



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy



With God 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 child's education. The school is an "outstanding" (Ofsted 2024) Academy for children aged 3-11 years. Our school is part of a strong and growing Trust, the Northern Lights Learning Trust, where children are placed at the heart of all decisions. We have also been designed the lead school in the Northern Lights Teaching School Hub and one of the DFE Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs.



Children are admitted to our nursery on a part or full-time basis. 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.

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



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Our vision at the Academy is ‘With God 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 too, 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. We provide education for children from 3 to 11 years. From September 2021 our pupil admission number [PAN] increased from 30 to 45. Over the following 6 years, our pupil numbers increase by 15 pupils every year, to create a one and a half form entry school.

The school became an Academy in 2012, and a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) – The Northern Lights Learning Trust in 2016. In 2021, we were awarded the lead school status in the Sunderland, South Tyneside and Gateshead Teaching School Hub [Northern Lights South Tyne and Wear Teaching School Hub].

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, an entrance which is very safe and welcoming and a meeting/training room. Our 'postinina' provides quiet space for reflection and prayer.

The policy of the Academy is to register the children, in mixed ability classes within each year group. Where the cohort is separated into a mixed ability class [i.e. in Year 1, pupils are grouped according to the age – to provide a mixed ability cohort through a fair and consistent process – as agreed during our consultation period]. Each class has its own teacher who is responsible for general progress across the curriculum and for pastoral care.

Benedict Biscop CE Academy achieved an successful judgement for their SIAMS inspection 2025. We hold several awards, recognising our excellence.



EVFS - 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.



Curriculum

The curriculum at Benedict Biscop CE Academy is underpinned by 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 meets and exceeds the expectations of the National Curriculum.

The curriculum is made up of ten subjects which we aim to teach with cross-curricular links where possible. The core subjects are: English, Mathematics, Science and Religious Education. The foundation subjects are: Computing, History, Geography, Design and Technology, Art, Music and Physical Education. In addition, the Academy provides a daily act of collective worship which is central to the life of the school. Our Personal Development 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.



School Address

Marcross Drive,
Moorside,
Sunderland,
Tyne and Wear,
SR3 2RE

School Contact

Tel: 0191 594 7033
Email: bbinfo@nllt.co.uk
Head Teacher: Mrs Armstrong
SENDco: Mrs Holmes
School Contact: Mrs Maddison (Office Manager)

For further information please visit our website
www.benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk





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