



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for showing an interest in becoming part of the St Benet Biscop community. St Benet Biscop is a great place to work, first and foremost because of our fantastic students, who join us from both our Catholic feeder schools and a range of local primary schools. We are consistently oversubscribed and are very well thought of in the local community. The Sixth Form has 130 students, but we are expecting this to grow, as more of our Year 11 students stay on into Sixth Form. We have had extensive investment in our Sixth Form facilities from Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust and a new £2.5m dedicated Sixth Form centre is opening in the summer term 2025.

I believe that every individual, made in the image of God, has the right to achieve their potential. We are very proud of the academic achievements of our students at all key stages, but we also have a clear focus in our school on developing the 'whole child' including character qualities to flourish, in order that all will grow into positive, resilient, empathetic and responsible young adults contributing towards the common good. St Benet Biscop benefits from having excellent staff and are the school's greatest asset, therefore, the task of appointing new staff is of great importance. Governors are committed to the school and are very supportive of staff, as are parents.

Our Catholic ethos is at the heart of our school community and strengthens us in all that we do in our drive to allow each student to Rise up and Shine. Through our RISE values and school Mission, St Benet Biscop students are respectful and kind and celebrate the uniqueness of each individual, acting to make a positive difference in the lives of others. We have respect for self, for others and keep each other safe.

To help you better understand our school, I've shared what these values mean to our staff, students, and wider community.

Respect

We want our community to care for one another. We want inclusion and equity within our school. We want our students to take part in raising awareness of key issues and become involved in charity work. Our students should become outward facing members of society

Resilience

We will support students' ability to "stick at it" remain positive and have the strength to persevere. We showcase mistakes as part of the learning process, making them a normal part of learning and school life. In this way we help students to challenge themselves to do it better next time and use mistakes to their advantage.

Integrity

We will show our integrity by living out our values and mission in all we do. When faced with tough decisions and hard choices, we want to support our students to do the right thing, even when it's difficult or when no-one is looking. We want students to be truthful and honest in all areas of life, to give their word and keep promises.

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Self-Discipline

Celebrating achievements highlights the culture of high expectations. We will develop positive attitudes to learning so that students are able to meet challenges with resilience and positivity. We are determined to get better and understand that the journey is as important as the destination.

Excellence

We work hard and persevere to be the best version of ourselves. We have high expectations and strive for excellence in all that we do.

Our values do not start and end with our students. We are all part of the St Benet Biscop community. When we are supporting our students to be the best version of themselves, we remember to provide ourselves with opportunities to meet and collaborate. We provide development and experience for our staff in leadership, pastoral, and curriculum aspects of the school.

Rest assured, we are committed to remembering our purpose and upholding our core values. We are a true community at St Benet Biscop. It is a privilege to be part of this, to Rise and Shine, to meet challenges, to listen, and to communicate.

We expect our staff to live out our values by committing to being an active part of the St Benet Biscop community, keeping our students at the centre of all we do and dedicating time to being lifelong learners ourselves.

I hope that the above explains more about us as a school and I look forward to reading your application and personal statement to discover what experience, interests and qualities you would bring to our school community.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Lewis-Dale', with a stylized, flowing script.

Suzanne Lewis-Dale
Headteacher