

"It's a really supportive community here. I like the fact that colleagues want to help each other. Policies are clear and accessible, and the support staff are fantastic!" – *Aparna Sharma, Assistant Head and Science teacher*



Working at Bishop Luffa School



Thank you for your interest in a post at Bishop Luffa School.

Visitors comment on a distinctive 'feel' about Bishop Luffa School. Hard to pin down, they see the care that pupils and staff show for each other, the way teachers talk about the business of learning, the sense in the classroom that pupils want to learn and to do their best, and the appreciation that everyone is valued for who they are. That ethos reflects our motto *Always our best because everyone matters*.

We see each child as a unique person with a God-given individual identity. We strive to help children learn to live together and work for the common good, not just for themselves. We recognise that only in giving due importance to moral and spiritual development can a child grow into a mature adult. It's a dynamic ethos: we don't stand still. Teachers are outward-looking and enthusiastic in looking for new opportunities to help pupils learn; they also take advantage of working with other schools as part of our Teaching School role. The School's vision is to encourage excellence in all aspects of school life and to measure success in terms of progress as well as attainment. We aim to create a school where pupils of all aptitudes can realise their full potential, and enjoy a school experience that is consistently outstanding. We work hard to make our vision real in the experience of our young people and of all who work here.

I hope this pack gives you a sense of our school, its vibrant ethos and supportive culture. You are welcome to make an informal visit to the school; I am also available for an informal chat about any aspect of the school or your application. In either event, please contact Nicky Christopher, PA to Headteacher, on christophern@bishopluffa.org.uk

Mr Nick Taunt MA (Oxon)
Headteacher

Why work here?

"This school is exactly the sort of school I dreamed of working at when I was training to become a teacher. All the staff are extremely helpful, the students are challenging but respectful, and the manner in which this school cares for its students and its staff is outstanding. Not once have I felt uncomfortable here, I always feel like people appreciate my contributions to the school. In short – it has far exceeded my already high expectations of working here."

Jonathan Hood, Teacher of Maths

"Staff are so welcoming and friendly. The school cares about staff well-being. Students are lovely and hard-working. It's reminded me what I love about teaching."

*Kerry Machado, Team Leader KS3
English who joined the School in
September 2015*

"Working on assessment for learning – part of a Blue Flag Teaching School Alliance R&D project has been the best bit of CPD I've had in all my 12 years of teaching."

*Stella Richi-Basurto,
Head of Otter House*



"The Faculty system in place at Bishop Luffa provides for a supportive working environment, and helps colleagues explore ways to broaden their skills and knowledge."

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

"Having the opportunity to witness how English schools work is a rare and precious privilege. For me, getting to know Bishop Luffa School has not only been a privilege, but also an exceptional and revealing experience. Teachers share a common student-based perspective, fostering interaction, dialogue and participation in class. The experience has shown me the amazing power and effectiveness of letting students develop their own potentialities"

César Prestel, visiting Spanish teacher



"Bishop Luffa provides a positive, stimulating work environment, where pupils are inspired and staff are highly valued, given caring support, and the opportunity to contribute to department and whole school development."

Rosie Bradberry, RE

"Working with the Maths team at Luffa has enabled me to develop my teaching beyond my expectations. My colleagues continually support and challenge me as we strive to match current international best practice."

Simon Pyle, Head of Mathematics

"Since starting at Bishop Luffa School in September 2015, I have witnessed the inclusive school ethos, dedicated staff and happy students, who are motivated to succeed. It is great to be part of a school that encourages students to develop through academic, sporting and cultural pursuits such as inter-house competitions and extra-curricular activities. The teaching team and non-teaching staff work together with student-centred progress as their common goal. They are a professional and dedicated team who share good practice and help each other produce meaningful and engaging learning activities for students. The students generally have very positive attitudes towards schooling and come to class ready to learn. I have had a very enjoyable start to my teaching role at Bishop Luffa School and look forward to working within this school for years to come."

Lucy Crocombe, Teacher of Science/Head of King House



"I enjoyed the stay at Bishop Luffa very much. The school is well-organized. Teachers love students and love teaching. Teachers are energetic, kind and skilful. Students are well-behaved. They like study. They like to ask questions. They like to solve the problems."

Shen Minfeng, visiting teacher from Shanghai, October 2015

"From joining Bishop Luffa as a dance specialist I thrived on the opportunity of being able to deliver specialist dance training. Many pupils attend extra-curricular clubs and dedicate their own time to choreographing and improving their technique. At a recent Evening of Dance one student commented 'it was a great experience to boost my confidence and enjoyable to work with people I may not have worked with before'.

Jenny Feakins, Teacher of Dance



“My host school has offered a tremendous amount of support and guidance giving me every opportunity to succeed in the teaching profession”. Ross Robinson, School Direct trainee 2013-14, now Team Leader KS3 Science