity to achieve the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

The school has recently been re accredited with the Holocaust Beacon Award (April 2024) and the RE Quality Mark Gold (2023). In 2025 we became the first secondary school in the UK to be awarded the Global Neighbours Gold Award.

We have numerous pupil leadership roles within school and an active social action committee. Each year group is usually linked to a particular charity. However, for the last two years we have embarked on a whole school project raising over £65,000 for our Zambia '24 Appeal. There is an extensive array of wider-curricular activities. Our biennial school production is always a superb event and our trophy cabinet is testament to the school's excellent success in numerous sports.

Staff

The team of staff at St Michael's is exceptional and fully committed to enabling every young person in our community to flourish and embrace the myriad of opportunities available. All staff teach their subject specialism and have been supported in enhancing their practice through research informed pedagogical approaches to learning and teaching. Outstanding care and support is provided to pupils and staff in line with our Christian ethos. The large number of support staff are also an essential part of 'Team St Michael's' in helping to secure our vision and high expectations.

The school provides an excellent professional development programme, combining in-house whole school training, specialised training appropriate to career stage, in addition to external courses and conferences. The school has over 20 staff following various NPQs all with the Church of England. The school really does benefit from the commitment and dedication of its highly skilled staff and leadership team.

I hope the information provided on our website gives you a clear flavour of our ethos, of what to expect at St Michael's and also helps you to prepare for the application process.

I look forward to receiving your application.



Mrs Rachel Rongong
Headteacher

The Science Department

The Science Department is an energetic and lively curriculum area within school, which continually seeks to improve standards of learning and teaching. It is made up of a team of 14 staff including the Science Curriculum Leader, two teachers who have roles as Second in Department, two technicians and nine teaching staff.

Our vision for the department in line with the whole school vision is for pupils to grow in body, mind and spirit, always questioning and wondering about the world around them.

Academic success sits side by side with character development with the department offering numerous enrichment opportunities including Spirituality Days on sustainability with a visit to Blackpool Zoo, science leaders in Years 8 - 10, science club, science week and numerous trips.

In Years 7 and 8 pupils have four lessons per week following a curriculum which spirals around the big ideas of science. In Year 9 the number of lessons increases to six lessons per week and then in Years 10 and 11 this increases further to eight lessons per week in Year 10 and six per week in Year 11. There are eight fully equipped laboratories and a modern and well-resourced preparation room. Teachers work hard to prepare challenging lessons which use a wide variety of resources and activities in order to engage pupils.

We currently offer GCSE Combined and Separate Science through the AQA Trilogy Programme of Study. Triple Science is a popular option taught to all pupils in Year 9, with them opting to follow this course of study further in Years 10 and 11.

In 2025 91% of pupils studying the combined science and separate science course achieved two grades 4 or above with 27% achieving two grade 7s or above in their GCSE examinations. Of the pupils following the combined science trilogy course 91% achieved two grade 4s or above, more than 90% of all pupils taking separate science achieved two Grade 6s or above with 47% achieving two Grade 7s or above.

Practical science is at the heart of what we teach with hands-on practicals facilitating the learning process. We want all pupils and staff to demonstrate excellence, continuously striving to build upon their current success. As a department, we are forward-looking and work as a dedicated team, developing shared resources and collaboratively creating well sequenced, engaging work. The successful candidates will have excellent teaching skills and the ability to create lively and interesting activities which will motivate all learners.

Letter from the Chair of Governors



Thank you for requesting details for the post of Teacher of Science (maternity cover) at St Michael's Church of England High School.

An extensive range of information about the school is available on the website. However, the governors are proud to emphasise the 'excellent' SIAMS inspection in November 2018, our super Ofsted report, November 2022 and our Holocaust Beacon School status (renewed April 2024). These were achieved by a whole school community approach of teachers, support staff, pupils, parents/carers and governors working together.

The strong academic, sport, and performing arts record is supported by the active Christian ethos apparent throughout the school; providing the opportunity for pupils to grow in body, mind and spirit. Staff focus on continually raising attainment, encouraged by inspiring, experienced, forward-thinking leadership and management.

Thank you for your interest and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely
Mr C M Metcalfe
Chair of Governors



Letter from the Head Girl and Head Boy

We really appreciate your interest in the role of Teacher of Science (maternity cover) at our school. St Michael's is a fantastic school with exceptionally high standards, allowing pupils to develop both academically, physically, socially and spiritually.

'Team St Michael's' is a phrase used regularly within our school life. The 'team' encompasses parents/carers, pupils, staff and governors, who all work closely together allowing pupils to flourish. This 'team' helps create a strong pupil teacher relationship based on mutual respect and a sense of Koinonia. Exceptional examination results already demonstrate that this is in place.

Christianity is at the heart of all that happens at St Michael's. 'Growing in body, mind and spirit' is the school's philosophy. At St Michael's, pupils' faith in Christianity is developed and encouraged. Each year group has a weekly worship, tutorial worship and prayers every morning and Christian values are embedded within lessons, helping to produce a supportive, compassionate environment.

St Michael's really is a fantastic place to learn. Pupils experience engaging and productive lessons, which challenge and support us.

'Celebrating the uniqueness of each individual' is another key focus, which is already well integrated into school life. We hope the member of staff appointed will be passionate and enthusiastic and willing to go the extra mile to support us in all that we do.

Yours sincerely
Eleanor and Darrah
(Head Girl and Head Boy 2026-27)





Application Process and Information

Teacher of Science – Full time maternity cover (November) **MPR/UPR**

Closing Date for Applications: 9am Friday 10 July 2026

Interviews: Monday 13 July 2026

Start Date: November 2026

Applicants are asked to provide a fully completed application form and a supporting letter (no longer than 2 sides of A4 in length in Arial point 12) that clearly sets out how your experience to date prepares you for the advertised post (with reference to the job description and person specification).

Applications should be returned by email to: vacancies@saint-michaels.lancs.sch.uk by **9.00am on Friday 10 July 2026.**

Applicants will be asked to produce original certificates for all education qualifications stated in the application form prior to the appointment being confirmed. All appropriate safeguarding and attendance at work checks will be requested.



Person Specification – Teacher of Science

The applicant will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and be faithful to the trust deed.

Note: Candidates failing to meet any of the essential criteria will automatically be excluded.

Section A Qualifications, Experience and Professional Development

Training and Qualifications	E/D	Source
Supportive of the strong Christian ethos of the school	E	A/I
Practising Anglican	D	A/I/R
Qualified Teacher Status (or pending)	E	A
Good Honours Graduate in relevant and appropriate discipline (or appropriate conversion course)	E	A
Professional Development and Teaching Experience		
Recent professional development relevant to the applicant's current role	E	A/I
Significant and relevant teaching experience in the secondary phase (KS3 & KS4)	E	A
Evidence of high levels of success in external examinations	D	A/R

Section B: Professional Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

Ability to articulate a sound educational philosophy in line with St Michael's whole school aims	E	A/I
Thorough knowledge of the National Curriculum for Science and GCSE specifications	E	A/I
Knowledge of the Ofsted Inspection Framework	E	I
Ability to apply research to professional situations, both practical and theoretical	E	A/I
Knowledge of current curriculum developments and their implications	E	A/I
Committed to personal continuous professional development	E	A/R
Ability to produce and interpret data effectively to assess prior attainment, set targets and monitor progress and summarise findings with actions for further improvements	E	A/I
Ability to use ICT skills effectively and awareness of their application in learning and teaching.	E	A/I
Resilience and ability to manage and prioritise workload	E	A/I
Excellent organisation and time management skills	E	A/I
Ability to demonstrate a commitment to the Equal Opportunities Policy	E	I
Awareness of Health and Safety issues in class and on educational visits	E	A/I

Section C Personal Skills and Attributes

Commitment and enthusiasm for young people and their learning	E	A/I/L/R
High expectations and aspirations for pupils	E	A/I/L
Excellent interpersonal and communication skills leading to great working relationships with pupils and other colleagues	E	A/I/R/L

Ability to collaborate and network effectively within and beyond school including with parents and external providers	E	A/I/R
Ability to prioritise, plan and organise themselves to achieve objectives, having integrity and an eye for details	E	A/I/R/L
Display high professional standards in dress, attendance and punctuality in line with the Staff Code of Conduct	E	I/R
Suitability to work with children and a satisfactory DBS clearance	E	A

Section D: Confidential References and Reports

Positive and supportive faith reference from the priest/minister where the applicant regularly worships	D
Positive recommendation from all referees, including current employer	E

KEY

E = Essential

D = Desirable

A = Application

I = Interview

R = References

The successful candidate will work under the direction of the Curriculum Leader for Science. As a vibrant and successful school there are many demands on time, so flexibility and the ability to work under pressure are essential skills for this post; although you will benefit from working alongside supportive colleagues in a well-established team.



Job Description – Teacher of Science

Line Manager: Curriculum Leader of Science

Our mission statement:

*As a vibrant learning community we choose to
Serve God
Pursue Excellence
and
Celebrate the uniqueness of each individual*

We aim to achieve this mission by:

- providing a learning experience which enables our pupils to flourish and grow in body, mind and spirit
- providing a learning environment which is ordered and disciplined
- encouraging and recognising positive progress, attainment and behaviour both within and beyond the curriculum
- having high aspirations and high expectations from all, confident that everyone can experience success

Main purpose

To work with the line manager for curriculum areas and where appropriate Pupil Manager in ensuring an environment for learning and teaching that empowers both staff and pupils to 'be the best that they can be' and supports the Christian ethos of the school.

This job description is not a comprehensive definition of the post. Discussions will take place on a regular basis to clarify individual responsibilities within the general framework and character of the post as identified below.

The conditions of employment of teachers in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Service Document apply to this post, whose holder is expected to carry out the professional duties of a teacher as circumstances may require, under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher.

Job Purpose

- To be an effective teacher and tutor who supports and challenges all pupils to flourish and grow in body, mind and spirit.

Accountabilities:

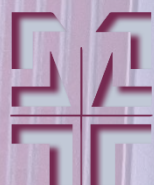
- To take an active part in the spiritual and worshipping life of this Church of England High School including Tutorial Prayers, Tutorial Worship, other work with Tutorial Groups and Worship itself.
- To seek at all times to assist the school in the achievement of its aims, at all times supporting its Church of England foundation.
- To prioritise safeguarding and promote the welfare and wellbeing of the pupils in school.
- To strive at all times to behave in a professional manner and comply with the Code of Conduct for Staff (Staff Handbook), e.g. dress policy, confidentiality, propriety and behaviour.

- To maintain a thorough and up to date knowledge of the teaching of your subject(s) and take account of wider curriculum developments which are relevant to your work.
- To do all you can to ensure that, as a result of your teaching, your pupils achieve well relative to their prior attainment, making progress as good as or better than similar pupils nationally and in the school.
- To teach pupils according to the needs of individuals, preparing and planning lessons and evaluating work in accordance with school and subject area policies.
- To engage with the School Improvement Plan priorities and the Appraisal Process.
- To actively support and engage with whole school policies, e.g. Feedback, Home Learning, Safeguarding, Attendance, Worship etc.
- To take responsibility for one's own personal professional development and use the outcomes to improve your teaching, seeking always to provide the highest quality of education for pupils.
- To set and mark home learning which is meaningful, relevant and complementary to classwork in accordance with school and subject area policies.
- To assess, monitor and record the progress of pupils in your teaching group and give them clear and constructive feedback of how to improve.
- To comply with the school's assessment and reporting procedure by writing reports and completing tracking as required. Maintain formative and summative records of pupils' progress so that the assessment procedures of the school can be carried out.
- To participate with the Subject Leader and other appropriate colleagues, making an active contribution to the policies, aspirations and plans of the curriculum team and school in general; including the development of specification teaching materials and learning schemes.
- To be actively involved in school life, always acting in the school's best interests.
- To carry out supervisory duties in accordance with school practices and policies.
- To participate in meetings with colleagues, parents and other bodies as appropriate.
- To produce an effective learning environment for all pupils by following the Behaviour for Learning Policy to ensure high standards of behaviour.
- To develop efficient and effective working practices which enable yourself and colleagues to have a reasonable work life balance.
- To be responsible for the safety of those working in the classroom; this includes ensuring that the room is free from clutter and untidy storage (clean desk policy), that faults are reported according to procedures laid down; in the case of teachers of practical subjects, this includes awareness of the dangers of equipment and materials being used, availability of first aid materials, and knowledge of procedures in case of accidents.
- To ensure compliance with expectations in relation to GDPR and digital usage.

The applicant will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

This job description forms part of the contract of employment of the person appointed to the post. It reflects the position at the present time only and may be reviewed in negotiation with the employee in the future.





Therefore, choose

St Michael's C.E. High School
A Church of England Academy
Chorley
Lancashire
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www.saint-michaels.com