



ASSISTANT HEAD OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

ST LAURENCE EDUCATION TRUST



Information Pack for Candidates



Introduction

Ampleforth College is a Roman Catholic boarding co-educational Independent School (HMC), with c. 600 students aged between 13 and 18 years set in a rural environment in North Yorkshire.

The school was established by the Benedictine monks of Ampleforth Abbey in 1803 and it remains a work of the monastic community, with a small number of monks on the teaching staff, monks as House chaplains throughout the school, and monks working in partnership with lay people as trustees. The presence of a community committed to the highest standards of Catholic education ensures the preservation of an education rooted in the Catholic Benedictine tradition.

The monastic community has a long history, dating back centuries before the community finally settled in North Yorkshire in 1802. The works of the community include not just education at Ampleforth College but also St Benet's Hall, a Permanent Private Hall of the University of Oxford, the pastoral care of a number of parishes, and a dependent monastery in Zimbabwe, founded in 1997.

The School

Education has always been one of the main works of the Benedictine monastic community and a year after the community settled at Ampleforth in 1802, a school was established comprising twelve boys. Today, nearly six hundred students, male and female, from many parts of the world, come to Ampleforth to benefit from a Benedictine Catholic education.

In 1999 Ampleforth College was formally opened to VI Form day girls, and VI Form boarders followed in 2001. The school became fully co-educational in 2010-2011.





Benefits of Service

Professional Opportunities and Career Development

The St Laurence Education Trust provides a wide programme of opportunities for the continuing professional development of all staff.

The Trust operates an annual professional review and appraisal scheme that both recognises the work of staff and identifies suitable training and development opportunities for them.

Working Environment

This is an enjoyable and stimulating place to work. Our staff body seeks to work to core values and codes of conduct developed from the Rule of St Benedict:

They are:

Attentiveness

Hospitality

Respect

Integrity

Stewardship

Equilibrium

Facilities such as the sports centre and golf course are available to staff and their families on subsidised membership.

The site was not originally designed with the motor car in mind. However, staff parking is available within a five minute walk of any part of the Ampleforth campus.

Employees with children in the School may be able to access discounts, discretionary bursaries, or salary sacrifice in line with current school policy.

Fee remission is available for this post.

Remuneration and Benefits

- Ampleforth Salary Scale
- Ampleforth Discretionary Allowance
- Contributory Pension Scheme
- Notice – one term on either side
- Accommodation is not provided with this position
- Some assistance with removal expenses is possible



Selection Process

The Trust is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and will take every possible step to ensure fair and equal treatment of all.

All Trust policies and practices will support the commitment to equality of opportunity in respect of any recruitment, and selection process. No member of staff or applicant will be unfairly disadvantaged by the Trust policies or practices without justification.

The Application Process

The successful applicant will ideally take up post in April 2019, however, a later start may also be considered for the right candidate. The interview process will include a formal interview and an opportunity to meet staff and pupils. Further details will be provided once the shortlist has been agreed.

All applications must be completed on our online system.

Please visit

<https://www.ampleforth.org.uk/careers/> to view the job details and apply.

If you require any further information or have any queries, please e-mail humanresources@ampleforth.org.uk or call 01439 766069.

interviewed on the basis of an application form. CVs will not be accepted in substitution.

Safeguarding and Child protection at St Laurence Education Trust

Ampleforth College is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the Welfare of Children.

All applicants must be willing to undergo recruitment screening processes including interview, references from past employers and a Criminal Background Check will be carried out on all successful applicants.

All posts at Ampleforth are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. We therefore require applicants to declare all convictions, cautions and bind-overs, including those regarded as 'spent'. All information provided will be treated as confidential.

Our Child Protection Policy can be accessed from the following link:

[Child Protection Policy](#)

Any offer of employment is made subject to a full range of checks and satisfactory references.

Candidates should be aware that all posts in a school boarding environment must be



The Role

Aims of the Christian Theology department:

- We aim for academic excellence. We aim to be at the forefront of theological education in UK schools. 20% of the sixth form are going on to read Theology, Philosophy or a related subject at Russell Group universities in 2018/19.
- We aim for excellence in teaching and learning. We work collaboratively and in cooperation with other departments and the rest of the school in order to deliver outstanding lessons.
- We, respecting the beliefs of non-Catholic students and the consciences of all, hope to communicate and share a lively articulate and critically aware Christian faith.
- Theology is the systematic and rational study of religious truth. The Christian Theology Department aims for academic excellence, demanding disciplined study, critical reflection and analysis of perceptions, opinions, values and beliefs. We aim to ensure that students are philosophically, religiously, morally and socially aware and have developed the ability to listen to other peoples' points of view even if they conflict with their own. We aim to foster free thinking, open debate and a genuine love of learning. An open mind is essential. The GCSE course follows the AQA Religious Studies B specification and A level the OCR Religious Studies course.

The Christian Theology Department:

We believe that religious education is the foundation of the entire educational process at Ampleforth. We offer a comprehensive and systematic study of Theology which is academically rigorous and challenging. Its primary purpose is academic, not catechetical or evangelical, but the subject forms an important part of the catechetical community.

All students at Ampleforth study Christian Theology. In the Middle School, the subject is core. Year 7-9 have an Ampleforth specific syllabus looking at monastic life, introducing scripture, and studying Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. Y10 and Y11 study for three hours a week, they follow the AQA Religious Studies syllabus B in Catholicism, St Mark's Gospel and Judaism, and all take the full GCSE. Results have traditionally been very strong.

In the Sixth Form, Y12 students either take Core CT (non-examined) or the full A level (6 hours per week) is available for Y12 and Y13. Results have traditionally been very strong. They follow the OCR Religious Studies A level course.

Many of our sixth form read Theology or Philosophy at University. There is the opportunity to study in the extra-curricular Newman Group (aimed at those who wish to read Theology or Philosophy at Oxbridge or Durham) and the opportunity to join our very popular Aquinas Society.

There are ten teachers in the department, including the Head and Assistant Head of Department. All are subject specialists.



Job Description

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHERS:

- To support the policies and aims of the School and to exercise the highest standards of professionalism.
- To prepare lessons in accordance with the Schemes of Work promulgated by the Head of Department.
- To teach in such a manner as to maintain the best academic standard, to support the individual needs of pupils and to encourage an enthusiasm for, and an interest in, the subject.
- To mark pupils' work on a regular basis, allocate grades and targets as agreed with the Head of Departments and to write reports by the set deadlines.
- To keep up to date with current educational developments and to attend any necessary courses as advised or instructed by the Head of Department or Director of Professional Development.
- To undertake, as directed, agreed supervisory tasks and to be a House Tutor, supporting activities within the house
- To attend Staff Meetings, Staff briefings and Parents' meetings.
- To attend full School Assemblies and Year Group Assemblies as appropriate.
- To contribute to the general breadth and quality of pupils' experiences within the School by
 - helping to provide opportunities for curriculum enhancement
 - contributing to sport and to the running of activities.
 - supervising social and cultural activities according to the published rota
- To take part in the School's system of Professional Review





GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSISTANT HEAD OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY:

An Assistant Head of Christian Theology's duties incorporate those of a teacher (see above). The role of the Assistant Head of Christian Theology is to support the Head of Christian Theology in providing strong leadership that results in a department which provides first class teaching and learning opportunities for students and staff ensuring all students achieve their potential.

The roles will be achieved by:

LEADERSHIP

1. Promoting Benedictine values within the department
2. Develop and implement the Christian Theology curriculum at KS3 so that it integrates with the major objectives of the school development plan
3. Setting strategic targets for teaching and learning at KS3 in consultation with the Head of Christian Theology, Head and Director of Studies
4. Representing and promoting the subject within the school.
5. In partnership with the Head of Christian Theology, promoting a 'delight in learning' among members of the department and students, this may be through extra-curricular activities, visiting speakers, workshops, field-trips, external visits, etc. to increase the pupils' exposure to your subject.

MANAGEMENT

1. Assisting the Head of Christian Theology in monitoring and evaluating the quality of teaching and learning within the Department.
2. Conducting the Professional Review for some members of the academic Department and managing the workload of these members of the department.
3. Complying with the Health and Safety policies of St Laurence Education Trust
4. Organising setting, production and marking of internal exams for KS3
5. Helping the Head of Christian Theology to update the departmental handbook regularly and preparing for ISI inspections
6. In consultation with the Head of Christian Theology, monitoring the fabric of the departmental teaching area and liaising with the Procurator and Estates Manager as necessary



PERSON SPECIFICATION: ASSISTANT HEAD OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

The person appointed will satisfy all or most of the following:

- have a good degree in Theology, Philosophy, or a related subject
- be committed to sharing their enthusiasm for their subject with students of all ages and abilities
- be well organised and adaptable, able to prioritise tasks and work effectively as part of a team
- be willing to undertake departmental administrative tasks as directed by the Head of Department
- be a qualified teacher or in training to be a qualified teacher
- be a practising Catholic
- have up-to-date knowledge of the content and structure of the National Curriculum and of current developments within education
- be able and willing to contribute to extra-curricular activities within the Christian Theology department
- be able and willing to contribute to the wider life of a full boarding school by offering activities (sporting or otherwise) and tutoring
- be competent in the use of ICT both within the classroom and for administration
- be willing to take on academic tutorial and pastoral responsibilities

