



AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

*Head of Computer
Science*





Note from the Head

Thank you for your interest in this role. It is both very exciting and a great honour to become the Head of Ampleforth. The College goes into 2023 with confidence, consolidating the excellent achievements of the past year. This approach is a team one, based upon the generous sharing of individual gifts by all pupils, staff and parents: our strength comes from the whole Ampleforth community, working together and appreciating and encouraging everyone's contribution.

Our efforts this year will be centred on our continuing drive to offer an excellent and broad education and maintaining the highest possible level of pastoral care. Our pupils are happy and balanced, able to grow their sense of individual well-being and discernment of what is good and true.

Good and inspiring teaching is key, however much the pupils learn for themselves. After all, the lessons we learn from others are often more important. Alongside the Ampleforth pursuit of academic excellence, the lessons we gain from music, drama, the visual arts, and sport are equally important for the whole person, the well-rounded character that Ampleforth appreciates more than other schools. We will continue to support a STEM approach to science, mathematics and technology teaching, a need recently highlighted by the Prime Minister. I also strongly support the performing arts, one of Ampleforth's many existing strengths.

We live in a time when the transformative nature of St Benedict's teachings is sorely needed in the wider world. Everything we do here at Ampleforth is influenced by these teachings. They provide a compass for life which helps nurture young people of integrity, compassion, courage, and insight, and also extends to our wider life in this most beautiful of valleys where there is the constant opportunity to learn how we can be better stewards of the Earth around us, understanding how we can be at harmony with each other, as well as serve the needs of others.

The dedication of the Governors, the whole staff, and of the many friends of Ampleforth has inspired me to give all I can to the collective goal of being a leading boarding school with a unique holistic approach to helping our pupils flourish.

Ampleforth is a great school and one I am proud to lead. I am confident that you will find your journey to working at Ampleforth to be as affirmative as I have, and that the motivation to be part of building up a great success story as the new chapter in a famous school, is compelling. I look forward to receiving your application and welcoming you very warmly and in person to this special place.

**Peter Roberts,
Head**



Ampleforth College

Founded in 1802 and set in beautiful Yorkshire valley, Ampleforth College is the world's foremost Catholic day and boarding school, welcoming girls and boys of all faiths aged 11-18.

Each student's unique talents are recognised and nurtured within a welcoming community rooted in Benedictine values. Ampleforth educates the whole person, unlocking what they can contribute to the world and fulfilling their academic potential. Proud of its academic excellence, the College does not select solely on ability and offers a system of dedicated tutors to ensure each student's progress. Students perform significantly above expectation. An Ampleforth education is a compass for life.

Over 80% of students are full boarders and come from across the whole of the UK and around the world. We offer the breadth of opportunity for each student to discover and develop their interests and strengths and there is an exceptionally wide range of co-curricular activities. The College's first-class facilities are enhanced by expert staff who ensure that the students get the most out of them. There is a particular focus on charity work and service with many students involved in local community projects. The Combined Cadet Force, with both Army and Royal Air Force Sections, is also extremely popular. Students develop the confidence to lead as well as the humility to serve. They learn to work independently and work well with others. Amplefordians are inspired to be caring and thoughtful citizens who make the right decisions in life.

We are reinvigorating Ampleforth's tradition of independent thinking, learning, and coping in all aspects of school life, with students constantly encouraged to volunteer their opinions and ideas. These equip them with the critical skills and mindset needed to flourish in life.

In 2018, Ampleforth College underwent a full governance review and in October 2018 a framework agreement was signed between the proprietor, St Laurence Education Trust (SLET), and the Ampleforth Abbey Trust which ensures that the Trusts operate as independent charities with clarity of responsibilities and boundaries. The agreement places the highest priority on the safeguarding of students.

The Computer Science Department

“Everyone should learn how to program a computer. It teaches you how to think.” - Steve Jobs

Aims of the Computer Science department:

Computer Science is the scientific and practical study of computation and problem solving. At Ampleforth we not only teach the digital literacy skills required to thrive in a digital world but we also embrace computational thinking as a tool for developing the logic and problem solving skills which set apart our students from their peers. We aim to equip them for Computer Science as an academic discipline and as an essential tool to make a positive impact on the world.

The department aims to encourage the following:

- To use abstraction, decomposition, pattern recognition and algorithmic thinking to analyse and solve complex problems
- learn to be confident in using a broad range of software packages required to excel in a digital world.
- To recognise the legal, cultural and ethical implications of computing in society to become a responsible digital citizen and user of technology.
- To use technology to enhance their creativity.
- To learn to code and solve problems in at least one programming language by the end of key stage 3, two by the end of key stage 4 and 3 by the end of key stage 5.

Syllabus:

Year 7

After an introduction to our school's computer systems and the important task of teaching them to be responsible digital citizens the year 7 cohort explore a varied and broad curriculum. A unit on the use of Microsoft Excel begins to build on a student's digital literacy, a web development project helps them explore their digital creativity and a unit on computer architecture gives them an insight into the structure of computers and how they work. In their first year with us our students will also be introduced to the core programming concepts of sequence, selection and iteration.

Year 8

In year 8 our students enhance both their digital literacy and digital creativity skills and knowledge through a unit of work using Microsoft Publisher where they will produce their own magazine. Our year 8s will then use the Small Basic programming language to complete a series of programming challenges which will both further encourage their computational thinking abilities and introduce them to several programming techniques essential to the modern developer. A unit of work on Data Representation gives them exposure to some key Computer Science concepts such as Binary, Hexadecimal and compression.

Year 9

Year 9 provides our students with the opportunity to enhance their computing skills and to prepare themselves for the subject at GCSE level. A rigorous unit in Python enhances the programming concepts introduced in year 8 while really challenging their computational thinking skills in a text based high level-programming language. Following this our students will work on the fundamentals of logic and problem solving in computing as they continue to write increasingly complicated algorithms. This will provide an excellent basis for those who wish to continue their studies on to GCSE level and will provide all students with essential and transferable skills they will take with them in whichever field they choose to study.

GCSE

The AQA GCSE (9-1) syllabus provides students with exposure to real-world programming and computer science skills. This is an academically challenging course while remaining suitable to students of all abilities. The course covers:

- Algorithms
- Programming
- Data Representation
- Computer Systems
- Networks
- Cyber Security
- Ethics
- Databases and SQL

The course is assessed with two exams, one on theory and the other on programming both worth 50% of their overall mark. There is also a Non Examined Assessment consisting of a programming task which they are required to pass. This is delivered in class time.

A Level

Advances in computing are transforming the way we work and the AQA A-Level Computer Science curriculum reflects these changes. An academically rigorous course, A-Level Computer Science requires a strong mathematical skill set and the ability to solve complex problems. The course covers:

- The Fundamentals of Programming
- Problem Solving
- Data Structures
- Algorithms
- Regular Languages
- The Internet
- Databases and Software Development
- Object Oriented and Functional Programming
- Data Representation
- Hardware and Software
- Computer Organisation and Architecture
- Communications

The course is assessed with two final exams each contributing 50% to the overall grade. These cover theory and a practical programming paper.



Head of Computer Science

JOB DESCRIPTION:

To undertake administrative and development tasks in the management of the Computer Science Department. Carrying out duties in the most cost-effective and efficient way, demonstrating all due care to safer practice for children and for all relevant Health and Safety legislation. Satisfy all criteria and checks relating to suitability to work in a school environment

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Ensure that best practice is followed at all times in the department regarding safeguarding.
- Monitor and evaluate the quality of teaching and learning within the Department.
- Be responsible for internal curriculum development and to produce schemes of work.
- Organise setting, production and marking of internal exams.
- Have overall responsibility for the allocation of grades and targets within the department.
- Be responsible for internal administration and moderation of coursework, if appropriate.
- Administer entries for external exams, including estimated grades in consultation with the Examinations Officer.
- Produce information for GCSE and A level booklets.
- Represent and promote the department and the subject within the school, for example at parents' meetings and sixth form subject presentations.
- In consultation with the department, choose and order text books, reference books and stationery etc. Consult with the Librarian about books for the Library.
- Be responsible for staff development within the Department;
 - a) Supervise new members of the Department.
 - b) Conduct regular departmental meetings.
 - c) Write job descriptions for departmental posts.
- Liaise with the Head of Careers and give advice to university applicants concerning your subject and supervise Oxbridge pupils.
- Monitor the fabric of the departmental teaching area and liaise with the Bursar and Estates Manager as necessary

“We are encouraged to think and challenge. Teachers are passionate in what they are doing and we have a healthy balance between study and play.”

Michael, Old Amplefordian

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES CONTINUED:

- Ensure that school values are promoted and adhered to throughout the department.
- To report on the evaluation and monitoring of teaching and learning within the department and to report to the Headmaster and Deputy Head Academic concerning pupils' results.
- In consultation with the Deputy Head Academic, be responsible for staffing and timetable allocation within the department, including the organisation of sets.
- Contribute to the management and development of Ampleforth College as a whole; attending meetings of APC and representing the views of members of the department to APC and SLT.
- Be responsible for ensuring that school policies are explained and implemented within the department.
- Submit annual budget proposals and administer the agreed allocation, reporting appropriately in the annual departmental report.
- Updating the departmental handbook regularly and preparing for ISI inspections.
- Representing Ampleforth College in regional and national forums when appropriate.
- Conduct the Professional Review for members of the Department according to the agreed schedule



“There’s just about anything you want to do and you can do it at whatever level you want. You will get a fantastic education at Ampleforth, whatever your potential is.”

Hannah Pomroy, Deputy Head

PERSON SPECIFICATION

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

- Have a good degree in Computer Science, or a relevant subject
- Be a qualified teacher
- Be committed to sharing their enthusiasm for their subject with students of all ages and abilities
- Be willing to develop their own subject knowledge, notes and resources to enhance their teaching
- Have an up-to-date knowledge of the content and structure of the National Curriculum and of current developments within education
- Have, or willing to develop, an excellent teaching ability
- Be competent in the use of ICT both within the classroom and for administration
- Be empathetic to the aims and objectives of a Catholic Benedictine School
- Be medically fit and able to teach
- Be willing to undertake departmental administrative tasks as directed by the Head of Department
- Be well organised and adaptable, able to prioritise tasks and work effectively as part of a team
- Be able to establish good working relationships with the rest of the team and with students
- Be able to evaluate and improve performance
- Be able to satisfy all criteria and checks relating to suitability to work in a school environment
- Be able and willing to contribute fully to extra-curricular activities within the school and department
- Be willing to take on academic tutorial and pastoral responsibility





“Ampleforth is truly a special place. Not only is the education system excellent, but with a combination of endless activities and the Benedictine ethos, it’s a place where you can thrive.”

Anna, Old Amplefordian



“Since joining Ampleforth my confidence has grown enormously, largely because people have put more faith in me, which has allowed me to flourish.”

Luis-Paul, Old Amplefordian

“Ampleforth is a boarding school like no other, where you will be given the chance to discover yourself in different ways and leave with a more open mind to the world. So many opportunities are given to you here; your role is to embrace the journey.”

Mia, Old Amplefordian

Conditions of Employment

- **Contract:** Full Time
- **Pension:** Teachers' Pension Scheme
- **Benefits:** Fee remission (at Head's discretion). Free lunch during working hours. Free parking. Life assurance
- **Probationary period:** 6 months
- **Salary:** To be discussed at interview.

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.

Staff Support

We endeavour to support all staff members to the very best of our ability. We operate family-friendly policies such as childcare voucher schemes, company maternity provisions (enhanced Statutory Maternity Pay) and flexible working opportunities. There is also an Employee Assistant Programme offering a free and confidential 24/7 support service. This service provides unlimited access to advice and information, coaching and counselling where appropriate. In addition to this, a Staff Chaplain is also available to offer advice and support.

Welfare & Benefits

Ampleforth takes the welfare, health and wellbeing of its staff seriously. We offer multiple leisure opportunities such as discounted rates at the Ampleforth College Golf Course, fishing licences for the Ampleforth lakes and a staff cycle scheme. The grounds of the campus are well maintained and open to staff for walking and running. On top of professional development, welfare, support and a generous pension scheme, the St Laurence Education Trust also offers its staff many day-to-day perks. These include a discount in the Abbey Shop, as well as a free hot lunch including a choice of main course, a salad bar, pudding and fresh fruit. Although the site was not originally designed with the car in mind, 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 Trust policy.

Apply now

For more information or to discuss the role further, please contact the Deputy Head Academic, John Devitt on John.Devitt@ampleforth.org.uk

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.

Safeguarding and Child protection at Ampleforth College

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 Disclosure and Barring 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 bindovers, including those regarded as 'spent'. All information provided will be treated as confidential.

Our Safeguarding Policy can be accessed via our website. Any offer of employment is made subject to a full range of checks and satisfactory references.

The Application Process

If you have enjoyed reading about life here in the Ampleforth valley, and would like to join the team, we encourage you to apply. Applications should be made via our website.

Please visit www.ampleforthcollege.org.uk to start your application.

Alternatively, you can apply for this position through Tes.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the HR Department on 01439 766415 or email employment@ampleforth.org.uk

The interview process will take place in school. Further details will be provided once the shortlist has been agreed.

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 16th August 2023, 12 noon

Interviews will take place after: 29th August 2023

“The teachers are brilliant. They know how to get me to where I need to be - they teach the way I learn best and they do that for everyone. We are all encouraged to think independently and are treated as individuals.”

Edward, Old Amplefordian

Why Ampleforth?

Catholic education and Benedictine values underpin everything we do at Ampleforth, whether a student or member of staff is Catholic or not. We believe that humanity is a gift that we receive through others and that our relationships unlock the unique potential in each person. Our values form the foundation of our approach to all our work and how we work with one another:

Respect: recognising and nurturing the unique talents of every individual and oneself, understanding that we grow and learn from our differences and are made a better person by each other.

Hospitality: committing to live in such a way as to be welcoming and open to all, and to invite people to experience living life more fully in our community.

Attentiveness: being sensitive to the needs of others as well as one's own needs and supporting the mutual well-being of everyone in the community; wanting what is best for each other.

Equilibrium: nurturing the well-being and resilience of each individual and one's own, and thereby of the community, to achieve mental and emotional balance and personal fulfilment.

Stewardship: cultivating a sense of responsibility and care for the people and the world around us, as well as oneself, to ensure our community and environment thrive.

Integrity: developing within ourselves strong principles, sound judgement, and the resilience needed to do the right thing.



“My time at Ampleforth was essential to making me become the person I am today. I think it taught me to be independent, curious about different things, but more importantly, it taught me to be a better person overall. I truly believe Ampleforth gives you a compass for life.”

Pierre, Old Amplefordian



An Ampleforth education is
a compass for life

Catholic co-educational boarding and day school for ages 11 to 19



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