



Proud to be a part of the

DIOCESE OF **Hexham & Newcastle**



St Benet's RC Voluntary Aided Primary School

Fulwell Road

Sunderland

Tyne and Wear

SR6 9QU

Tel: 0191 5492020

Email: enquiries@stbenetsrc.org.uk

Website: [St Benet's Primary School | Sunderland](http://StBenet'sPrimarySchool|Sunderland)

Seconded Headteacher: Andrea Goodwin

Acting Headteacher: Lisa Rice

N.O.R: 321 (Group 3)

Due to the retirement of the previous Headteacher, applications are invited for the position of Headteacher.

Required: 1st January 2026

Contract Type: Permanent

Working Pattern: Full time

Salary: L18 – L24 £78,702 - £90,255

Information

St Benet's school mission:

Jesus calls us by our names to: Grow together in a journey of faith and love. Help us to see, in the people we meet – the face of God above. Do our very best when we work, and when we play. Use our special gifts in serving one another every day, and in every way.

As Governors of St Benet's RC Voluntary Aided Primary School, we are seeking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Catholic Headteacher to lead our successful, popular and happy school. This is an exciting opportunity for a highly motivated and enthusiastic leader with a passion for education and a commitment to ensure that every child matters.

Applications are invited from practising and committed Catholics to lead our wonderful school family in the next exciting phase of its development. We are looking for an individual who has superb interpersonal skills, the ability to bring people together to work as a cohesive team, and the drive to build upon the existing successes of our school.

Our Ofsted report in May 2024 stated –

- *‘There is a solid sense of community at St Benet’s Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School. The Catholic ethos is palpable within this inclusive, welcoming community...The school has high expectations for all pupils. Pupils respond well to these expectations. They work hard in lessons and demonstrate exemplary behaviour. Pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), achieve highly in most subjects ... The development of pupils’ character is exceptional. The school provides a vast range of leadership opportunities for pupils.’*

Our Diocesan Inspection report in October 2019 stated –

- *‘St Benet’s is a very warm, welcoming and extremely caring school with a Catholic ethos that underpins all the school strives to achieve. Excellent relationships are a great strength within school and a true sense of family is nurtured at every level. The school is a living witness to its mission.’*

The successful candidate will have high expectations for all our pupils, building upon and driving forward excellence, and with the expertise to ensure that St Benet’s RC Voluntary Aided Primary School continues to flourish. Above all, we wish to appoint as Headteacher, a leader who:

- Is a committed, practising Catholic with a clear vision and strong commitment to Catholic education.
- Brings strong, forward-thinking leadership, and has a clear strategic vision and drive to build upon the existing successes of our school.
- Will nurture the special gifts which make each child unique.
- Will maintain and further build strong relationships with our families, our parish and our wider school community.
- Is an exemplary primary practitioner with a proven track record in raising standards in teaching and learning.
- Has the necessary drive to pursue and achieve the highest expectation for pupils’ attainment, progress and personal development.
- Will encourage and provide our children, a rich and inspiring curriculum.
- Will inspire, support and empower staff to be their best.
- Will seek to promote, to the utmost, the development of every child’s personal wholeness, integrity, gifts and creativity in a welcoming and loving school community.
- Will work with all stakeholders in a collegiate, and inclusive manner, ensuring excellent relationships continue to be a great strength and a true sense of family is nurtured at every level.

Our school family is warm and welcoming to all who join us. We can offer:

- A caring, friendly and happy school family with respectful, confident and eager pupils who are proud of their school.
- Dedicated, enthusiastic, caring staff, who are true servants to our school community.
- Cooperative, engaged and committed parents who enjoy working in partnership with our staff for the benefit of our children.
- Strong and active partnerships with our Parish Priest, our Parish, our local community, our Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, and our Local Authority.
- A supportive, passionate, wise and ambitious Governing Board, which is committed to our Catholic Mission, our school family values, improvement and continued success.

Visits are warmly welcomed and positively encouraged. Please contact Mrs Dooley, School Business Manager, on 0191 5492020 to confirm your attendance on either of the following dates:

- Friday 5th September at 1.15pm
- Tuesday 9th September at 10.00am
- Wednesday 10th September at 4.00pm

If you would like to have an informal discussion about the post, please contact Yvonne Gray, Chair of Governors on 07883084389 or Kristina Slater, Senior School Improvement Officer for Together For Children, kristina.slater@togetherforchildren.org.uk on 07730488726

How to apply:

Application packs are available to download from NE Jobs. Electronic signatures will be accepted but candidates will be required to add a written signature to their application when circumstances allow.

Please return completed applications to HRAdminSchoolSupport@sunderland.gov.uk

The closing date for applications is **noon on Monday 15th September**

Shortlisting will be held on **Wednesday 17th September**

Interviews will be held on **Friday 26th September**

The Governing Body of St Benet's RC Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. The Headteacher is expected to share this commitment and must ensure that the highest priority is given to following the guidance and regulations to safeguard them. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and therefore applicants will be subject to appropriate background checks and vetting including an enhanced DBS check and checks against the children's barred list.

A minimum of two references and a faith reference are required prior to the commencement of employment. Additional references may be requested. Online searches will be carried out for all shortlisted candidates

