



The Bishops' Blue Coat
Church of England High School

The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School

Department Information Pack

Position :
Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages
and Student Progress Leader
MPS/UPS

Required for 2nd January 2024

Deadline for Applications: 24th October 2023 and 12pm
Interview date: Monday 30th October 2023



Our Vision and Values

The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School is an exciting place to be. We know, nurture and inspire our community to be the best versions of themselves through a better understanding of the Christian faith and a rich set of opportunities that support and challenge our learners so they are equipped to succeed.

Through their engagement in society at Bishops' and beyond, students make a positive difference through their wise action and a sense of responsibility.

Our students' initiative, drive and resilience will enable them to flourish and live 'life in all its fullness'. (John 10:10)

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in this position. I hope that the enclosed details inspire you to decide that this role is one where you can build upon our ethos and vision to make a difference to the quality of education here at Bishops'. We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, experienced teacher of MFL who is looking to step up to the next level of middle leadership or an established Head of MFL who is looking for a new challenge. The ideal candidate must have a real passion for languages and be committed to raising student achievement. The successful candidate will not only be a talented teacher of MFL but will also provide professional leadership to accelerate the progress of cohort-specific groups across a key stage. This would suit an MFL teacher with either French or Spanish as their main language.

We aim to be a school where students are known, nurtured and inspired. We believe that we have a responsibility to ensure that our students gain examination results in line with their potential, and experience relevant and effective curriculum courses. In light of being a Church school, we are particularly interested in the development of the whole person. We would hope that when students leave us, they are equipped with the skills and attributes of well-rounded individuals, who have the ability and desire to make a positive contribution to the society in which they live.

Our most recent Ofsted Inspection judged us to be a "Good" school with 'outstanding development of each individual'. In our Denominational Inspection in 2016, we were judged 'an outstanding Church of England High School'. The school is thriving with an excellent reputation. We gained Academy status in 2011. This gives us more autonomy and we remain a single academy trust, rooted in our West Cheshire community, striving to meet our goal of becoming an outstanding school in all aspects.

If you share the School's vision based on the belief that children learn through all aspects of their daily lives and that their values and knowledge, experiences and habits are underpinned by a high-quality curriculum experience, we would be delighted to hear from you. To apply please complete our teacher job application form and submit a letter of support which addresses how you meet the Person Specification (maximum 2 sides A4). Applications should be submitted through the careers and vacancies page on our school website by **12pm on Tuesday 24th October**.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Cairns
Headteacher

About Our School



The Bishops' Blue Coat
Church of England High School



The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School is an excellent oversubscribed, high performing secondary school. Our aim is to know, nurture and inspire not only our students but our staff through a strong CPD, collaborative working and support to build on and continue to grow outstanding teachers and leaders.

Our values are rooted in those of the Church of England but interpreted for our own unique setting and students. We apply these through an ethos of high expectations with a supportive and cooperative approach. We have a set of curriculum principles to underpin our approach:

- **Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills**
- **Dignity and Respect**
- **Hope and Aspiration**

The school enjoys a fantastic campus close to the historic Chester city centre. The school benefits from modern facilities including a large sports hall, newly converted activity studio, lecture theatre, prayer space, assembly hall, newly upgraded ICT suites and Food and Nutrition classrooms, dedicated Sixth Form building and recently completed extension to our English and Maths building which has created an additional 9 classrooms. We invest significantly in technology, with full migration to Microsoft Office 365, knowing that this is a key element in delivering a high-quality learning experience. The environment and resources support great learning and allow students to make the most of what we have on offer. We have high expectations of our students at all times, and work alongside families to help our students meet these expectations. Our seven-year journey culminates with an excellent Sixth Form experience with students leaving Bishops' to their chosen destinations.

Why work at The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School?

In addition to a competitive salary, we can offer you continual professional development and the opportunity to further develop your skills and talents with us. You will have the opportunity to be part of a growing and dynamic school that provides support, effective challenge and strategic direction.

If appointed, you will be joining a strong and dedicated senior team, working with talented teachers and support staff, who are committed to delivering the best outcomes for students. We have low staff turnover and many of our leaders have grown up through our own staff team thanks to our excellent CPD activities, coaching and engagement with NPQs and teaching school hub.

Our vision, values and ethos provide an environment that enables everyone to work together in order that students flourish. Employees experience job satisfaction. We also have strong links with families, local churches and the wider local community and a dedicated governing body.

Staff benefits include:

- Bespoke professional development opportunities
- Full Office 365 license for home use
- Pension scheme
- Staff wellbeing events
- Dedicated annual staff wellbeing week
- On-site parking
- Staff social activities such as a running club



Our Strategic Priorities

We have five strategic priorities:

1. Celebrating the best of Bishops' community

To ensure that we celebrate successes and are proud of our achievements as a school community. We will utilise national benchmarks such as STEM, Arts Mark and REQM and use these to create and increase opportunities for staff and students. We embrace building positive relationships that will enhance students' engagement in society at Bishops' and beyond. Students will make a positive difference through their wise action and a sense of responsibility.

2. Fostering a culture of personal development and continual improvement to strive for excellence

To develop a culture of personal development in both staff and students. We will focus on achieving excellence for all. We will provide a continual professional development (CPD) programme that offers everyone opportunities to understand what excellence looks like in their field of work and share this practice in Bishops' and beyond. We will nurture academic and social excellence in our students through a rich set of opportunities that support and challenge them so they are equipped to succeed.

3. Laying the foundations of an outstanding education through appropriate curriculum design

To realise the potential in everyone our curriculum will be broad and balanced at all key stages to ensure that there is progression and pathways for all to succeed.

4. Develop an understanding of and application of Christian Values

To develop a shared understanding of our vision and what makes Bishops' distinctively Christian. All staff members and governors will have opportunities to develop their understanding of a Church school education. Our commitment for students to flourish and 'life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10) will be seen through all aspects of school life. The school community will be able to explain how biblical teaching roots the school's vision giving it coherence, relevance and sustainability.

5. Sustainability in all its senses without losing momentum

We will maintain outstanding governance, business and financial performance which underpins educational standards. In times of economic challenge, we will offer value for money whilst maintaining an appropriate curriculum.



The MFL Department

We are committed to making language learning challenging and engaging through high quality teaching and learning. We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and well-qualified teacher with a proven track record of excellent achievement. Bishops' is a high achieving, friendly and supportive school and is committed to continuing professional development. You will be well supported by your team, leaders and committed colleagues.

The department currently consists of four committed and experienced language specialists. The department is housed in a dedicated MFL block at the center of the school which comprises four teaching rooms and a staff workroom. The department is well equipped with whiteboards in all rooms and a full range of up-to-date digital teaching and learning resources to enhance students learning. We have links with the University of Chester MFL ITT team and we have organised visits abroad to le Touquet, France and Granada, Spain to broaden pupils' horizons and to bring language learning to life.

Students in Year 7 learn either French or Spanish and continue with this one language throughout KS3. Concentrating on one foreign language provides students with a much stronger foundation and allows for greater progress through KS3 and beyond. Currently we are still running GCSE and A level German but over the course of the next three years, Spanish will eventually replace German. Languages are popular options at GCSE with excellent outcomes and in the next couple of years, Spanish will be offered at A level. Several of our recent students have gone on to pursue their language studies at university





The MFL Department

In Key Stage 3, our Schemes of Work are engaging and challenging and we have invested in excellent resources like Dynamo and Viva which provide a solid preparation for GCSE with a clear grammatical focus equipping the students to manipulate language with autonomy and develop their communication skills. We incorporate a wide range of topics as well as cultural learning and understanding. We provide students with knowledge organisers every half term to support and enhance their language learning. Classroom learning is consolidated through regular homework tasks set on the digital platform ActiveLearn and supported by knowledge organisers.

In Key Stage 4, we follow the GCSE Edexcel course and lessons are also delivered with the support of digital resources which develop and consolidate learning both inside and outside the classroom. The Edexcel course is also followed in Key Stage 5 and students are supported by weekly one-to-one speaking sessions with a foreign language assistant in addition to their timetabled lessons. We work collaboratively across both languages to ensure standardisation and parity within the department. We also work with other MFL departments across the county to share best practice and to keep abreast of the latest developments in language teaching.

The successful applicant will be able to teach Spanish and French with ideally the ability to teach at least one of them to A level. You will be expected to maintain high expectations and high academic standards, to have a deep interest in the attainment of students at every ability level and to show drive and initiative. The ideal candidate would have an ability and a willingness to contribute to the creation of engaging and challenging Schemes of Work, as well as a desire to participate in the wide ranging extra-curricular life of the school. In addition to teaching MFL, this role offers a middle leadership opportunity. The primary purpose of the Student Progress Leader is to accelerate the progress of cohort-specific groups across a key stage. This part of the role will be shaped to the strengths of the successful candidate. Finally, we seek a teacher who supports the strong pastoral and Christian ethos of the school to enable all pupils to be 'Known, Nurtured and Inspired.'

Person Specification: Teacher of MFL & Student Progress Leader

Qualifications

	Requirements	Essential or Desirable		Requirements	Essential or Desirable
	Qualified teacher	E		Good record of continuing professional development	D
	Degree in Modern Foreign Languages	E		Good Honors Degree	D
	PGCE/QTS (or equivalent)	E			

Abilities and Skills

	Requirements	Essential or Desirable		Requirements	Essential or Desirable
	Be able to make work challenging and exciting for students of all abilities	E		Be able to manage the assessment of students against a given criteria	E
	Be able to communicate effectively with students of all abilities	E		Be capable of self-review	E
	Be effective classroom managers and practitioners	E			
	Be efficient at planning and organisation	E			

Experience and Knowledge

	Requirements	Essential or Desirable		Requirements	Essential or Desirable
	Have experience of teaching MFL at KS3 and KS4	E		Involvement in and support for extra-curricular activities	D
	Have experience of teaching students of different abilities	E		Experience in an 11-18 Comprehensive school	D
	Be knowledgeable in relation to current developments and issues in MFL teaching	E		Experience of teaching MFL at KS5	D
	Be knowledgeable in relation to current thinking in terms of learning and teaching	E		Experience of working with pastoral teams	D
				Experience in raising achievement of cohort-specific students, e.g. disadvantaged	D

Person Specification: Teacher of MFL & Student Progress Leader

Personal Qualities

	Requirements	Essential or Desirable		Requirements	Essential or Desirable
	Support the school's Church ethos	E		Have the ability to work well in a team	E
	Have commitment to achieving the highest standards possible for students	E		Be willing to take on additional responsibilities as delegated	E
	Have a good record of attendance and punctuality	E		Have excellent interpersonal skills	E
	Be able to work under pressure	E		Have ambition and desire to achieve excellence	E

Other Requirements

	Necessary Requirements	Essential or Desirable		Necessary Requirements	Essential or Desirable
	Enhanced DBS Disclosure	E			

All staff have a responsibility and duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of students. Staff must be aware of the systems within the School which support safeguarding and must act in accordance with the School's Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy and Code of Conduct. Staff will receive appropriate child protection training which is regularly updated. The schools Safeguarding Policy can be found here: [Safeguarding Policy](#)



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Please complete a teaching staff application form along with a supporting letter and submit your application through our careers and vacancies page on our website www.bishopschester.co.uk/careers-vacancies

Whilst we would like to acknowledge all applications, this is not always possible. If you have not heard from us within two weeks of the closing date, please assume you have not been successful this time.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact vacancies@bishopschester.co.uk

Deadline for applications: **Tuesday 24th October at 12pm**

Known Nurtured Inspired



**“We know, nurture and inspire
our community to be the best
version of themselves”**
