



## St Benedict's Catholic College



## LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT Application Pack

### Message from the Principal

St Benedict's Catholic College is a highly respected and oversubscribed Roman Catholic 11-16 college serving Christian families throughout north-east Essex, we strive to promote the values of our Christian faith throughout our daily life.

Our 2023 Ofsted inspection found that we continue to be a good school, that we are a welcoming school with a strong ethos of caring for pupils and promoting academic achievement. We are recognised for many strengths of our college – as well as noting how well-behaved, confident and happy our young people are.

Student attainment at GCSE in the core subjects of English and mathematics, and in science and humanities subjects, is well above average. St Benedict's is a great place to be and I'm delighted that you are interested in applying to be part of our team.

As our mission statement says, we are proud to be an inclusive community where spiritual, emotional and academic growth are nurtured. We believe in putting learning first.

Our facilities are excellent and we have a rich variety of extra-curricular opportunities that underpin our academic success. The college is set in pleasant, spacious grounds which include hard play areas, playing fields and tennis courts. We have a well-equipped sports hall and fitness suite. Our chapel is used regularly by students and staff for worship, prayer and quiet reflection.

St Benedict's students develop into happy, confident and self-aware young adults. There are many opportunities for them to thrive and shine, through high quality teaching and numerous clubs and activities.

We are looking for a Learning Support Assistant.

#### The successful candidate will be:

- committed to providing the very best learning opportunities for their students
- able to challenge all students to make exceptional progress
- a strong team player who forms excellent relationships with staff, parents and students
- willing to support the strong Catholic ethos of our college

#### We can offer you:

- a warm and welcoming college with excellent links to parish communities
- enthusiastic and well-behaved students who are eager to learn
- supportive, hardworking staff, governors and parents
- opportunities to further your professional development

For further details about the role, please contact Ms Abi Wisbey, PA to SENDCO by email [A.Wisbey@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](mailto:A.Wisbey@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk) and for further details about the college, please go to our website [www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](http://www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk)

Applications will only be accepted on the college application form (which can be downloaded from our Website) and should be emailed to Mrs Catherine Simonelli, HR Administrator, at [c.simonelli@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](mailto:c.simonelli@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk) CVs will not be accepted.

## RECRUITMENT

The closing date for applications is Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (midday), however please apply as soon as possible as we may interview prior to the closing date should we receive sufficient applications.

Details about how we will use the personal data you provide as part of the recruitment process can be found in our privacy notice on our website - [www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk/welcome/privacy-notice/](http://www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk/welcome/privacy-notice/)

The governing body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all young people and expects all staff to share that commitment. The successful applicant will be required to complete an enhanced DBS check.

We look forward to hearing from you

Yours sincerely

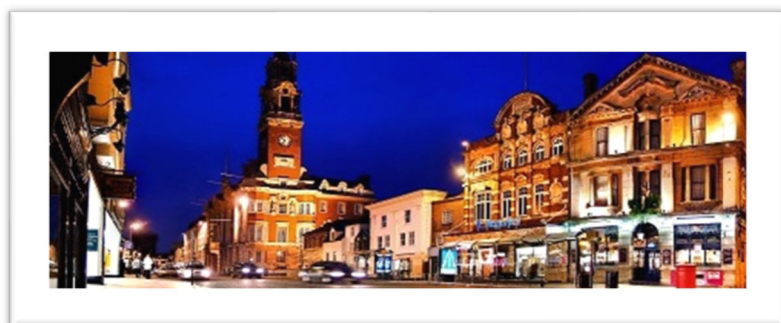


Jo Santinelli  
**Principal**

## Flavour of the local area

The College is situated a short walk from Colchester Town Centre, Britain's oldest recorded town.

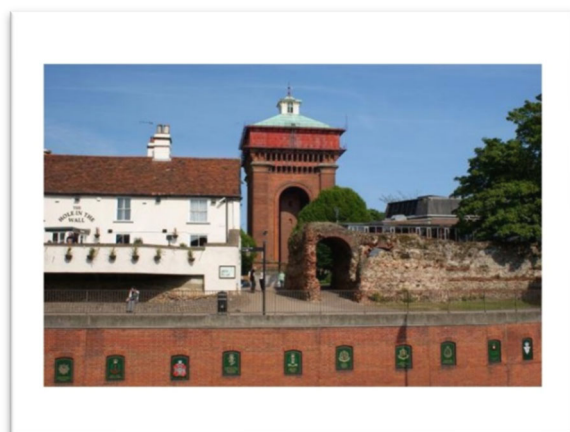
Colchester is a thriving, modern town with great visitor attractions, including the family favourites Colchester Zoo and Colchester Castle, as well as fantastic places to eat, drink and shop



There is a growing arts scene in the town, with two highly acclaimed local theatres and the renowned Firstsite and Minories Galleries hosting significant art exhibitions and installations.

The town also benefits from a wide range of excellent schools and colleges as well as being the home of Essex University's main campus.

Colchester also benefits from superb transport links, including excellent road links, direct rail lines going into London (which is less than an hour away), and easy access to London Stansted and London Southend Airports which fly to a growing number of destinations throughout Europe.



## Learning Support Assistant – Job Description

St Benedict's Catholic College is an inclusive college with Christ at the Centre. We nurture spiritual, emotional and academic growth. We develop our gifts and talents through prayer, work and respect

**Grade** Scale 3

**Job Purpose** To work in partnership with class teachers to support learning in line with the national curriculum, codes of practice and the colleges policies and procedures. To provide support to students in a particular curriculum area across the college or support pupils with severe learning, behavioural, communication, social, sensory or physical difficulties

**Reports to** SENDCO

### Job role

- To support the Catholic ethos of the College
- Provides particular and skilled support to students with learning, behavioural, communication, social, sensory or physical difficulties
- Works with individuals or small groups of students under the direction of teaching staff
- Understands specific learning needs and styles and provide differentiated support to students individually and within a group
- Implements planned learning activities/teaching programmes as agreed with the teacher, adjusting activities according to students responses as appropriate
- Establishes positive relationships with students supported
- Provides feedback to students in relation to attainment and progress under the guidance of the teacher
- Supports students with activities which support literacy and numeracy skills
- Supports the use of ICT in the classroom and develop students competence and independence in its use
- Promotes the inclusion and acceptance of children with special needs within the classroom ensuring access to lessons and their content through appropriate clarification, explanation and resources
- Promotes positive student behaviour in line with school policies and help keep students on task
- Participates in planning and evaluation of learning activities with the teacher, writing reports and records as required
- Monitors and records student responses and learning achievements, drawing any problems which cannot be resolved easily to the attention of the teacher
- Supports the learning by selecting appropriate resources/methods to facilitate agreed learning activities
- Supervises students for limited and specified periods including break-times when the post holder should facilitate games and activities
- Assists with escorting students on educational visits
- Understands and apply school policies in relation to health, safety and welfare
- Attends relevant training and take responsibility for own development
- Respects confidentiality at all times
- Deals effectively with any immediate problems or emergencies according to the school's policies and procedures.
- To report back, as appropriate, using the school's agreed referral procedures on the behaviour of pupils during the session, and any issues arising.
- To participate in the performance and development review process, taking personal responsibility for identification of learning, development and training opportunities in discussion with line manager, attending training sessions as required.

- To comply with individual responsibilities, in accordance with the role, for health & safety in the workplace
- Ensure that all duties and services provided are in accordance with the College's Equal Opportunities Policy
- The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment

This is a public facing role and the post holder must speak fluent English

The duties above are neither exclusive nor exhaustive and the post holder may be required by the Principal to carry out additional duties within the context of the job, skills and grade

### Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
<b>Qualifications and experience</b>		
Grade C or above pass in English GCSE (or equivalent)	✓	
Grade C or above pass in Maths GCSE (or equivalent)	✓	
Experience of working with students across the secondary age range and with learning difficulties or disabilities		✓
<b>Personal Qualities</b>		
Good organisational skills	✓	
Good communication skills	✓	
Good listening skills	✓	
Stamina, energy, resilience and sense of humour	✓	
Calm and patient	✓	
Team player	✓	
Flexible	✓	
<b>Skills and abilities</b>		
Ability to deal with challenging behaviour	✓	
Understand and comply with procedures and legislation relating to confidentiality	✓	
Ability to exchange routine verbal information clearly and sensitively with students and adults	✓	
Ability to observe and monitor progress and maintain records	✓	
Good understanding of the way in which children develop in relation to the role	✓	
Understand the importance of physical and emotional wellbeing	✓	
Ability to support student who maybe unwell	✓	
Ability to follow written and oral instructions and to carry out instructions.	✓	
Ability to motivate/encourage/empower students and adults.	✓	
Good understanding of the learning experience provided by the College		✓
Establish effective relationships with those working in and with the College	✓	
Empathetic, assertive and a good role model	✓	
Able to work effectively in teams as member or leader	✓	
Able to self-manage, make decisions and work on own initiative	✓	
Ability to know when and how to seek support.	✓	
Able to ensure that tight, strict deadlines are met	✓	
Demonstrate a commitment to equality	✓	
Understanding of Health & Safety	✓	
Understand and comply with Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures	✓	
Demonstrate a clear commitment to develop and learn in the role	✓	
Able to effectively evaluate own performance	✓	

