



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy



All things are possible

We welcome you

I am delighted that you are considering Benedict Biscop Church of England Academy, a primary school in Sunderland, for the first stage of your son or daughter's education. The school is an "outstanding" (Ofsted 2012) Academy for children aged 3-11 years. We are the lead Primary in the Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance and part of the Northern Lights Learning Trust.

Children are admitted to our nursery on a part or full time basis, which is part of our outstanding Early Years provision. Children in Reception to Year 6 attend full time. We are very proud of our school and there are excellent facilities for our children.



Our Academy may be the first experience which your child will have of school and we are all keen to see that this is a very positive experience which encourages a love of learning from the very first day. "A tangible sense of the joy of learning pervades the school" (Ofsted 2012)

We believe that we can achieve the best for your child by developing a close partnership between home and school.

"Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be." - Rita F Pierson



All things are possible

Our vision at the Academy is for children to realise that 'all things are possible'. We therefore aspire to provide pupils with the highest quality of education, providing them with the building blocks and cultural capital they need to succeed, whatever their futures may entail.

'With God, all things are possible'
(Matthew 19 V26)

We believe that each and every learner is completely unique and special to God and it is our role as a school, to enable them to flourish in their potential as a uniquely created and wonderfully made child of God. This means that by working together, we can create a unique, purposeful learning environment that enables children to achieve anything they put their mind to, no matter how impossible it may seem at first or what barriers appear to be in the way. We can teach children to overcome these challenges, and to believe they can make a positive contribution to the local and global community, no matter what.



About Us

Benedict Biscop Academy is a Church of England school within the Diocese of Durham and serves the Wearmouth (Sunderland) Deanery. The school became an Academy in 2012, and a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) – The Northern Lights Learning Trust in 2016. It is an average size primary school with 210 full time pupils and 30 part-time nursery pupils on roll. We provide education for children from 3 to 11 years. The Academy's standard admission number is 30. There are currently 266 pupils on roll.

The Academy was built in 1972 and opened as a Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School. It has been extended to create a Foundation Stage, a learning centre, a new library, disabled facilities, medical room, a nurture space, an entrance which is very safe and welcoming and a meeting/training room. Our 'postinia' provides quiet space for reflection and prayer.

The Academy is designed in three blocks of teaching areas separated by a central hall. The areas of the Academy are very closely linked and staff know all the children through daily contact.

The policy of the Academy is to register the children, in mixed ability classes within each year group. Each class has its own teacher who is responsible for general progress across the curriculum and for pastoral care. There are full time teaching assistants in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. There are full time teaching assistants who support each class in Key Stage 2 for some of the weekly timetable.

Benedict Biscop CE Academy achieved an OUTSTANDING judgement for their SIAMS inspection 2017. We hold several awards, recognising our excellence. We are an Arts Mark school (2020), Gold Sunderland Sport Active school (2020) have Rights Respecting Gold Award (2019), Early Years Basic Skills Award (2018), Anti-bullying Platinum Charter Mark (2018) and Investors in People PLATINUM employer Award (2017).



EYFS - Our Philosophy

We encourage our children to believe in themselves as individuals where they learn to be strong, caring and independent through positive relationships, rooted in mutual respect for others. We foster a sense of belonging and support our children to become spiritual and emotionally literate to achieve holistic wellbeing, in light of the Christian faith.

Although all children come to school with their own life experience, we count it as our privilege to acknowledge and build upon that prior learning. At Benedict Biscop we secure foundations for future learning and development of life skills. We create a safe, stimulating

and happy environment in which everyone is included, respected and valued, so that children may grow in self esteem and develop to their full potential.

We provide motivating and enjoyable learning experiences that enable children to become confident, articulate, independent, self-disciplined, self motivated, resilient, risk

takers, problem solvers and most importantly, children who are willing to have a go. We foster a sense of awe and wonder and encourage the development of natural curiosity, lively and inquisitive minds with the desire and skills to explore new ideas. Our children are enthusiastic about learning, are confident to accept challenge and embrace new opportunities. Children are able to build upon their skills and knowledge and challenge their own thinking further.^[P]



Curriculum

The curriculum at Benedict Biscop CE Academy is based on Christian values, taught both explicitly and implicitly throughout the day and made real in our everyday lives.

Children study their own rich cultural heritage and develop an understanding of how this culture is enriched by the multicultural British society of today, based on British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

At Benedict Biscop CE Academy, there is a strong emphasis on learning through experience in and beyond the classroom. There is a high expectation that children work collaboratively, learning from each other and through trial and error, debate and reflection. The curriculum enables children to develop skills and gain knowledge which they then transfer to new situations, continually “learning”.





The curriculum is broad, balanced, relevant, and responsive to need for all its pupils, providing progression and continuity building upon cross-phase links. Above all it is an opportunity for all children to succeed through opportunities for support and challenge.

The process of evaluation and assessment is continuous and is inseparable from the teaching and learning process. It provides the next steps for learning for your child and ensures that they make progress. We believe in assessment for learning and this influences what children are taught and their planned next steps.

The Academy broadly follows the National Curriculum.

The curriculum is made up of ten subjects which we aim to teach through a theme and through cross-curricular links where possible. The core subjects are: English, Mathematics and Science. The foundation subjects are: Computing, History, Geography, Design, Art, Music and Physical Education. In addition, the Academy provides Religious Education and a daily act of collective worship which is central to the life of the school. Our Personal Development (Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education) curriculum is outstanding and children develop as responsible citizens. Safeguarding, Mental Health and Well Being are given high priority with children taught to relax, regulate their own thinking and practise mindfulness.



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