



Bishop Fox's

Information for applicants

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Full-time / Part-time

September 2026

Tel: 01823 289211

Email: hr@bishopfoxs.co.uk

www.bishopfoxs.co.uk



High Standards & High Expectations

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Dear candidate

Thank you for taking the time to consider our school for your next career move. Within this pack you will hopefully find many reasons for you to submit your application to work at Bishop Fox's School.

As the Headteacher, I hold a strong belief that the power of education can change children's lives and it is the right of every child to receive an excellent education. All staff in the school are dedicated to building opportunities for students to achieve the highest academic standards, ensuring that they are known as individuals and that their unique personality, talents and interests are nurtured and developed to the full. A Bishop Fox's education is about developing the whole child and providing opportunities for them to flourish within and beyond the classroom.

The school was built 30 years ago, housed in a beautiful location in the South of Taunton. The school's history stretches over 500 years as Bishop Fox's was originally founded in 1522. Student numbers are at an all-time high of over 1100 and we are planning to expand to 1200 over the next 3 years. There are four secondary schools in Taunton, and in this competitive environment, we are extremely pleased to be oversubscribed in all year groups.

We have high standards and high expectations in everything that we do. Students achieve well, working in an encouraging learning environment with quality teaching and support from our child-centred staff. We are committed to safeguarding and doing the very best for every one of our students on roll.

We are looking for someone who, either, is already or has the potential to become an outstanding teacher. In particular, you will see from the Person Specification that we are seeking a colleague who shares our ethos about education and will enhance our learning community. We are looking for a strong practitioner in the classroom and someone who has the ambition to get involved with the extra-curricular life of the school.

So, if you want and enjoy a challenge, are able to make a difference and care passionately about young people, then we will welcome your application.

Please submit your application form together with a letter (no more than two sides of A4) detailing your skills, qualities and relevant experience for this post. Applications should be returned to the school HR office or emailed to hr@bishopfoxs.co.uk. If you haven't received an acknowledgement within 48 hours, we recommend calling 01823 255011 to check your application has been received.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely

K. Tonkin —

**KERRY TONKIN
HEADTEACHER**



For more information about the School, please visit our website: www.bishopfoxs.co.uk

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English team consists of 9 teachers including the Curriculum Team Leader and 2 English 2 i/c's. The team is supported by an Intervention worker who offers in and out of class support. The Department is made up of 7 English classrooms and a media suite.

English is taught as part of a two week timetable, with 8-9 periods each fortnight at KS3, 7 for Year 10 and 8 for Year 11. Students are taught in mixed ability groups in Years 7, 8 and 9 with setting in Years 10 and 11. The aim is for maximum inclusion in English, so the majority of students follow the English Language and Literature course offered by AQA. The team also offer a range of interventions for students including reading catch-up in KS3 and booster sessions in KS4.

The department has just had its most successful ever GCSE results with above national average results at 4 and 5 in both Language and Literature. However, we still have work to do in ensuring our disadvantaged and SEN cohorts achieve the same results as their peers.

There has been considerable change in the English curriculum at Bishop Fox's in the last 3 years as we strive to make greater progress. The successful candidate would have the opportunity to review the English 5 year plan and implement a curriculum that they feel could deliver the success our students deserve. This will be based upon our foundation of a:

- Knowledge based curriculum that is rich in powerful knowledge
- High standards of literacy
- Delivered through sequential layered learning
- Provides equality of opportunity for all

The department regularly meets to review and discuss plans for improvement, seeking effective, evidence-based ways of improving practice in English. The English team is at the forefront of learning initiatives across the school and prides itself in continuing to develop and improve the learning experience of all students in all lessons.

There is a range of extra-curricular activities and events which are led by the Department, these include:

- Writing competitions such as BBC 500 words, Brunner Prize etc
- A study skills day with Year 11
- Author visits
- School trips to experience poetry, drama and film that support the English curriculum
- Weekly revision sessions
- Creative Writing Club

We promote a literacy rich curriculum where the value of reading is evident in all subjects. Students regularly have the opportunity to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts and reading is a central part of most lessons. Tier 3 vocabulary is taught effectively so students learn, remember and can use subject specific language appropriately. Tier 2 vocabulary is taught through subject contexts in a consistent manner so students are able to use more complex terminology to add greater sophistication to their vocabulary.

Reading for pleasure is a key strategy in improving students reading ability and in promoting reading as a lifelong learning habit. Reading for pleasure is promoted through reading lessons in English and Tutor time activities including being read to by the tutor and reading time.

English plays a key role in developing the cultural capital of our students both through the formal curriculum and the enrichment curriculum. The successful candidate would have the opportunity to develop extra-curricular opportunities that enhance the taught curriculum and further develop our students' cultural capital.

PERSON SPECIFICATION
Teacher of English

AREA	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	HOW IDENTIFIED
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified teacher status • Good Hons Degree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's Degree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application Form • References
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of teaching English in a mainstream secondary school • Evidence of successful subject outcomes • Evidence of being a strong practitioner • A consistently good teacher • Evidence of Teaching Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with young people • Potential to become an outstanding teacher • Experience teaching Nurture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application Form • References
Skills and Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A passion for teaching English • Good classroom management • Effective inter-personal and communication skills • Ability to communicate a vision and inspire others • A commitment to getting the best outcomes for all students and promoting the ethos and values of the school • Willingness to take responsibility • Excellent communication skills • Ability to work independently • Ability to enthuse young people to want to learn • Ability to use and integrate ICT in teaching • Creative approaches to teaching and learning • Ability to build effective working relationships with staff and other stakeholders • Ability to adapt teaching to meet students' needs • Knowledge of guidance and requirements around safeguarding children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to lead a team • Ability to manage a budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter • Interview • References
Personal Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional integrity and high expectations • Willingness to work hard • Adaptability • Ambition • Sense of humour • Can do, positive and 'nothing is too much trouble' approach • Sensitivity, empathy and warmth • Pride in one's own performance and that of others • Willingness to be involved in the extra-curricular life of school • A genuine like for young people • A passion for learning and leading learning • Ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively • Maintain confidentiality at all times • Commitment to safeguarding and equality 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • References

There may be a requirement for the successful candidate to contribute to teaching within the school's Nurture provision.



JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Class Teacher & Form Tutor

REPORTS TO: Curriculum Team Leader & Head of Year

MAIN PURPOSE OF JOB

CLASS TEACHER

Is responsible for making the education of students a priority and being accountable for achieving the highest possible standards in work and conduct to meet the Teacher Professional Standards. Has strong subject knowledge and keeps knowledge and skills up-to-date. Has the ability to create positive professional relationships and works with parents in the best interests of the students. Acts with honesty and integrity.

FORM TUTOR

The main responsibility of a form tutor is to provide outstanding pastoral care and support which enables our students' to achieve their full potential. Form tutors act as the primary point of contact for students, guiding their personal, social and academic development.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

CLASS TEACHER

- Sets high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge students by implementing and delivering an appropriately differentiated and engaging curriculum.
- Contributes to the Team Improvement Plan and supports the implementation of whole school policies.
- Contributes to and delivers departmental Schemes of Work.
- Manages the classroom environment to ensure effective learning takes place.
- Monitors student progress, ensuring appropriate assessment, recording and reporting of student achievement is carried out and relevant information is provided to the Curriculum Team Leader / Head of Year.
- Uses tracking data to identify and challenge student underachievement and inform teaching and learning.
- Ensures the effective deployment of Learning Support Assistants.
- Contributes to and implements IEP's as appropriate.
- Produces reports and other requests for information within the required deadlines which are appropriate and are of high quality.
- Communicates with parents as appropriate.
- Actively supports and promotes high standards of teamwork within the subject area, ensuring work is set in the event of known absences and unplanned absence where appropriate.
- Identifies own CPD to meet personal needs and wider school priorities.

FORM TUTOR

Student Welfare and Pastoral Support

- Act as the primary point of contact for students in their tutor group.
- Build positive relationships to foster trust and support.
- Monitor students' well-being and provide guidance or intervention when needed.
- Address concerns related to mental health, behaviour or personal issues.

Attendance and Punctuality

- Ensure accurate attendance registers are maintained daily.
- Promote the importance of good attendance and punctuality for academic success.

Uniform and Behaviour Standards

- Ensure students adhere to the school's uniform policy and uphold behaviour expectations.
- Address issues promptly to maintain high standards in line with the school ethos.

Academic Mentoring and Monitoring

- Oversee students' academic progress, including homework and report monitoring.
- Set targets and encourage positive attitudes toward learning.
- Provide guidance on how to improve performance and engage with learning.

PSHE Education and Assemblies

- Deliver sessions on personal, social, health, and economic (PSHE) education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) as part of the school's curriculum.
- Encourage discussions that promote social awareness, personal development and life skills.
- Effectively deliver our rich tutor programme including SMSC and British Values.
- Escort the tutor group to assemblies and supervise during these events.

Communication and Liaison

- Serve as a link between the school, parents / guardians and subject teachers.
- Communicate effectively with parents / guardians about students' progress, achievements or concerns.
- Participate in meetings and contribute to the pastoral team led by the Head of Year.

School Ethos and Extracurricular Involvement

- Promote the school's values and encourage students to take part in extracurricular activities.
- Act as a positive role model and inspire students to engage positively within our school community.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR UPPER PAY RANGE

- Makes a substantial and significant contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school. This will be something tangible, contributing to the achievement of the schools' strategic priorities, as captured within the School Improvement Plan.
- Role models highly competent teaching and professional effectiveness consistent with Teacher Standards and supports the professional development of colleagues.
- Takes a leading role in the preparation and development of teaching materials, teaching programmes and pastoral arrangements as appropriate.
- Proactively participates in any relevant meetings/professional development opportunities at the school, which relate to the learners, curriculum or organisation of the school including pastoral arrangements and assemblies.

CONTACTS AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Postholder is responsible to the Headteacher in all matters. To the relevant Head of Year in respect of student welfare and pastoral matters, and the Curriculum Team Leader in respect of the subject timetable and of curriculum development.

Assists with the supervision of the teaching and support staff allocated to work in the subject.

Interacts on a professional level with colleagues. Seeks to establish and maintain productive relationships with them in order to promote mutual understanding of the subjects in the school curriculum with the aim of improving the quality of teaching, learning and standards of achievement in the school.

Fosters positive relationships with parents, outside agencies and the wider community to promote the school in a positive light and secure the best outcomes for the students at the school.

