



Shaftesbury School

Recruitment Pack

Belonging | **Empathy** | **Service** | **Thrive**

"Be the BEST you can be"

SAST
SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST

Welcome from the Head of School

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in joining Shaftesbury School. We are delighted that you are considering becoming part of our community.

Shaftesbury School is a vibrant and successful 11–18 school with just over 800 students on roll. For more than 300 years, our school has been a place of learning at the heart of the local community. While much has changed over the centuries, our commitment to providing an outstanding education remains constant.

Our students achieve good results at GCSE and A-level. These achievements reflect our belief in delivering a broad and balanced curriculum that is dynamic, challenging, and inclusive. Our approach combines knowledge acquisition with the development of key skills, preparing students for the next stage of their lives. Set within a Christian context, we promote inclusivity and encourage every student to aspire, believe in themselves, and engage fully in their learning.

In our most recent inspection in March 2023, we were delighted to be judged by Ofsted as “Good.” The report reflects the wonderful quality of education we provide, the nurturing environment we have cultivated, and the positive impact we make on the lives of our students. Inspectors commended our commitment to excellence, the strength of our teaching and learning, and the exceptional progress our students have made under the guidance of our team. Our most recent SIAMS inspection also highlighted areas of excellence across the school community and confirmed that Shaftesbury School is a place where young people truly thrive.

We are pleased to be part of the Sherborne Area Schools’ Trust (SAST). There is real strength in coming together with a collective responsibility for all children’s development and progress. We believe in preserving schools within their local communities, ensuring considerable local expertise to support our staff and students, while offering opportunities to contribute to wider developments across the Trust.

Shaftesbury School is a great place to work and is located in a beautiful town. Most of our students come from Shaftesbury and the surrounding area. The school is set on the edge of the town, close to the A303 and within easy commuting distance of the south coast of England, Bath, Salisbury, Yeovil, and beyond. Our location combines the charm of rural Dorset with excellent transport links and access to cultural and recreational opportunities.

Our core values are BEST: Belonging, Empathy, Service, Thrive and these values underpin everything we do. Guided by the principle of “Being the Best You Can Be,” inspired by the words of Jesus Christ, “Love thy neighbour as thyself” (Matthew 22:39), we strive to nurture a compassionate and supportive community where every individual can flourish.

If you share our passion for education and want to make a real difference in the lives of young people, we would be delighted to receive your application. Thank you once again for considering Shaftesbury School, we look forward to the possibility of welcoming you to our team.

Warm regards,

Mrs Stephanie Bowen
Head of School



Our Vision:

Be the **B E S T** you can be

“Love Thy neighbour as Thyself” Rooted in scripture of Matthew 22:39

At Shaftesbury School, our vision is to inspire and empower each individual to become the best version of themselves. Our guiding principle, “Being the Best You Can Be” is deeply rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, particularly his second commandment, “Love thy neighbour as thyself” (Matthew 22:39). This biblical wisdom illuminates our commitment to nurturing a community of compassionate, inclusive and empathetic individuals.

In Matthew 22:39, Jesus instructs us to love our neighbours as ourselves. This profound teaching reminds us of our responsibility to treat others with the same care, respect, and kindness we desire for ourselves. To fully understand the significance of this commandment, we turn to the Parable of the Good Samaritan found in Luke 10:25–37.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan is a powerful illustration of Jesus’ teaching on loving one’s neighbour. In this parable, a man is brutally beaten and left for dead on the side of the road. Initially, a priest and a Levite, both considered to be righteous individuals, pass by without offering assistance. However, a Samaritan, who belonged to a group despised by the Jews, stops to help the injured man.

This parable serves as a timeless reminder that love knows no boundaries, and it challenges us to love everyone, even those who may be considered our enemies. The Samaritan’s actions demonstrate that true compassion transcends societal divisions, prejudice, and bias. He selflessly cares for a stranger, showcasing the essence of “Love thy neighbour as thyself.”

At Shaftesbury School, we draw inspiration from this parable to foster an environment where every student and staff member embraces the principle of loving their neighbour as themselves. We encourage acts of kindness, empathy, and support among our diverse community, recognising that in doing so, we cultivate a culture of acceptance, understanding, and unity.

Incorporating the teachings of Jesus and the message of the Good Samaritan into our educational approach, we strive to equip our students with not only academic knowledge but also the values and qualities that will enable them to be compassionate, responsible, and caring citizens. Through “Being the Best You Can Be” we aim to nurture individuals who, like the Good Samaritan, are willing to extend love and assistance to all, regardless of their background or circumstances.

In this way, Shaftesbury School endeavours to fulfil its mission of helping each student reach their fullest potential while contributing positively to the broader community, guided by the profound message of loving one’s neighbour as oneself.

The Good Samaritan exemplifies the school’s Christian Values of Belonging, Empathy, Service and Thrive, through his actions in the parable of the Good Samaritan.

We can draw inspiration from his example to incorporate these values into our daily lives at Shaftesbury School.



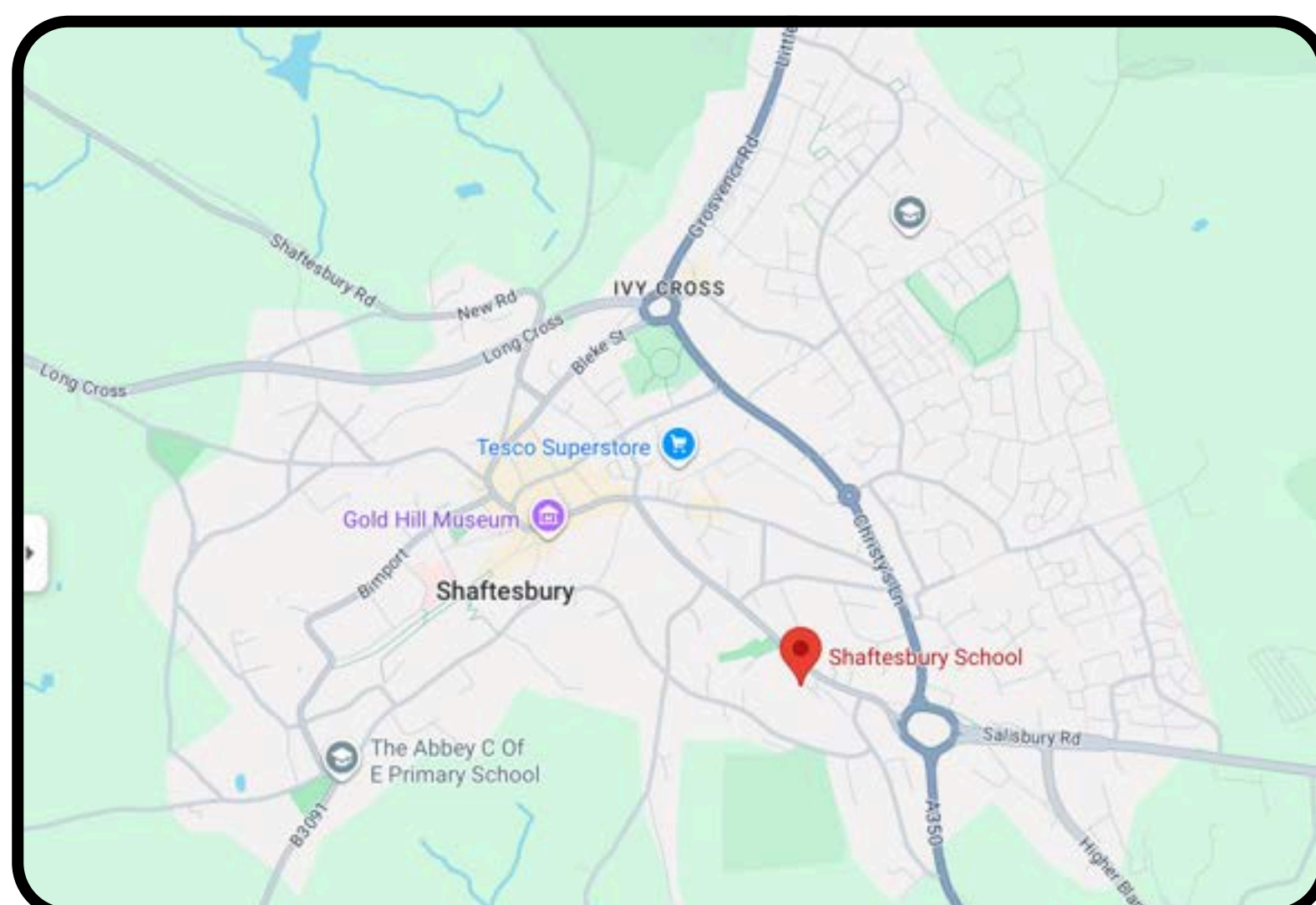
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We warmly welcome you to visit or contact us for further information before applying.