

The Purbeck School

Achieving Excellence Together

Application Pack

Higher Level Teaching Assistant, Literacy and Numeracy

WESSEX MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance

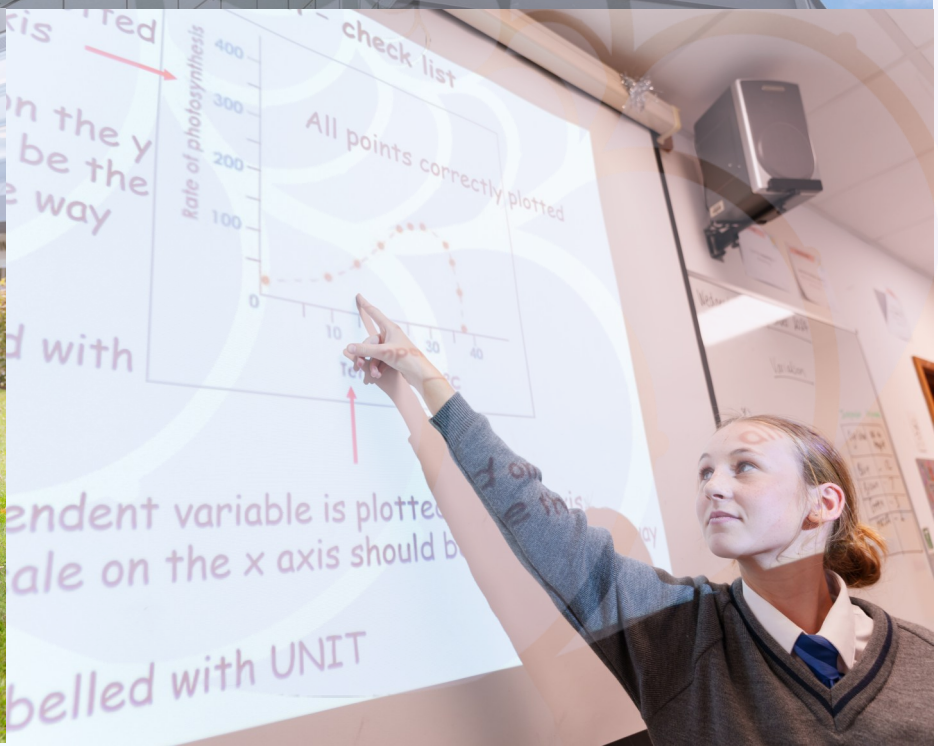
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Welcome to The Purbeck School



Thank you for your interest in joining The Purbeck School.

I may be a little biased, but I genuinely believe The Purbeck School is a wonderful place to work. We are proud to be a school where students achieve highly, develop confidence and character, and leave with both excellent qualifications and a strong set of values rooted in our core principles of kindness, aspiration and perseverance. Our recent GCSE and A Level outcomes placed us amongst the top-performing schools nationally, reflecting the dedication of both our staff and students.

We are seeking an exceptional Higher Level Teaching Assistant, or someone willing to work towards the qualification, to play a key role within our SEND and Inclusion provision. Working closely with our SENDCo and English and Mathematics departments, you will lead targeted literacy and numeracy interventions, helping students develop the skills and confidence needed to access the wider curriculum and achieve their potential.

The SEND team is highly supportive and committed to continuous improvement. We place professional development at the heart of what we do and are proud that outcomes for our students with SEND consistently exceed national averages.

This is an exciting time to join the department. In September 2025, we opened our new Complex Communication Base following significant investment and a complete refurbishment of the SEND block, further enhancing the support and facilities available to students.

If you are passionate about inclusion and committed to improving outcomes for young people, I would be delighted to receive your application.

Should you wish to visit the school or discuss the role, please contact our SENDCo, who will be happy to help.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Adam Darley
Headteacher

What OFSTED say

The Purbeck School Ofsted Report

Recognising a school where students make 'exceptional progress'

We are absolutely delighted to share with you the outcome of our Ofsted inspection (May/June 2025), resulting -in an exceptional report that we believe truly captures the spirit and strength of our school community. This report builds on the last set of verified GCSE and A level results that have placed us within the top 10% of schools nationally.

The opening paragraph of the report encapsulates everything we strive for at The Purbeck School:

"The culture of the school is one of personal care and ambition for all. The value of 'kindness' underpins the work of the school to sustain high standards. The school has the highest expectations for the personal development and academic achievement of pupils. As a result, pupils make exceptional progress through the curriculum, and outcomes are high."

We are incredibly proud that the inspectors recognised the unique ethos of our school - where *kindness, aspiration, and perseverance* go hand in hand. This report is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion of our staff, the enthusiasm and commitment of our students, and the support across the local community from parents.

We believe the report reflects who we are as a school and the values we live by every day. It has been a moment of celebration for our entire community.

Here are some more statements from the report that highlight the 'exceptional' work of the school:

'Pupils treat other respectfully'
'Pupils make exceptional progress'
'The design for the Personal Development of pupils prepares them exceptionally well'
'An exceptional approach to Careers'
'The school runs an aspirational programme of over 70 clubs and events'
'Pupils conduct themselves exceptionally well'
'Curriculum design is both detailed and coherent'

The full report is available here:
https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/23/148737
The report does not identify any areas for improvement.

Job Description

HLTA: Literacy and Numeracy

Grade 9, SCP 19 onwards
35 hours per week, Term Time Only
£33,119 FTE, pro rata (£26,990 - £30,612)

We are seeking an exceptional Higher Level Teaching Assistant or someone with the relevant skills and experience willing to work towards the qualification**;** primarily to lead targeted literacy and numeracy intervention for pupils who enter secondary school below age-related expectations.

Working closely with our SENDCo and English and mathematics teams, the successful candidate will deliver structured individual and small-group intervention, helping pupils develop the fundamental literacy and numeracy skills required to access the secondary curriculum.

This is a specialist intervention role requiring considerably more than conventional classroom support. The successful candidate will help assess pupils' needs, deliver and adapt intervention programmes, monitor progress and provide clear evidence of impact.

We are particularly interested in applicants who have experience of working with pupils with low prior attainment and/or SEND and who can demonstrate strong literacy and numeracy skills.

The successful applicant will:

- hold HLTA status or have equivalent relevant experience
- have GCSE English and Mathematics at Grade C/4 or above, or equivalent
- have experience of delivering individual and small-group intervention
- have experience supporting pupils with SEND and/or low prior attainment
- demonstrate excellent communication and relationship-building skills
- be confident in assessing, monitoring and recording pupil progress

be committed to improving outcomes for pupils who face barriers to learning

The role provides an excellent opportunity for an experienced TA or HLTA to take significant responsibility for an important area of the school's SEND and inclusion provision.

Closing date: Midnight, 23rd November 2026

General Information

The Purbeck School is a highly successful and ambitious school. GCSE and A Level results consistently place us amongst the leading schools in Dorset, with recent outcomes placing us in the top 10% of providers nationally.

Our students go on to study a wide range of subjects, including Medicine, Law, Physics and English Literature, at universities such as Oxford and other Russell Group institutions. Others secure highly competitive Higher and Degree Apprenticeships with organisations including Wessex Water and Babcock International.

As a result of our strong reputation, The Purbeck School is consistently oversubscribed. We currently have approximately 950 students in Years 7-11 and around 160 students in the Sixth Form, with ambitious plans for future growth.

The successful candidate will join our Aim High (SEND) team, working alongside a dedicated group of professionals committed to supporting students with additional needs. Whilst this role will focus primarily on delivering targeted literacy and numeracy intervention, there will also be opportunities to work closely with students with SEND and contribute to wider inclusion provision across the school. The post is line managed by our SENDCo, Rebecca Alls.



The School

The school benefits from excellent facilities following significant investment over recent years. Most of the site was substantially redeveloped within the last decade, and our SEND facilities have recently undergone a major refurbishment, including the creation of a bespoke Complex Communication Base. This provides an exceptional learning environment equipped with high-quality resources to support students with additional needs.

Our ICT infrastructure includes over 250 networked computers across the school and Learning Resources Centre. All staff are provided with a laptop, and our wireless network extends across the entire site.

The school also benefits from an outstanding on-site sports centre, shared with the local community, which includes a sports hall, floodlit all-weather pitches and tennis courts, fitness suite, dance facilities, squash courts and a six-lane heated indoor swimming pool. The sports complex also houses Wareham Youth Centre, with whom we enjoy a strong working partnership.

We serve a largely comprehensive rural community and employ approximately 65 full-time equivalent teachers and 40 full-time equivalent support staff. We are fortunate to have highly skilled colleagues across all areas of the school, and staff turnover remains low.

We believe in the power of learning to develop and inspire young people to embody our school values of 'Kindness, Aspiration and Perseverance'



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Teaching & Learning

The school is totally committed to ensuring that all its students have the opportunity to flourish. As part of this commitment we have established our teaching and learning around the principles of a Mastery curriculum which premise starts from one that all can succeed given the time and the right instruction. Effective curriculum design and using evidence based teaching techniques are the absolute cornerstones of our teaching and learning. All staff at The Purbeck School are dedicated professionals who take an active part in their own professional development to ensure that their own teaching incorporates the very best evidential practice.

Pastoral Care and SEND

A well-established pastoral care system, based upon our four houses of Swift, Skylark, Kestrel and Kingfisher, provides many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills and also forms the basis for our healthily competitive academic, sporting and cultural competitions. Students are part of a same-year tutor group, with each belonging to one particular house.

We are committed to an inclusive education and as such provide our students with a range of support through the 'Nest' which comprises of 3 non-teaching staff who support students with the day to day rigours of school. Within the Nest there is behavioural/ mental health/ and safeguarding expertise and it is a vital support system for our staff and students.

In addition to an excellent pastoral system we also provide a highly effective SEND provision (Aim High). Our SENCo and team of Learning Mentors work with small groups and individuals to ensure that all of our students have the very best opportunities to succeed.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We enjoy accredited Healthy Schools' Status and are a completely non-smoking site.

Leadership & Management

The school's Senior Leadership Team comprises the Headteacher, a Deputy Head, and six Assistant Heads.

The school is organised into curriculum areas and we offer wide choice and diversity. Our curriculum is rich and we provide a wide range of learning opportunities in a variety of contexts through both the formal curriculum and the extra-curricular programme.

The Governing Body comprises 13 governors, including staff governors, who meet half termly. We are also supported by the wider Wessex Multi Academy Trust.

Achievement

As you will see from our examination results, we continue to work hard to improve progress and achievement at The Purbeck School. We aim to achieve this by focusing on high quality teaching and learning. We invest heavily in professional development to continually improve practice and are looking to appoint caring and passionate people who share this same aspiration and potential.

Safer Recruitment Procedure

The Purbeck School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the school. In order to meet this responsibility, we follow a rigorous selection process to discourage and screen out unsuitable applicants. The process is outlined below, but can be provided in more detail if required.

Reference Checking
At least two references will be requested, normally from previous and current employers. These may be contacted before the interview and in all cases, before an offer of employment is made. Please be aware that there may be checks carried out on all aspects of an application to confirm the validity of information supplied.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT
The Purbeck School values the diversity of our workforce and welcomes applications from all sectors of the community.

CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT
The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people; this is a commitment which we expect all staff and volunteers to share. The successful candidate will be required to have a Disclosure and Barring Service check with the Governments safer recruitment.





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School Staffing Structure 2026/27

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Headteacher – Mr Adam Darley
Deputy Headteacher – Mr Carl Morris

Assistant Headteachers

Mr Simon Holmes
Mrs Carly Watson
Mr Joshua Mead
Mr Joe Foyle
Miss Lydia West (seconded)

Head of Sixth Form – Mr Simon Holmes
Special Needs Coordinator – Miss Rebecca Alls

Heads of Year

Year 7 - Mrs Gemma Heighway
Year 8 - Mr Luke Maddison
Year 9 - Mr Nathan Hunt
Year 10 - Mr Adrian Barker
Year 11 - Miss Katie Yarnold

Core Subject Leaders

English: Mr Joshua Basford - **Maths**: - Mr Carl Morris - **Science**: Mr Joe Foyle

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Claire Smith

Deputy DSL

Mr Adam Darley - Mrs M Coronilla - Mr J Mead - Miss R Alls
Mr S Holmes - Mr J Waterman

Support Services Manager

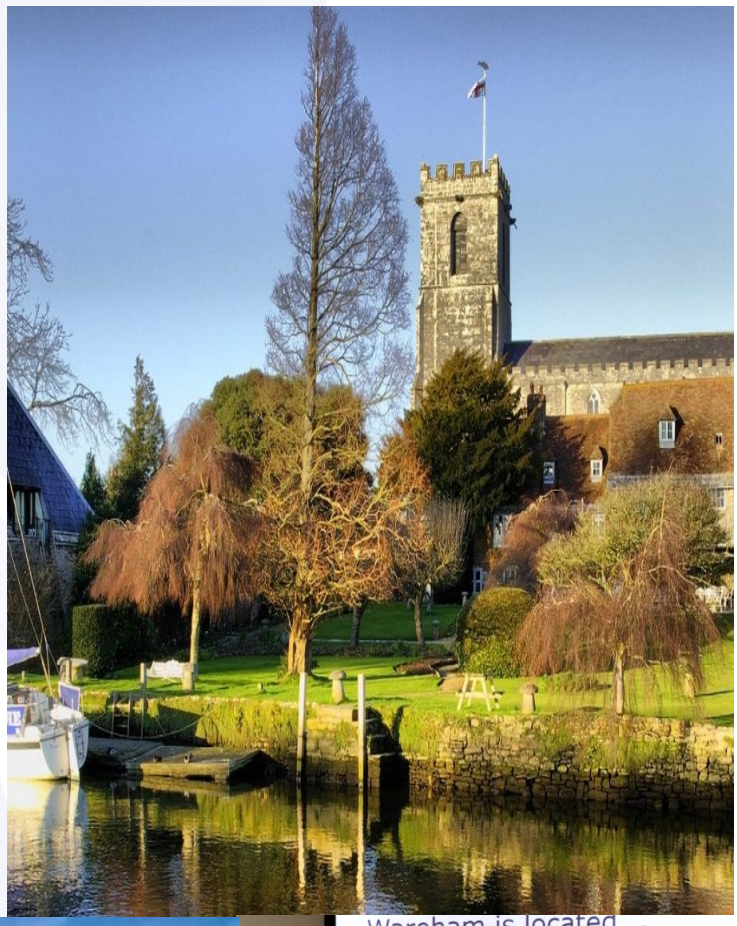
Mrs Paula Dale

PA to Headteacher

Ms Claire Harris

Location

The Purbeck School is located in a highly desirable area in which to live and work. The school itself is situated in Wareham, a Saxon-walled market town in the central southern area of Dorset known as the Isle of Purbeck. It is a gateway town to the World Heritage designated Jurassic Coast that stretches south west from Swanage to East Devon. We are on the edge of Dorset's wonderful Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and adjacent to Poole Harbour, the world's second largest natural harbour.



Our 1050 students mostly come from the towns of Wareham and Swanage, both tourist and commercial centres, and the neighbouring villages of East and West Lulworth, Corfe Castle, Wool, Bovington and Studland. It is a predominantly rural area of some 200 square miles. The Winfrith Technology Centre, extensive army garrisons at Bovington and Lulworth are all nearby. Throughout this valuable ecological area are many tourist attractions, and the towns of Poole, Bournemouth and Dorchester are within easy reach by car, train or bus and offer good cultural, shopping and sporting facilities.

The school is situated on a fine site sloping down to the River Frome, commanding unspoilt views of the Purbeck Hills. It lies adjacent to the Wareham bypass, about half a mile from the town centre, and has its own extensive playing fields and excellent sporting facilities.



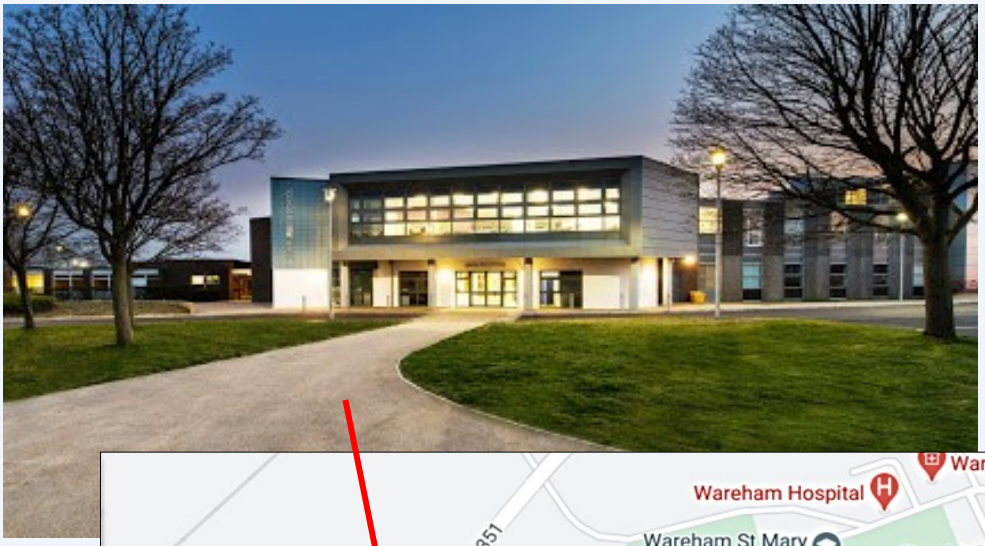


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How to find us

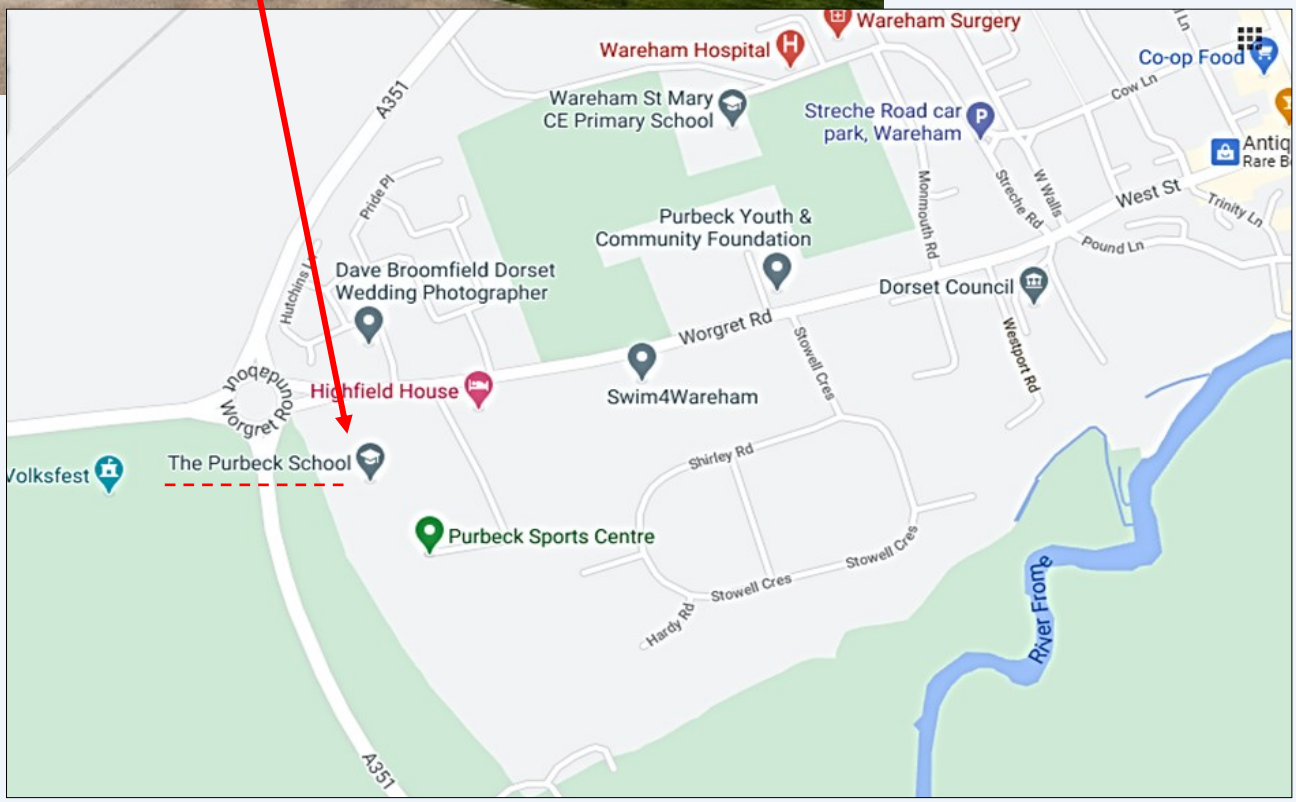
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WESSEX
MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
COMPANY NO: 07677838

REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES



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