



BENTON DENE PRIMARY SCHOOL
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE POST



Benton Dene Primary School
Hailsham Avenue
Longbenton
Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 8FD
E mail: office@bentondeneprimary.co.uk

Application pack for post of Fixed Term Teacher (MPS/UPS)

Closing Date: 12 noon Friday 6th December 2024

Observations: w/b Monday 9th December 2024

Dear Applicant

We are looking to appoint an **outstanding and ambitious** teacher from January 2025 who would relish the challenge of working in our large and vibrant school environment. The post advertised is a 6 month fixed-term teaching post in the first instance, in KS1. Recently and newly qualified teachers are welcome to apply. The successful candidates will be joining a highly skilled and committed team of staff and governors who together with our parents and carers, work unstintingly to provide the very best educational provision for our diverse range of children.

Benton Dene Primary school is a large, happy school with a positive and inclusive ethos, which is co-located with Benton Dene Special School within the Benton Dene Schools' campus. This is an innovative building housing both schools and is recognised as a flagship 'pathfinder' school at the forefront of developing inclusive practice. We are looking for candidates who are highly motivated and challenged by the prospect of working in this well regarded and high profile school. We are a school that expects extremely high standards from all staff and pupils and if successful, you will be provided with an excellent CPD package to support you in your role.

Completed application forms and accompanying letter of application should be returned to Judith Fenwick, office@bentondeneprimary.co.uk by **12 noon on Friday 6th December 2024**. Your letter of application should be no more than 2 sides of A4 and indicate what makes you an **outstanding candidate** for our school and what special qualities and skills you could offer to our school if appointed.

It is important that **e-mail contacts of referees** are included with your application because of the tight timescales between short-listing and interviews.

Visits to our school are warmly welcomed. Please contact Judith Fenwick via office@bentondeneprimary.co.uk to book an appointment or discuss any queries you may have regarding the post. Visits will take place on Friday 29th November at 2pm and Tuesday 3rd December at 3:45pm.

INTERVIEWS

There will be a 2-stage process. Short listed candidates will be observed teaching a class of pupils by the members of the senior leadership team. Successful applicants will be invited to an interview during which you will be encouraged to provide the interview panel with a **Portfolio of Evidence** of your skills, experience and particularly your work with children. This could include your subject interests, classroom environment, pupils' work, planning, assessments etc. This will be discussed as part of the interview process. Observations and interviews will take place w/b 9th December 2024.

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Benton Dene Schools' Campus

In June 2010, we moved into a new £15.2 million pathfinder school on the site of Longbenton Community College, co-locating with Benton Dene Special School and changing our previous school name from Goathland Primary School to Benton Dene Primary School.

Benton Dene Special School is a special school for children from Reception to Year 6 with 120 pupils who have complex MLD/ASD. Our mainstream primary provision also hosts a language and communication ARP for 12 pupils from across the borough.

Other Services at Benton Dene Schools

An out of school club known as 'Benton Dene Out of School Club' provides popular wrap-around care for nursery age pupils and before/after school childcare for children aged between 3 – 11 years.

A 'breakfast club' provision open to all pupils operates from 8.15am, which is managed by the school and partially funded by Pupil Premium.

Benton Dene Primary School

Our mainstream school is a thriving 3-11 primary school, serving a very mixed catchment (approximately 25% Free School Meals) with 466 pupils currently on roll including a 52 place Nursery Unit offering 30 hours free childcare alongside part-time provision. This is staffed by 2 lead practitioners and 5 teaching assistants. In addition to the nursery, the school is organised into 14 classes (2 form entry). The mainstream school has 24 FTE teaching staff including the Headteacher. Support staff at the school includes a Facilities Manager and an administration team together with 3 HLTAs and 14 Teaching Assistants. We employ a Family Liaison Officer to work with children and families in order to reduce barriers to learning and an IT support assistant and network manager. The school also accommodates a Communication Support Base (CSB) for 12 pupils with specific speech, language and communication difficulties. These pupils are integrated into most activities within the school, and are withdrawn from their classes for specialist support in the Base. Two specialist teachers, 3 teaching assistants and a speech therapist support pupils in the CSB and when mainstream based.

The Senior Management Team comprises 4 TLR point holders including 3 Phase Leaders, Pupil Premium Co-ordinator, 2 SENDCos, a Deputy Headteacher, 2 Assistant Headteachers and the Headteacher. The Local Authority regularly brokers school to school support using our staff. Several of our teaching staff have been designated as Specialist or Local Leaders of Education.

The Staff and Governors are extremely interested in continuing to develop the tradition of community involvement and to encourage further links with the Community in the life and work of the school. The staff organise many extra-curricular clubs during the lunch hour and after school. Details of these are in the school prospectus and listed on our school website. The extra-curricular activities were graded 'excellent' in our Ofsted reports and we are proud of the commitment of our school staff to these voluntary activities.

Benton Dene Primary is considered an 'open' school and visitors - particularly parents and carers - are always welcome. Parental help and support in the classroom is greatly encouraged throughout the school. There is a range of community facilities for use by parents/carers and the community.

School Organisation

Our school has been designed to support children's identity and way-finding. There are 5 main zones that are colour-coded to support children's way-finding. All areas are used by staff and pupils in both schools with staff working closely across the school day.

The Yellow Zone accommodates Nursery, Reception classes, Benton Dene Out of School Club and the Community Room.

The Green Zone accommodates Y1/2 pupils in 8 classes from Benton Dene Special School and Benton Dene Primary School.

The Red Zone accommodates Y3/4 pupils in 8 classes from Benton Dene Special School and Benton Dene Primary School.

The Blue Zone accommodates Y5/6 pupils in 8 classes from Benton Dene Special School and Benton Dene Primary School.

Specialist facilities include 2 dining halls, a sensory room, 2 sports halls/gymnasiums, 2 computer suites tailored to meet the needs of different age groups and needs, an Art & DT room, a food technology room, a music room, several small group rooms and meeting rooms are all situated along the main linking corridor.

External areas can be accessed from all classrooms where there is a range of hard and grassed play areas, quiet play areas, multi-use games areas (MUGAS), pond area, allotment area, sensory area and football pitch.

Access to the school is strictly monitored to ensure the safeguarding, health and safety of all pupils and visitors to the site and SLT are available on gate duty during drop off and collection.

A joint team of staff shared by both schools ensures the smooth running of administrative/ financial/ personnel and premises issues.

Thank you for your interest in the vacancy advertised. I hope the brief information provided about the school whets your appetite to apply for the post. Everyone at Benton Dene Primary is extremely supportive, committed and hardworking. We have a philosophy of team work and vision for the continued success of this proactive school. If you feel you could contribute to this forward looking and innovative school, then we would welcome your application.

Benton Dene Primary School is within a few minutes walking distance of either FOUR LANE ENDS or BENTON Metro Stations.