

RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

Position: Teacher of English (Maternity Cover)

Start Date: January 2027 (Fixed term)

Salary: MPS – UPS3

Application Deadline: Thursday 15th October 2026, 9am

Interview: Thursday 22nd October 2026

Dear Candidate,

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our flourishing Church of England 11–18 secondary school, serving approximately 1,250 pupils within a successful single-academy. Rooted in our Christian vision to *know, nurture and inspire*, we are committed to enabling every member of our community to flourish and experience *life in all its fullness* (John 10:10). We are proud of our inclusive culture, strong outcomes and ambitious approach to continuous improvement.

We are seeking a talented, enthusiastic, and inspiring Teacher of English to join our friendly and successful department. This is an exciting opportunity for a passionate practitioner with strong subject knowledge to engage and motivate students, fostering a love of literature, language, and learning.

The successful candidate will be an innovative and forward-thinking teacher who is committed to delivering high-quality teaching and learning. They will play a key role in delivering an ambitious, engaging, and inclusive English curriculum that supports students of all abilities to achieve their full potential. Working alongside a dedicated team of nine experienced teachers, the post holder will inspire students to develop their communication, analytical, and critical thinking skills, ensuring they make excellent progress and become the very best version of themselves.

Working closely with colleagues within the department and across the wider school community, the successful candidate will contribute to the development of curriculum resources, enrichment opportunities, and whole-school priorities. They will create a stimulating and inclusive learning environment, demonstrate excellent classroom practice, and use effective strategies to ensure students make strong progress and achieve high standards.

We are looking for a teacher who:

- Is passionate, engaging, and committed to inspiring the next generation of creative thinkers
- Demonstrates excellent subject knowledge in English Language and Literature
- Delivers high-quality teaching that enables students to make accelerated progress
- Creates an inclusive and stimulating learning environment that promotes creativity and confidence
- Contributes positively to curriculum development and enrichment opportunities
- Works collaboratively as part of a supportive team

This post offers the opportunity to be part of a vibrant and supportive department, committed to excellence in teaching and learning.

Applications are welcomed from teachers with a wide range of experience, including Early Career Teachers (ECTs).

Closing date: Thursday 15th October 2026, 9am

Interview: Thursday 22nd October 2026

Applications should be submitted via the Vacancies and Early Careers section of our website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Helen Cairns', written on a light blue background.

Helen Cairns

Headteacher

Teacher of English (Maternity Cover)

About the English Department

English at The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School is a thriving, ambitious and highly successful department, committed to ensuring that every student develops a love of language, literature and learning. Our dedicated and experienced team works collaboratively to deliver a rich and engaging curriculum that challenges, supports and inspires students across all key stages.

The department has a strong track record of academic success, with outcomes consistently performing well in comparison with national benchmarks and continuing to improve year on year. We are passionate about fostering confident communicators, critical thinkers and enthusiastic readers who are equipped to succeed both within and beyond the classroom.

The department benefits from excellent facilities, with English taught in nine refurbished classrooms located within a dedicated area of the school. Each classroom is equipped with interactive whiteboards, networked computer access and permanent multimedia projection facilities, enabling staff to deliver dynamic and engaging lessons. All teachers are provided with iPads to support innovative teaching and learning practices.

Students also benefit from access to our well-resourced, staffed school library, which plays a central role in promoting reading and literacy across the curriculum. All Key Stage 3 students participate in dedicated library reading lessons and literacy sessions as part of their timetable, helping to develop a lifelong love of reading and strengthen key literacy skills.

We are seeking a colleague who will contribute positively to our culture of high expectations, collaboration and continuous improvement, and who shares our commitment to enabling every student to achieve their full potential and become the very best version of themselves.

Responsible to

Head of Department

Purpose of the Role

To deliver high-quality English teaching that inspires a love of language, literature and learning, enabling all students to make excellent progress and become the best version of themselves. The postholder will contribute to the continued success of a high-performing English department through engaging, inclusive and challenging learning experiences, while supporting the school's Christian vision of enabling all members of the community to flourish and experience life in all its fullness.

Key Responsibilities

Teaching and Learning

- Plan and deliver engaging, well-structured lessons across Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, and Key Stage 5 where appropriate.
- Deliver the English curriculum in line with departmental schemes of learning and examination specifications.
- Use a range of effective teaching strategies, including formative assessment and active learning approaches, to maximise student progress.
- Ensure learning is appropriately scaffolded and differentiated to meet the needs of all students, including those with SEND and other additional needs.
- Create a positive, purposeful and inclusive classroom environment with high expectations for achievement, behaviour and participation.
- Encourage students to develop independence, resilience, critical thinking and effective communication skills.
- Promote literacy, reading and a wider appreciation of literature across the curriculum.

Assessment, Progress and Outcomes

- Be accountable for the progress and outcomes of students within assigned classes.
- Assess, record and monitor student progress systematically, maintaining accurate records in line with school expectations.
- Use assessment information and data effectively to inform planning, identify underachievement and implement appropriate intervention strategies.
- Set appropriate work and assessments to prepare students fully for examinations and qualifications.
- Provide timely and constructive feedback, ensuring students understand how to improve and make further progress.
- Monitor attendance, engagement and achievement, taking appropriate action where concerns arise.

Curriculum and Department Contribution

- Contribute to the continued development and improvement of the English curriculum and schemes of learning.
- Support the department's aim of maximising student achievement and securing excellent outcomes.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues to share best practice, standardise assessment and contribute to departmental improvement.

- Support enrichment opportunities that promote reading, writing, drama, film and wider cultural engagement.
- Contribute positively to the department's culture of collaboration, ambition and continuous improvement.

Behaviour, Pastoral and Ethos

- Promote positive student behaviour in line with school policies and expectations.
- Establish positive relationships with students that support learning, wellbeing and personal development.
- Act as a Form Tutor when required, supporting students' academic, personal and spiritual development.
- Promote the school's Christian values and ethos, helping students to flourish academically, personally and spiritually.
- Support students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through high-quality teaching and pastoral care.

Enrichment and Wider School Life

- Contribute to a range of enrichment activities including reading clubs, writing activities, theatre visits, author events and other literacy-based opportunities.
- Support the wider life of the school through duties, events and extracurricular activities.
- Work collaboratively with parents/carers and external agencies to support student success and wellbeing.
- Act as an ambassador for the school and contribute positively to the school's reputation within the community

Professional Responsibilities

- Fulfil the professional duties of a teacher in accordance with the Teachers' Standards.
- Participate fully in appraisal, professional learning and continuous professional development.
- Reflect on and develop your own teaching practice to improve effectiveness and outcomes for students.
- Demonstrate consistently high standards of professional conduct, attendance and punctuality.
- Contribute to the development, implementation and evaluation of school policies and procedures.
- Undertake duties, meetings and other reasonable responsibilities as directed by the Headteacher or line manager.

- Demonstrate a strong commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people at all times.

Person Specification: Teacher of English (Maternity Cover)

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	• Qualified Teacher • A Degree in English or related subject • PGCE/ QTS (or equivalent)	• Good record of continuing professional development • Good Honors degree
Experience and Knowledge	• Experience of teaching English at KS3 and KS4 • Have experience of teaching students of different abilities • Be knowledgeable in relation to current developments and issues in English teaching. • Be knowledgeable in relation to current thinking in terms of learning and teaching.	• Involvement in and support for extra-curricular activities • Experience in an 11-18 Comprehensive school • Experience of teaching English at KS5
Abilities and Skills	• Be able to make work challenging and exciting for students of all abilities • Be able to communicate effectively with students of all abilities • Be effective classroom managers and practitioners • Be efficient at planning and organisation • Be able to manage the assessment of students against a given criterion • Be able to self-review	

Personal Qualities	• Passion for creativity and inspiring young people • Have commitment to achieving the highest standards possible for students • Ability to build strong professional relationships with students, staff and parents • Resilient, reflective and adaptable • Commitment to equality, inclusion and safeguarding • Flexible, proactive and able to use initiative • Willingness to contribute to the wider life of the school	
Professional Attributes	• Commitment to continuous professional development • Ability to work collaboratively as part of a team • Strong time management and organisational skills • Innovative and proactive approach to teaching and curriculum development • Ability to reflect on and improve own practice	
Values and Ethos	• High professional standards, integrity and adaptability • Commitment to the school's Christian ethos, enabling all to flourish • Ability to inspire motivate and build strong relationships • Drive and commitment to continuous improvement • Calm, reflective and positive role model • Commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion • Willingness to contribute to the wider life of the school community	



Safeguarding Statement

The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All staff are expected to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and all relevant pre-employment checks.

About Our School

Our Vision

The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School is an exciting place to be.

We know, nurture, and inspire our community to be the best version of themselves through a better understanding of the Christian faith, our core values, and a rich set of opportunities. Students achieve academically whilst growing personally and spiritually.

Through their engagement in society and beyond, our students make a positive difference through wise action, resilience, and a sense of responsibility.

Our community is enabled to live life guided by Jesus, to flourish and have “life in all its fullness” (John 10:10)

The Bishops’ Blue Coat Church of England High School is an excellent oversubscribed, high performing secondary school. Our aim is to know, nurture and inspire both students and staff through a strong culture of professional development, collaboration and high expectations.

Our values, rooted in the Church of England and interpreted for our community, shape an inclusive and aspirational ethos. Our curriculum is guided by clear principles of:

- **Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills**
- **Dignity and Respect**
- **Hope and Aspiration**

These underpin high-quality teaching and learning across the school.

Located close to the historic city of Chester, Bishops’ benefits from a well-established and continually enhanced campus and strong digital infrastructure, supporting an excellent learning environment. We have consistently high expectations of our students and work closely with families to help them succeed. Our seven-year journey culminates in a successful and growing Sixth Form, with students progressing confidently to ambitious next steps.

How to Apply

Deadline for applications is Thursday 15th October 2026, 9am

Please complete a teacher application form (found on the Vacancies page on school website) along with a supporting letter (two sides of A4, size 12 font) and submit your application to vacancies@bishopschester.co.uk

Link to Vacancies page: <https://bishopschester.co.uk/careers-vacancies/>

