

The Priory CE VA Primary School



Appointment of Class Teacher (Initial Fixed Term 12 Months)

September 2025 Start

The Priory CE VA Primary School

Wick Lane
Christchurch
Dorset

BH23 1HX
01202 484105

office@prioryceprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Sarah Richardson

'Inspiring a generation to learn, flourish and achieve in a caring Christian community.'



The Priory Church of England Primary School
Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

Headteacher: Mrs S Richardson

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Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1HX

01202 484105
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Dear Colleague,

I would like to thank you for expressing an interest in the post of class teacher at our school. I am delighted to send you details of the post along with an application form.

This is an excellent opportunity for a practitioner with high expectations to join our happy and enthusiastic team. Applications are welcome from experienced staff or ECTs. In the first instance, the post is for a fixed term of 12 months, to allow time for the new Headteacher to review the staffing structure going forward.

The Priory Primary School has a very caring ethos and we pride ourselves on the 'family feel' of our school. We are a 'good' school (Ofsted, February 2022) and everyone is committed to the development of the whole child. It is an exciting time for us as we deliver a well-sequenced and compelling curriculum to enable all children to flourish regardless of their starting point or background.

I hope that the accompanying information will inspire you to apply for the post and I wish you every success with your application. You are warmly encouraged to visit our school or, alternatively do visit our school website at prioryschool.dorset.sch.uk.

We offer a supportive team, working from home during PPA time, an ambitious CPD programme, a comprehensive ECT programme, cross-year group working and well-behaved and enthusiastic pupils. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to receive further information or make a visit to the school.

I look forward to receiving your completed application.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sarah Richardson
Headteacher



About our School

The Priory Primary School is a voluntary-aided Church of England School catering for children from four to eleven years old, and is maintained by Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Local Authority. We are not part of a multi-academy trust but work with a range of partners across the area.

The Priory School has close links with the Priory Church and our core values of love, forgiveness, respect and aspiration underpin all our decision-making.

The Priory School is a one-form entry school, so we pride ourselves on knowing each child and developing their unique gifts. Although on an historic site, we are keen to develop and improve our facilities. We have recently installed new fencing and gates around the site, and updated our common area to cater for multiple uses, and all classes are fully equipped with interactive promethean screens.

Vision

Our vision is to inspire a generation to learn, flourish and achieve in a caring, Christian community.

We strive for outstanding outcomes for all our pupils – to be the best that they can be.

Our school is focused on nurturing the children's academic, physical and spiritual development, thereby laying down good foundations for life.

In following a compelling and inclusive curriculum, we aim for our Year 6 leavers to be compassionate and responsible citizens, ready to embrace 'life in all its fullness'.

"Everybody can be great because everybody can serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

Martin Luther King

Our Vision for Children

For every unique and precious child at our school, we will:

- Protect and nurture pupil wellbeing.
- Inspire all pupils to achieve their potential and be well-prepared for the next stage of their education.
- Immerse pupils in a compelling and well-taught curriculum; to develop critical thinking, a rich vocabulary and a love of learning.
- Guide and prepare pupils for their future as global and compassionate citizens.

Our Vision for Staff

Our school will support and encourage our staff to:

- Develop professional excellence through outstanding subject knowledge and pedagogical understanding.
- Grow their gifts by inspiring each other, championing each other and learning from each other.
- Act with wisdom and compassion.



Our Vision for Premises

Our school will be a safe, stimulating and sustainable learning environment which is:

- Well-equipped.
- Encourages an active lifestyle.
- Accessible for all.
- Environmentally friendly.

Our Vision for Community

Our school will be outward facing and embrace partnerships with others through:

- Enabling meaningful and constructive parent and pupil engagement.
- Caring and serving our local and global neighbours.
- Celebrating diversity.
- Developing close church connections.

School Organisation

The admission number for entry into the Reception year is 30 and the Governors have currently capped all classes at this number. Pupils are currently taught in seven classes from Reception to Year 6.

We have a heart for inclusion so many parents trust the school to support their child who might be facing difficulties. Historically, this has meant higher than national numbers of children with SEND.

Staffing

We have an incredibly motivated and committed team of staff who all work collaboratively to ensure that all children achieve. There is a real team spirit and staff at all levels are supportive of each other, whilst also positively challenging each other.

We currently have 8 FTE teachers plus the Headteacher. We are fortunate enough to have a non-class based Assistant Headteacher and a full time inclusion leader. In addition to teaching staff, teaching assistant support is also provided for pupils according to need. We also have 3 office staff and a part-time caretaker who all ensure the smooth running of the school.

Our Governing Body

The school has a very supportive and involved team of governors. As the school is voluntary aided, the Governing Body are the employers of staff. Our Chair of Governors is Geoff Tabor.

External Reports

Ofsted Inspection February 2022 – We were delighted to be judged ‘Good’ after our previous judgement of ‘Requiring Improvement’ 4 years ago, especially during the pandemic. School leaders have proved that they know what to do to bring about positive change.

Church SIAMS Inspection June 2018 – We were judged to be a Good church school and are expecting a re-inspection in 2025.

Teaching and Learning

At The Priory, we believe that each and every one of us is made to flourish. Helping children learn (academically, socially, spiritually, morally, emotionally, and physically), in order for them to achieve their God-given potential, is our core purpose.

Our school has developed a compelling, coherent, sequenced, relevant, broad, balanced, ambitious and challenging curriculum which progresses from EYFS to Year 6. We have developed a curriculum, based on the National Curriculum, which reflects our unique context and priorities as a Global, Inclusive, Eco, Healthy, Church and Coastal School.

The curriculum provision in each subject is provided through a mixture of school-outlined programmes and some purchased schemes to support high-quality teaching and learning. These schemes include:

- Maths No Problem!
- Little Wandle (phonics and early reading scheme)
- Drawing Club/Talk 4 Writing (YR-Y1)
- The Write Stuff (Y2 - Y6)
- Charanga in Music
- Complete PE

We recognise our responsibilities to educate the heart as well as the mind and so we have a full PSHE programme, using Jigsaw material alongside our mental health and wellbeing scheme TrickBox. We have also recently been awarded the bronze Global Neighbour accreditation, which celebrates the work we do to enable our pupils to be courageous advocates.

Community Links
















As a one form entry school, we have a strong sense of community and we benefit from an excellent relationship of mutual trust with our parents. An overwhelming number responded positively to ParentView during our Ofsted inspection. A group of dedicated volunteers regularly help in school with activities such as reading and swimming.

The school has a thriving fundraising group of parents called the 'Friends of Priory School'. Funds raised through a variety of events have gone towards improving the outdoor space around school and providing lockers for the children.

The majority of our pupils (over 90%) currently proceed on to Twynham Secondary School, but a number each year also go to the Bournemouth Grammar schools, St. Peter's, The Grange and Highcliffe School.

Current School Improvement Priorities

We are a school who continually strives to ensure the very best for our school community. Our current school improvement priorities are as follows:

<p>Team Priory</p>  <p>Love and Forgiveness Leadership and Community</p>	<p>Learn Priory</p>  <p>Aspiration Teaching and Learning</p>	<p>Heart Priory</p>  <p>Love and Respect Wellbeing & Personal Development</p>
 <p>Staff Leadership Ensure effective and distributed leadership within the staff team. <i>Measurable Impact: leadership teams - NPQs - CPD - effective induction</i></p>	 <p>Writing Improve pupil attainment in writing across the school. <i>Measurable Impact: The Write Stuff - Drawing Club - transcription automaticity - quality outcomes</i></p>	 <p>Christian Vision and Values Further establish a shared understanding of the school's vision and values. <i>Measurable Impact: Christchurch Priory / diocese partnership - clarity in vision - Effective SIAMS</i></p>
 <p>Pupil Leadership Enable pupils to contribute effectively to the school community. <i>Measurable Impact: Y6 roles contribute to life of school - ambassador roles - citizenship</i></p>	 <p>Early Reading Improve pupil attainment in early reading skills across the school. <i>Measurable Impact: Above local and national attainment data, high-quality phonics - highly skilled staff</i></p>	 <p>Attendance and Safeguarding Ensure pupils attend school regularly and safeguarding issues are effectively responded to. <i>Measurable Impact: attendance data and tracking systems - comprehensive safeguarding audit</i></p>
 <p>Global Neighbours Enhance pupil opportunities to engage effectively with their local, national and global communities. <i>Measurable Impact: Global Neighbours award - courageous advocacy - Gamechangers</i></p>	 <p>Number Fluency Improve pupil attainment in mathematics through developed number fluency. <i>Measurable Impact: Above local and national attainment data - Mastering Number - Maths Hub - Number fluency</i></p>	 <p>Wellbeing Develop awareness, strategies and opportunities for developing personally. <i>Measurable Impact: Trickbox embedded - staff retention and wellbeing - Platinum School Games Award</i></p>
 <p>Premises and Equipment Ensure the school site and equipment effectively facilitates the core functions of the school. <i>Measurable Impact: Effective IT - data management - H&S audit - site development of key areas (EYFS, outside)</i></p>	 <p>High-Quality Outcomes Ensure consistently high-quality outcomes across the curriculum. <i>Maintain good quality of education (Ofsted grading) - Effective assessment and tracking in all subjects - High levels of engagement</i></p>	 <p>Nurture and Forest Schools Enhance pupil opportunities for personal development through nurture and forest school programmes. <i>Measurable Impact: Forest School - pastoral support - wide range of personal development opportunities</i></p>

The Application Process

For full details of the vacancy and an application form you can visit our [website](#).

Please apply either through [Dorset Council](#), [Gov.uk Teaching Vacancies](#), or by post or [email](#).

20th March 8:00 am	Closing Date Candidates should complete the application in full so that it is received no later than this date. An incomplete application form or form containing gaps cannot be considered. You should provide a full statement in support of your application but do not restate factual details already given elsewhere. When you complete the enclosed application form, please let us know about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The particular strengths you have to offer our school, and how you anticipate being able to use these.• Personal interests and skills which enrich your life and work.
24th March	Shortlisting Candidates selected for interview will be contacted as soon as possible following the application deadline. If you have not heard from the school by the end of this date, please assume that on this occasion your application has been unsuccessful.
27th March	Interview Further information will be provided for candidates selected for interview.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, therefore the interview process will include an assessment of the person's suitability to work with children. Please refer to the school's Child Protection Policy on the school website.

Please note that the school will follow up any declared periods of working abroad with your agreed references and international police checks, before any firm offer of employment can be issued.

Before the interview, references of short listed candidates will be called for. Referees listed should be your current employer and the last contact at the last post working with children.

If an applicant is short listed, any discrepancies or anomalies in the information provided or issues arising from references will be taken up at interview.