



St Wilfrid's

Church of England Academy



Salary: TLR2c (£8186) -

A recruitment and retention allowance of £3,000 for 3 years will be available for a suitably experienced candidate.

Contract: Full Time - Permanent

Closing Date: Monday 19th January 2026

Start Date: 1st September 2026

LEARNING AREA COORDINATOR - RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

WELCOME

I am delighted that you have expressed an interest in working at St Wilfrid's Church of England Academy.

We are seeking to appoint an outstanding practitioner to lead our Religious Education Learning Area. You should be highly motivated and have a proven track record in securing excellent outcomes for learners. All students study Religious Education and outcomes are strong at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. Following the promotion of the current post holder to take a wider Senior Leadership role in developing the Christian Distinctiveness of the Academy, we are looking for an experienced RE teacher to fulfil this role.

St Wilfrid's C of E Academy is a special place: located in one of the most deprived wards in the country; multi-racial; multi-cultural and serving those of all faiths and of no faith. It is a genuine occupational requirement of this post that you are a practising Christian, with a vocation to teach Religious Education. In the Religious Education Learning Area, students explore faith in a safe and academic context leading to greater understanding and community cohesion.

If you were to be successful in your application, you would be joining an Academy which strives for excellence. We benefit from purpose-built accommodation with excellent facilities. All in all, it is a wonderful place to work, learn and worship. We aim to raise aspirations, realise potential and develop well-rounded successful teachers and young people.

As an Academy we seek to embrace new methodologies, whilst maintaining a balance with traditional practice, to bring about examination success. All students at Key Stage 3 and 4 have a 1:1 mobile device. We are part of the local Faith Community and work with SACRE to shape the KS3 curriculum.

We are looking for a high calibre, enthusiastic and outstanding Religious Education teacher who wishes to be part of the success story of St Wilfrid's. Our ideal candidate is a strong RE teacher with some leadership experience.

Please note a recruitment and retention allowance will be available for a suitably experienced candidate or to enable you to relocate.

The closing date for applications is 9:00am on Monday 19th January 2026.

Applicants are warmly invited to ring for an informal discussion or to visit the Academy. Please contact Mrs K Nightingale, PA to the Principal, via knightingale@saintwilfrids.com who will arrange this.

Please submit the Teaching Staff application form, which can be downloaded from the Academy website, along with a letter of application of not more than two A4 sides detailing how your experiences to date qualify you for the post.

I look forward to receiving your application.
Yours faithfully,

Mrs V Michael
Principal



ABOUT THE ACADEMY

St Wilfrid's Church of England Academy provides a faith-led education for 11 to 18 year olds serving the Borough of Blackburn with Darwen and parts of Pennine Lancashire.

We seek to provide an excellent education based upon a strong Christian foundation, as we develop all who work, learn and serve in our community.

Our Academy is exceptionally diverse and inclusive. Our students and staff, whilst united by the Christian ethos of the school, have a wide variety of backgrounds and beliefs.

We benefit from extensive purpose-built accommodation with excellent facilities.

The Academy was rebuilt on this site in 2003 and benefits from modern, spacious accommodation.

We enjoy strong links with local churches, Primary Schools and Blackburn Cathedral where we gather for eucharist each term, and our traditional Nine Lessons and Carols service at Christmas.

Overall, St Wilfrid's Church of England Academy is a wonderful community, and a place committed to the growth and development of its staff and pupils.

Scan to watch a video of staff sharing why they love working at St Wilfrid's.



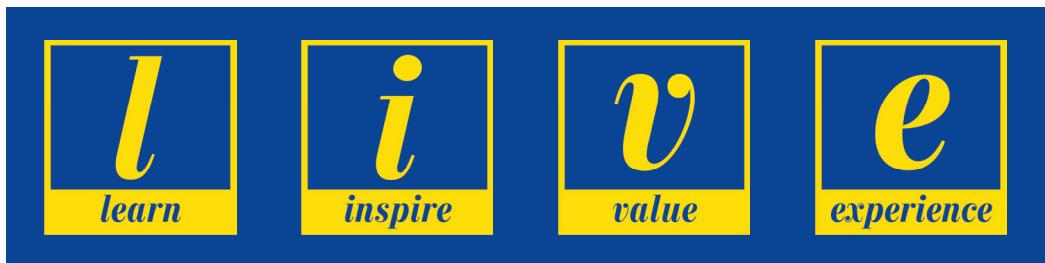
OUR VISION

Lord direct us to live life to the full

Our vision statement for the Academy derives from two places:

- 1)** Our motto 'Domine Dirige Nos', which translates to 'Lord Direct Us'; and
- 2)** A verse from the 10th chapter of the gospel of John, which reads:
"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

We believe that this life should be lived out to the full, through direction and guidance from the Lord. Our hope is that the daily experiences within the Academy enables students to develop holistically; growing in character and valuing all others.



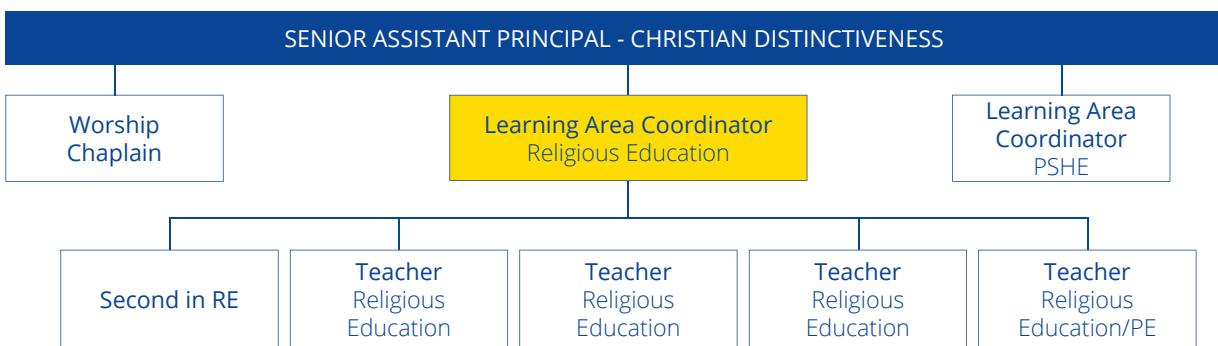
Students will learn values through academic study and everyday interactions. They will be inspired by the spiritual and enriching out-of-lesson experiences, and in turn, inspire hope in others. Students will become stronger, well-rounded and content individuals who value themselves and others. They will be given opportunities to develop and experience a fully-inclusive environment.



LEARNING AREA: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Religious Education team achieve excellent outcomes as a result of their outstanding subject pedagogical approach and the rapport that they have with each student. They are a forward thinking, dynamic team who are at the forefront of embedding new technologies into daily teaching. All members of the Learning Area are dedicated to producing lessons of the highest standard and work collaboratively to ensure that students are able to experience a high quality curriculum. RE is compulsory at GCSE and all students at KS5 study Core RE. There is a thriving KS5 uptake and a significant proportion of our A2 students go on to study RE related undergraduate courses.

Staff	4 specialist teachers + 1 Learning Area Coordinator + 1 Second in RE/PSHE Lead			
Examination courses for KS4	The majority of students sit the full-course exam - AQA (2016) GCSE RS Specification A			
Examination courses for KS5	All students study EdExcel A-Level Religious Studies A significant number of our A2 students study RE or an RE-related degree course.			
GCSE examination results*		7+	5+	4+
	2025	27.4%	55.7%	69.2% (Whole Cohort)
	2024	46.4%	78.4%	88.0% (optional)
	2023	52.2%	89.4%	93.8% (optional)
Teaching Areas	All lessons at KS3 and KS4 are taught in specialist rooms and teaching staff have a room base for the majority of their lessons. KS5 lessons are delivered in the new block predominantly used by Sixth Form. All rooms have full connectivity, to facilitate the use of 1:1 devices and Apple TV.			
Timetable structure	Lessons are taught on a weekly timetable. KS3 Year 7 have one period and Year 8 and 9 have two periods per week KS4 Students studying the full course have two periods per week KS5 Five periods The curriculum time for RE increased in 2023, with all students studying the full course GCSE.			
Extended Learning	Experiential learning takes place for all year groups. We have strong partnerships with a number of local churches and students regularly have visitors in their lessons. Additional visits are a developing part of the RE curriculum and visits take place in all Key Stages to enhance learning of world views.			



JOB DESCRIPTION

PURPOSE

To lead the staff within the Religious Education Learning Area and ensure that the best possible outcomes for all students within the Academy are achieved.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be a passionate role model for outstanding teaching and learning within the RE Learning Area
- Monitor, evaluate and review classroom practice across the Learning Area and promote improvement strategies which will have a positive impact on student outcomes
- Take a strategic role in the development of curriculum within the Learning Area
- Establish creative, responsive and effective approaches to learning and teaching through the use of technology
- Use assessment information to inform planning and maximise progress. Actively monitor and follow up student progress ensuring timely intervention is effective
- Ensure assessments, moderation and the administration of examinations are completed accurately and on time
- Monitor marking across the Learning Area, ensuring students are provided with purposeful feedback and set appropriate targets which are acted upon to maximise progress
- Develop and evaluate (along with appropriate colleagues), syllabuses and corresponding schemes of learning ensuring that they are sequenced, relevant and up to date so that the curriculum is ambitious, broad and balanced
- Produce and implement clear, evidence-based improvement plans
- Strategically lead Learning Area meetings and CPD to promote effective consultation, the sharing of good practice and ensure relevant training takes place in a timely manner
- Evaluate one's own teaching critically and use this to improve effectiveness
- Treat people fairly, equitably, with dignity and respect, to create and maintain a positive culture within the Academy
- Develop and maintain a culture of high expectations for oneself and for others and take appropriate action when performance is unsatisfactory
- Review one's own practice, set personal targets and take responsibility for one's own personal development
- Have a passion for working with young people
- Manage one's own workload and that of others to allow an appropriate work/life balance
- Fully participate in the Academy's Appraisal programme
- Be aware of, and adhere to, policies and procedures relating to safeguarding, child protection, health and safety, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to the appropriate persons
- Fulfil commitments arising from contractual accountability to the governing body
- Undertake any other duties and responsibilities as required which are covered by the general scope of the post
- Undertake any other reasonable duties at the request of the Principal
- Create and maintain effective partnerships with parents and carers to support and improve students' academic achievement, in addition to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Attend Parents' Evenings and other Post-16 events as required to ensure a positive partnership is realised between staff, students and parents
- Be professional at all times with regards to appearance and behaviour

- Actively support and promote the Christian ethos of the Academy
- Support the Academy House System
- Provide pastoral support for students to the best standard possible
- Carry out the roles and responsibilities of a form tutor
- Contribute where possible to Academy events and extra-curricular activities
- Actively promote the Academy within the community

This job description forms part of the contract of employment of the person appointed to this post. It reflects the position at the present time only and may be changed at management's discretion in the future. The appointment is subject to the current conditions of employment in the current School Teacher's Pay and Conditions.

REWARDS AND BENEFITS

- Salary: TLR2c (£8186).
- A Recruitment and Retention allowance of £3,000 for 3 years is available for a suitably experienced candidate.
- Teacher's pension scheme.
- Laptop and iPad.
- Access to Employee Assistance programme offering free confidential support on a range of issues such as work, wellbeing, money, health and legal advice.
- Excellent opportunities for continuous professional development and support to develop your career.
- Cycle to work scheme.

SAFEGUARDING

St Wilfrid's Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
FAITH COMMITMENT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regular involvement in a church in membership of Churches Together in England, The Evangelical Alliance or North West Gospel Partnership.	
QUALIFICATIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">5 good GCSEs (or equivalent) including English and MathematicsA-Levels or equivalentDegree or equivalent in a relevant subjectQTS Status or QTLS status	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Further qualifications demonstrating leadership development, such as NPQs
EXPERIENCE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Be an excellent teacher demonstrating enthusiasm and a commitment to education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Have experience of teaching RE up to KS5Have experience of leading strategies with impact to improve the progress of studentsHave experience of enriching the learning opportunities of students beyond the classroomHave leadership and management experienceHave recent experience of examining RE or be interested in pursuing thisHave knowledge of and a commitment to the implementation of the safeguarding agenda
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Have the ability to demonstrate a clear understanding of the principles and practice of effective teaching specifically relating to REHave confidence and competence in using student achievement data appropriately, to support students and therefore make timely interventions which have a long-term impactHave the ability to hold honest, supportive and challenging conversationsHave knowledge and experience of recent relevant pedagogical developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Have experience of utilising research to develop innovative practiceHave experience of networking with other schools and education providers
PERSONAL QUALITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Be able to actively support and promote the Christian Ethos of the AcademyBe passionate about the teaching of subjects within the RE Learning AreaHave a passion for working with young peopleBe a team player used to working collaborativelyHave high expectationsHave a willingness to make a commitment to support the success of colleaguesHave creativity, energy, enthusiasm and a sense of humourBe able to lead by example and demonstrate professional values, securing the ethos of the AcademyHave energy, tenacity and the ability to work under pressure	

HOW TO APPLY



CLOSING DATE: 9AM MONDAY 19TH JANUARY 2026

Please submit the Teaching Staff application form, which can be downloaded from the Academy website, along with a letter of application of not more than two A4 sides detailing how your experiences to date qualify you for the role. This should be sent to knightingale@saintwilfrids.com.

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