

## Headteacher's Introduction

Thank you for your interest in our teaching post which is a great opportunity to join our school, at a very exciting point in its development. For the academic year 2018-19, I have been leading the school on a part-time seconded basis from St Mary's Catholic School in Newcastle. The Directors have, however, recently appointed a permanent Headteacher for St Benet Biscop from September 2019, Mr Kevin Shepherd, who is currently Head at St Aidan's in Sunderland. Over the coming months, he will be working closely with the school preparing for the new school year and he will be involved in the staff appointments process too. It is hoped that the school will continue to develop a strong partnership with St Mary's next year.

St Benet Biscop is a great place to work, first and foremost because of our fantastic students. The majority come from our Catholic partner primaries. The Sixth Form has 110 students, but we are expecting this to grow in the next couple of years, as more of our year 11s stay on into Sixth Form.

St Benet Biscop benefits from having excellent staff, both teaching and support. The staff are the school's greatest asset and, therefore, the task of appointing new staff is always given great importance. Governors are really committed to the school and are very supportive of staff, as are parents. We also enjoy a very strong partnership with our family of primaries, all of whom are fully supportive. Links with parishes are strong as is our partnership with Diocesan and Local Authority schools.

The following bullet points give a flavour of academic standards

### **GCSE**

- Improving results in many key measures including 'Progress 8' score at national average.
- 59% Grade 4+ in Maths and English, with 41% Level 5+.
- 70% Grade 4+ for all other EBacc entries.
- 50% of all entries were graded at 9-5 and 69% at grades 9-4.

### **A LEVEL**

- A Level results have improved significantly in recent years and the average grade achieved by St Benet Biscop students, C+, has been above the national average in each of the last 2 years.
- The overall pass rate for A Levels was 98% in 2018 with 18% of all A Level entries graded as A\* or A, 47% of entries graded A\*-B and 73% graded A\*-C.
- In 2018 the Average Points Score per Entry for A Level courses was the highest it has ever been and equated to a C+ grade, this is significantly higher than the Northumberland Average of a grade C.
- Vocational results in 2018 were outstanding with students achieving both results and value added which were significantly above national and regional averages.

- The Average Points Score per Entry for Vocational courses in 2018 was 34.17 which was the highest of any school in Northumberland.

Academic achievement is, however, just one element of our mission to provide our students with the best possible holistic education. Their all-round development is equally important. As a Catholic school, nurturing children's spiritual development is central to everything we do. This aspect of school life is flourishing. Teachers and school leaders do not need to be Catholic to work here but they do need to be committed to understanding and actively promoting the school's distinctive Catholic/Christian ethos in their daily work. We have an excellent climate for learning in school. Students are extremely well behaved in and out of lessons. This is a key ingredient in the school's success and popularity with parents.

The appointment of high calibre staff is a significant factor in securing the best outcomes for our students. We are seeking an excellent classroom practitioner, to build on our existing strengths within this curriculum area. The Job Description outlines the main responsibilities of the post and the Person Specification summarises the key qualities required.

I hope that once you have had the chance to read the information available and to find out more about the school, you will be keen to apply. Should you be successful, I can assure you that you will be given unstinting support. To apply, please complete the **CES application form and include a supporting letter outlining the qualifications (including degree level), experience, skills and attributes which you will bring to the post. Your letter should be no more than 1,300 words.**

Your completed application form and letter, along with your completed disclosure form, should be sent to [HR@pax-christi.co.uk](mailto:HR@pax-christi.co.uk) for the attention of Mrs Marriott-Lodge.



John Foster  
Executive Headteacher