



St Botolph Church of England Primary School Headteacher Recruitment Pack



[Click here watch a short tour of our school](#)

**Thank you for showing an interest in our Headteacher position.
We hope this pack provides you with the information you need
to apply.**

**More information can be found on our website
& visits to school are welcome**

www.st-botolphs.leics.sch.uk

How To Apply

Please submit a completed application form alongside a cover letter of no more than 2 sides (minimum font size 12).

While we acknowledge the advantages of AI in crafting personal statements for applications, we strongly encourage and expect applicants to personalise and tailor responses.

Queries can should be via the school office in the first instance: office@st-botolphsprimary.org or call 01509 503387.

Completed applications should be submitted via eteach. All applications will be acknowledged.

References for short-listed candidates will be requested prior to interview.

Background

Our current Headteacher is retiring at the end of the school year in 2026 and the Deputy is also stepping down at the same time. This presents an exciting opportunity for the right candidate to adopt the values and ethos of 'the St Botolph's way' which staff and stakeholders highly regard, whilst confidently leading the team as we change and develop in line with our strategic aims.

Early recruitment also provides the opportunity for the incoming Headteacher to be involved in the appointment of the new Deputy.

Safeguarding Statement

Shepshed C of E Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Due to this post having access to children and/or vulnerable adults, the successful candidate will be required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service check. The possession of a criminal record will not necessarily prevent an applicant from obtaining this post, as all cases are judged individually according to the nature of the role and information provided.

In addition, the school will also be conducting an online search as part of our due diligence on all shortlisted candidates. The purpose of this is to help identify any incidents or issues that have happened, the details of which are publicly available online, and to determine a candidates' suitability to work with children and keep them safe. This check will be undertaken by someone independent from the shortlisting panel and only once shortlisting has taken place. Where any relevant issues are identified by this process the panel will explore this further with you at your interview.



Key Dates



Closing date for applications:

Midnight Thurs 11th
December 2025

Shortlisting:

w/c 12th January 2026

Interview dates:

Mon 19th & Tues 20th
January 2026

Contact Us



Email:

office@st-botolphsprimary.org

Call:

01509 503387

Vision & Values

Our Christian Values

Our Christian values are seen as essential in establishing our school ethos:

Creation

We celebrate and enjoy the world in all its diversity.

Community

We nurture positive relationships within the school and wider community.

Compassion

We support one another, sharing experiences.

Endurance

We persevere in the face of hardship and never give up.

Responsibility

We share a collective responsibility for our world, community and the people in it.

Trust

Trust lies at the heart of the relationships within our school.

Our School

“At St Botolph’s every day is a new day...to learn new things...to make a new start....that can take us anywhere we want to go....”

Our aim

Our aim is to promote aspirational, independent children who are happy, respectful and have self-belief.

We want all children to become creative, active and reflective learners, enabling them to be able to respond positively to the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing world and promote a commitment to lifelong learning. St Botolph’s Church of England Primary school is controlled by the Local Education Authority who recognise the Church of England’s foundation of a school in Shepshed. The school is situated on a shared campus with Iveshead, School Hind Leys Pre-School and Bowman Academy. Children start our school when they are 4 and the majority of our children transfer to Iveshead for their secondary education. There are currently around 420 children on roll and we now take up to 60 children per year group.

Our official catchment area consists of both private and rented housing, however children attending St. Botolph’s come from all of Shepshed and beyond.

In February 2022, the school moved in to a new flagship building which took it to a Grade 3 school (with the expectation we grow to 630 NOR, Group 4). This amazing opportunity gave us the space and potential beyond anything we could have imagined; it allows the school to continue to grow in line with the increasing desire to for pupils to attend, and to support the additional primary places required as a result of the significant housing development around the Shepshed area.

Our fantastic two storey building includes two libraries, food technology, science and music rooms and a large hall which can be divided into separate spaces. Each Key Stage area has hand-painted wall murals depicting a different continent which creates a fantastic primary feel to the school and classes are names in line with these (eg: parrots, orangutangs, puffins, giraffe, leopards). There are excellent outdoor spaces consisting of a large playground area with trim trail and enclosed ball-court, a dedicated EYFS area with play equipment and a forest school.

In 2024 we opened our Tree Frogs as a dedicated SEND resource base for children with complex support with plans to grow this over the next few years. Our [SEND practice](#) which integrates into all areas of the St Botolph’s is integral to our school values and direction.

**100% of parents/carers
said they’d recommend St Botolph’s C of E Primary
[CLICK HERE TO READ THEIR FEEDBACK](#)**

'I cannot express enough how grateful I am that you took the time and care to let my son grow and learn at a pace that was suitable for him.'

Parent feedback

'From the first day and each day since, we have been valued and respected. My children are succeeding beyond where I could imagine.'

Parent feedback

'Since my son has started his journey with you he has been so happy. You have got to know him as an individual and highlighted his strengths. He has made so much progress and grown in confidence. The best decision I have ever made, thank you. You are all amazing!'

Parent feedback

Our Pupils

We currently have 378 pupils on roll arranged in 14 classes. FS and KS1 are in pure year groups while KS2 is currently in mixed Y3/4 and Y5/6 but split into pure year groups for English and Maths.

We are a very inclusive school. Currently within the school population we have 79 pupils with SEND, 44 EHCP (14 of which are within our SEND resource unit), 73 in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM), 60 children entitled to Pupil Premium funding and 4 of our pupils are looked after by the Local Authority (CLA).



Our Staff

We are a growing school and we currently employ 72 staff:

- 18 teachers
- 40+ support staff including a Senior Mental Health Lead, HTLA's, teaching assistants, cover supervisors & LSA's
- 5 people make up our admin and premises team.

Our Drivers

Our curriculum drivers have been reviewed to drive us forward and to be at the heart of our curriculum, embracing our core values:

Social, emotional and physical wellbeing

As well as caring for their education, we also care for the children's mental health and wellbeing and feel that it is essential to provide children with information to enable them to make life long, well informed decisions.

Our world

We share a collective responsibility to understand and look after our world, realising our impact on it and the difference we can make.

Our Governors

We have a supportive governing body that is comprised of:

- Chair
- 1 co-opted Governor,
- 1 Local Authority Governor
- 1 ex-officio Governor
- 2 foundation Governors
- 2 Parent Governors,
- 1 Staff Governor,
- 3 Associate

Our Curriculum

“At St Botolph’s every day is a new day...to learn new things...to make a new start....that can take us anywhere we want to go....”

St Botolph’s Global curriculum is engaging, exciting and relevant to the children at our school, preparing them for life in modern Britain. It is driven by a desire for our children to have a greater knowledge of the world and an awareness of the possibilities open to them in their future lives and careers.

Our vision

As a community, we are working together to ensure educational excellence underpinned by our Christian ethos and values, enabling all to live a rich and abundant life where each day is a new opportunity.

Reflecting John 10:10: Jesus said, "I have come to give life - life in all its fullness"

Our aim

Our aim is to promote aspirational, independent children who are happy, respectful and have self-belief.

We want all children to become creative, active and reflective learners, enabling them to be able to respond positively to the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing world and promote a commitment to lifelong learning.

We have developed curriculum maps for our Y1-Y6 curriculum to ensure knowledge and skills are progressive and will be taught from the start of the National Curriculum through to the end of Year 6. From these we have developed our two year rolling programme for Key Stage One, Lower Key Stage Two, Upper Key Stage Two.

For more information about our curriculum please see our website:

<https://www.st-botolphs.leics.sch.uk/curriculum-intent>

Our Ofsted and SIAMS Inspections

The school underwent a very successful **SIAMS** inspection in October 2023 and a successful **OFSTED** in November 2021.

These inspections drew out key priorities for us to work on which have been documented in our School Improvement Plan, actioned by the senior leadership team and monitored by the Full Governing Body on a termly basis.



St Botolph's Church

As the only Church of England foundation school in Shepshed, we work together to support each other in the core work in our school and Church. We worked closely with our Foundation Governors in deciding on our core Christian values that permeate our school in our daily actions.

Our 6 Christian values are important and are seen as essential in establishing our school ethos:

Creation – We celebrate and enjoy the world in all its diversity.

Community – We nurture positive relationships within the school and wider community.

Compassion – We support one another, sharing experiences.

Endurance – We persevere in the face of hardship and never give up.

Responsibility – We share a collective responsibility for our world, community and the people in it.

Trust – Trust lies at the heart of the relationships within our school.

Our daily Acts of Worship continue to be supported by members of the Church. In addition, we hold our Harvest and Easter celebration services in Church and also utilise the beautiful St Botolph's for some of our Christmas performances and end of Y6 St Bafta's award ceremony.

We take part in events such as the Christmas tree festival, Christingle service and Rotary concerts. Our Foundation Governors continue to support us in a formal and informal capacity through their regular visits to the school and support during our visits to Church.

BeSkilled Trust

From shared expertise comes collective strength and excellence for all

St Botolph's C of E Primary School is part of a group of 8 local primary schools that together form The Beskilled Partnership.

For our children:

We aim to broaden the quality of learning experiences and cultural capital to develop character, respect, inclusivity and celebrate diversity so that we can support effective transition into the next phase of each child's learning journey.

For our staff:

We aim to enhance teaching and learning through widening professional opportunities, developing best practise and expertise within a safe but challenging environment.

For our Headteachers:

We aim to provide quality assurance of strategic leadership through challenging dialogue, sharing best practice and pooling resources whilst offering a mutually supportive culture of openness, honesty and transparency.

For our Governors:

We aim to ensure effective governance through broadening experiences across the Be Skilled Partnership, sharing skill sets and expertise whilst monitoring educational and financial performance in order to provide robust strategic challenge and support.

BeSkilled Schools

- Belton C of E Primary School
- Long Whatton C of E Primary School
- Oxley Community Primary School (Shepshed)
- Diseworth C of E Primary School
- St Hardulphs C of E Primary School (Breedon on the Hill)
- Thorpe Acre Infant School (Loughborough)
- Thorpe Acre Junior School (Loughborough)



Opportunities at School

Themed weeks

Each year we have bespoke themed weeks each term that enable us to focus on key themes that we have identified as being important for our children. We then continue to weave and embed knowledge on the areas covered throughout the year. Our regular themed weeks are:

- Faith week
- Enterprise week (Autumn)
- Keeping safe week (Spring - linked with Safer Internet Day)
- Healthy me week (Summer)

Clubs

In addition, the children receive a number of further opportunities to widen their learning – **Golden Time** is a great activity that all children from Y1-6 really look forward to, as well as our **extensive range of extra-curricular clubs**. In Year 3 and Year 6, children will also be offered the opportunity to join a residential visit.

Sporting Activities

Children are often keen to extend a particular interest or skill, and we pride ourselves on the extensive range of further sporting opportunities for pupils. Throughout the year, there are many and varied opportunities for children to represent the school in Inter-School competitions. We aim to enter every event possible and to involve as broad a range of pupils as possible to take part.

Roles and responsibilities

Our children have many opportunities to take on roles of responsibility, preparing them for their active role in society. We have our active House Captains, Wellbeing Champions, Rotakids, Sports Crew and act of worship leaders.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education, and Education for Citizenship

During the year a wide range of themes are covered with a spiritual, moral, social, cultural or citizenship focus. Children are also given many experiences in school, which extend their understanding and development in these areas. Many of these experiences are through our Act of Worship Themes.

Environmental Education

Pupils are taught to have respect for the environment through it being one of our core curriculum drivers and through the various opportunities linked to our Forest Schools work and Eco Council.

Shepshed Town

Shepshed is a large Leicestershire town with a population of approximately 15,000, and growing. It lies in the beautiful north Leicestershire countryside which can be seen from many of the windows of our classrooms. Shepshed is easily accessible from Loughborough, Leicester, Nottingham and Derby sitting a few minutes from the M1 motorway. The area also provides an excellent range of housing opportunities and access to both sporting, historic and cultural opportunity whether it be following the Foxes, exploring the discovery of King Richard III or sampling the largest celebration of Diwali outside of India on Leicester's Melton Road.

The school has active links with the community, holding events in the church and local festivals and we host regular external classes after hours, including both adult and children's dance schools and karate.

