



BISHOP RAWSTORNE

Church of England Academy

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But the wisdom
that comes from
heaven is first of all
pure; then peace
loving, considerate,
submissive, full of
mercy and good fruit,
impartial and sincere.

James 3:17



FORTITER ET FIDELITER
Bravely and Faithfully



Bishop Rawstorne Church of England Academy is an oasis of calm, where pupils are warm and courteous towards one another

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Our purpose is to unlock students' academic and personal potential. We strive for our students to have a love of learning, be successful learners and gain the knowledge, skills and attributes to be successful in the world of work. Equally **we endeavour for our students to be good human beings**, with a sense of purpose and character enabling them to flourish in life.

WELCOME

TO BISHOP RAWSTORNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

We thank you for considering us for your child's education and we hope our prospectus captures the positive and supportive learning environment of our Christian school. Choosing a secondary school is an exciting and challenging experience and we are here to help support you in making the right life-defining choice for your child.

We are committed to providing a high-quality Christian education, whilst developing our students to be confident, aspiring and driven young adults who are fully prepared to make a positive contribution to society. We celebrate the diverse talents of all our students and seek to ensure that every individual receives the encouragement and support they need to fulfil their own unique ambitions.

We are proud of our school and all its students and in turn we have the highest expectations of all those who attend - pride in our uniform, respect and tolerance for each other, drive and motivation in the classroom and excellent attendance. In doing so, every child is given the opportunity to fulfil their God-given potential and flourish, bravely and faithfully.

As part of the Blackburn Diocese, our inspiration for everything we do comes from our Christian faith. Our Christian values, combined with our strong partnerships with parents, teachers, local schools and colleges, support agencies, and other stakeholders, create a calm and purposeful environment that allows all our students to excel, regardless of academic ability.

Our commitment remains to ensure that the care and support we provide to our students, our nurturing yet challenging environment, and the outstanding academic attainment achieved year-on-year continue to make Bishop Rawstorne the school of choice for parents.

We warmly invite you to come and see us in action so that you can see for yourself everything that we have to offer.

Yours sincerely

Mr J P Cowley
HEADTEACHER



BISHOP RAWSTORNE
Church of England Academy



Bishop Rawstorne
Christian comm
that delights in s
wisdom and know
building relations
and character b
upon the Word
nabling us
bravely

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Christian values, like **peace**
and **fellowship**, create firm
roots from which students
flourish.

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OUR CHRISTIAN DISTINCTIVENESS

Our vision at Bishop Rawstorne Church of England Academy is '**Fortiter et Fideliter**' – Bravely and Faithfully. We have a deep Christian history and tradition and in today's challenging society, we believe our core Christian values of Hope Service, Compassion, Fellowship, Wisdom, and Peace serve as deep roots. It is these values that form the framework for the character education in our daily school life.

Christianity is at the heart of everything we do, and every student is valued and respected within a caring and supportive environment embraced by the love of God and driven by His word. We start and end the day in prayer and students are encouraged to help lead our themed Year Group Worships, which provide opportunities for thought, reflection, and prayer. Tutor Group Worship allows us all to pause and reflect, and worship services are held throughout the year to celebrate key school events and Christian festivals. It is our faith and sense of community and togetherness which we all experience when we come together to reflect that defines us.

We recognise that our students come from a diverse range of backgrounds, and everyone is welcomed into the spiritual life of our school as we strive to cultivate an atmosphere in which everyone can experience life in all its fullness (John 10:10). Our community extends far beyond the school walls, and we have strong links with the Blackburn Diocese, parents, schools, our parishes and local churches, and our Chaplaincy team which help to guide us. Our aim is to provide an equality of opportunity for all our students to grow and develop and achieve their full potential.

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I felt scared and nervous at first but soon realised that high school has more **creative and fun opportunities** than you think.

Ava Young, Year 8

Trinity & St Michael's CE Methodist Primary School

A SMOOTH AND SUPPORTIVE TRANSITION

The transition from primary to secondary school marks the start of an exciting new phase in a child's life. We work hard to make sure our new student's move from primary school to Bishop Rawstorne is enjoyable and runs as smoothly as possible, and that all our students start Year 7 feeling fully supported:

Primary School Visits

These visits provide us with the opportunity to get to know your child and their friendship group, and for them to discuss their hopes and concerns with us.

Intake Evening

New parents and children are invited into school to receive further information, hear from key members of staff, meet your child's tutor and ask any queries that they may have.

SEND 'Taster' Day

New students identified with SEND are invited into school in smaller groups to spend some time in our Learning Support Department getting to know the members of staff who will be around to help them.

Intake 'Taster' Day

All new students will experience life at Bishop Rawstorne, meet their tutor group, explore the school, participate in a range of lessons, make new friends and have lunch!

Summer Transition Activity

New students will be given a book and a summer transition activity, which they can tailor to their interests, in readiness for starting school in August.

Ongoing Support

Our transition doesn't stop once they start school. All students will have the same tutor group and tutor throughout their five-year journey at Bishop Rawstorne where they will be nurtured and guided. During the first week students will have plenty of opportunities to get to know each other, including earlier lunch breaks and fun team building activities and their Year 10 Student Mentors will also be on hand to support them.

This getting to-know-you process helps to ensure that every child starting school in August has had at least a couple of opportunities to familiarise themselves with school life and that we get to know who they are and what helps them to learn and be happy.

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I feel like all the friends I have now, are ones I have known my entire life!

Alfie Whitley, Year 8

Trinity & St Michael's CE Methodist Primary School

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Students' welfare, including their mental health, is of paramount importance. Pastoral support and care are outstanding

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Pastoral care is exemplary and demonstrates how the academy lives out its deeply held Christian values.

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OUTSTANDING PASTORAL CARE

Here at Bishop Rawstone students are valued and exceptionally well-cared for in an environment that is positive in its approach to young people. Our Pastoral Care Team supports, develops and inspires students, whilst instilling strong values and a sense of responsibility for their behaviour and actions in order to encourage them to fulfil their own ambitions.

Being part of a Christian community means that when we deal with behavioural concerns, we do it in a way that helps young people to understand what it is that they have done wrong, why it is a problem and how they can then improve. We will encourage where needed, empathise when required and enforce rigorously the high standards our academy is known for. We believe that all students deserve the opportunity to “flourish, bravely and faithfully”, meaning that every child should have the opportunity to do well, in their own unique way, and no other students should hamper or stop that.

Our pastoral system is organised in a tutor group system where your child will have the same tutor, tutor group class and Head of Year who will stay with them throughout their entire time at school providing a continuous and supportive environment for your child. This allows them to build strong relationships within school which we believe plays a key role in their personal development and enhances effective teaching and learning. We also have three members of the team in a pastoral liaison and support role, providing an additional home-school link and supporting the Heads of Years to ensure that each student feels valued and an integral part of the school community.

Our Christian values shape all that we do and we promote positive mental health and wellbeing for all members of our community. Strategies are put in place for anyone who need additional wellbeing support, we are very much a ‘team’ working closely together in supporting the wellbeing of our school community.



BISHOP RAWSTONE
Church of England Academy



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Pupils are kind. They support each other well. Pupils value the **sense of belonging** that they feel at school. They respect one another's differences.

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SUPPORT

FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE STUDENTS

We recognise that some students will need additional support during their time at Bishop Rawstone and we believe all students, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), are entitled to an enriching, fulfilling and meaningful education. Diversity is recognised and celebrated, with students experiencing an equal opportunity to academic achievement and participation in extra-curricular activities and school trips.

Our Learning Support Department assists students who have a wide range of needs including physical, social, behavioural and specific learning difficulties in a friendly and inclusive environment. We have an experienced, versatile and highly qualified team with vast experience in supporting students. We work in close collaboration with external agencies, professionals, and teaching staff across all curriculum areas to ensure that all students are given opportunities to “flourish bravely and faithfully” on their journey through secondary school.

Working closely with teaching staff, students, and other agencies, we assess needs and create individual education plans to ensure progression for our students who need extra support. Procedures are put in place following the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice and we encourage parents and guardians with SEN to liaise closely with our SENCO and Learning Support team.

Our safeguarding procedures are robust. All our staff undergo ongoing safeguarding training to ensure we continue to comply with our legal duty and with all child protection policies and safeguarding regulations. If we have a concern about a particular student we will follow our safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's designated safeguarding lead and Prevent officer, and where deemed necessary, with children's social care and/or the police. Our pastoral liaisons provide an additional home-school link when required.

A copy of our safeguarding and SEN policies can be found on our website. Further information on our Learning Support Department can be found here:

<https://bishopr.co.uk/support-and-wellbeing/learning-support>

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Pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), achieve well across the curriculum.

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As a result of the aspirational Christian character, most students achieve **consistently strong results** in GCSEs.

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OUR BROAD AND BALANCED CURRICULUM

Our broad and balanced curriculum ensures all students, regardless of background and ability, can aspire to unlock their full academic and personal potential. It engages, empowers and equips students, within a supportive Christian environment, with the knowledge, confidence, character virtues and learning skills required to thrive in learning and in life and is a driver of equality and social cohesion.

Key Stage 3

In Year 7 and 8 students will follow a well-planned curriculum pathway which provides a thorough foundation in all subjects, including the core compulsory subjects of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education and either History or Geography. This builds upon the knowledge gained from primary school and allows students to make informed options choices when they choose their GCSEs at the end of Year 8.

Key Stage 4

GCSE (or equivalent) courses at Bishop Rawstorne are three years in length beginning in Year 9 and are made up of compulsory and optional subjects. All students continue to study the core compulsory subjects and the EBacc is encouraged as a pathway for all, so the majority of students will also study German. We have a comprehensive menu of optional subjects for students to choose from which includes Physical Education (PE), Triple Science (Biology, Physics and Chemistry), Computer Science, and creative subjects such as Music, Art, Drama, Textiles, Food Nutrition and Technology, Engineering, Design and Technology and iMedia. These creative subjects are recognised for the important part they play in developing the 'whole child' by nurturing talents, celebrating uniqueness and aiding health and mental well-being.

Throughout the five years all students will also study the core curriculum subjects of Physical Education as well as Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHE) which supports the development of students socially, morally, culturally and spiritually.

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I came from Millbrook primary school and was the only one to join Bishops. The way I prepared was to join as many clubs as possible, to meet new people and to make new friends.

Boris Allan, Year 8
Millbrook Primary School

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At Bishops you will have a great time; there are many different clubs and I'm sure that you will find one that you will love.

Lily Bamford, Year 8
Mawdesley St Peter's Church
of England Primary School

ENRICHMENT FOR ALL

We offer a rich and varied range of enrichment activities which provides students with additional opportunities for personal growth, self-development and achievement, as well as improved self-esteem and the creation of new experiences, broader perspectives and increased social opportunities. The different strands of enrichment can be thought of as a 'web' of interconnected experiences and skills which shape a student over time.

We encourage all students to make the most out of all the opportunities we offer and fully immerse themselves in school life in order to nurture their god-given talents. New to 2024-2025, we will assist students in this process through the introduction of our Personal Enrichment Passport (PEP) given to students at the start of their Bishop Rawstorne journey.

We offer a rich menu of sports and non-sports extra-curricular clubs. Our sporting opportunities are wide and varied and we compete in all the local school competitions. Performing arts activities include Drama Clubs, Soul and Rock Bands, a Vocal Group and individual music tuition. We have a Science Club and Dissection Club and creatively, we have a well-established STEM Club, Engineering, Textiles and D&T clubs. Other clubs include a weekly Games Club, Eco-club, Debate Club and Worship Club and we take part in a variety of subject-led competitions. Academic tuition at lunchtime and after-school is offered in many of our subjects, ranging from revision classes and drop-in sessions and the Learning Support team offer a homework club to our SEN students.

We are a reading school and organise a range of exciting literacy events throughout the year including our Readathon, World Book Day and visits and workshops from leading authors as well as visiting theatre and performance groups. We also run a number of events throughout the year such as Faith day, Space day, Cultural Day, careers fairs, Science Week, Numeracy Week to name a few. Our Charity Minions group help to plan school-wide fundraising initiatives to help give back to school and wider community.

Finally, in addition to the above we also have a student leadership programme, providing students with the opportunity to mentor younger students, become Readers Leaders or take on additional responsibilities such as Senior Prefects or contribute to the quality of school life through Student Voice initiative.

The opportunities are offer are diverse and there is something for everyone!



SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES

We believe every child should have access to sport and physical activity as part of a well-rounded education. We encourage all students to keep active and burn off energy whilst learning a new skill or unlocking a passion or talent within a fun environment.

Bishop Rawstorne has a reputation of sporting excellence in a range of disciplines and our sports facilities include playing fields, a fully equipped sports hall, gymnasium, netball and tennis courts and a 3G pitch. We are proud to have achieved Gold in the School Games Mark for our commitment to the development of competition across the school and our community.

Our sporting opportunities are wide and varied. Throughout the year we offer football, badminton, basketball, netball, handball, indoor cricket, cheerleading, dance, table-tennis, touch rugby, volleyball, rounders, athletics, cross-country, glow dodgeball, gymnastics and tennis. We have teams for many of these sports, all of which yield an amazing quantity of enthusiasm and talent! We compete in all the local school competitions, with more than our fair share of success.

Throughout the year there are regular inter-house competitions where the focus is on inclusion and participation, building on our Christian value of fellowship. We offer many sporting leadership opportunities including team captains, volunteers, leaders and officials who help to make the competitions possible.

In addition to our school sporting opportunities, we have a number of students who take part in sports outside of Bishop Rawstorne and who compete at club, district and county level, as well as regionally and nationally in some events! We celebrate all of our students' achievements, both in school and outside of school.



Bishops helps with preparing for our **future lives** because they have so many opportunities to be more responsible.

Zarina Thobani, Year 8
Bretherton Endowed CE
Primary School



EXCITING VISITS AND TRIPS

We are proud to offer students access to a rich and varied range of local, national and international visits. All students are entitled to apply to go on the educational visits on offer to them, residential and non-residential, in the UK and to foreign countries. These play a vital part in enriching the curriculum and giving our students valuable life experiences that will linger long in their memory and 'bring to life' their learning.

Theatre trips to see performances and musicals support the English and Music curriculum areas, and our Drama students have the opportunity to perform in locally and in the Shakespeare English Speaking Union competition. Humanities subject trips include Geography field trips, visits to diverse places of worship and history trips to the National Arboretum as well as taking part in the remembrance services locally and at The Cenotaph, London.

As part of our carousel of creative subjects we offer trips that include the opportunity to sketch, as well as visits to the Walker Art Gallery, the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and ICE Gallery and looking at where our food comes from at farms. Our Blackpool Zoo trip and Top of the Bench Chemistry Competition supports the Science subject area and students attending the STEM Club tested out their electric kit car at Green Power races at Aintree racecourse.

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition is well-established and offered to students in Year 10 and consists of a number of range of voluntary, physical and skills based tasks which is highly valued by employers, colleges and universities. Overseas educational trips include Krakow, Sorrento, a cultural and historical trip to Germany and Belgium and France, including Paris and Euro Disney.

Our students speak incredibly highly of these opportunities, and they are a vibrant and successful part of life at Bishop Rawstorne.

“ Bishop Rawstorne offers so many opportunities for its students.

Alexander Berry, Year 8
Bretherton Endowed CE
Primary School

“ I soon found myself making new friends and quickly felt **at home**.

Rafa Malcolm, Year 8
Mawdesley Ss Peter & Pauls
RC Primary School



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Relationships between pupils and staff are built on **mutual respect**. Pupils said that they appreciate how staff give their time willingly to support them.

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OUR REPUTATION FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

We believe all students deserve the right to a good quality classroom education and we have a strong reputation for academic excellence. We are a high-achieving, aspirational school and recognise that our students are more likely to achieve when great things are expected of them, and when they are fully engaged and enjoying their work.

Our students show exemplary attitudes to their learning, and this is reflected in our results. It is our commitment that students will be provided with their best possible learning outcome. Our students achieve grades that reflect the effort that has been put in, not just by them but also by our committed teaching staff, support staff and the Governing Body as well as the parents who support their children in shaping their academic and spiritual lives.

We have excellent home learning partnerships with parents and carers and everything is very much as a team. Student progress is measured regularly through formal and informal means and feedback is given back to students, and if necessary the pastoral team will become involved where we will utilise strategies to ensure all student reach their potential. The progress each student makes is tracked termly and reported to parents along with behaviour and attitudes to learning. Parental evenings are arranged once a year for each year group, but we encourage parents and carers to contact us in school if there are any concerns.

We are constantly strengthening our teaching expertise and professional knowledge. We have an outstanding teacher team here at Bishop Rawstorne, blending huge levels of experience with the fresh ideas of teachers who are new to, or in the early years of their teaching careers. Our teaching staff are approachable, enthusiastic and supportive and many of them have come through our very own teaching training programme.

Alongside our teaching we also offer a careers guidance service which begins in Year 7 by informing students of the variety of options open to them. A weekly careers' advisor will visit students in Years 8-11 and staff continue to work closely together to identify, and assist your child's career aspirations throughout their time in school through to Year 11, supporting them in deciding what their next step is.



WE CELEBRATE OUR STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

We have a strong tradition of celebrating the diverse talents of all our students, and our rewards and awards programmes are designed to reward achievements in school and to also celebrate student accomplishments outside of school. It is important to recognise students that go above and beyond in school but also to recognise that academic ability alone is not the only way to be successful. Our Heads of Year and pastoral team manage this process and there is a clear pathway for achieving badges and awards whilst making sure they are attainable for all.

The Bishop's Rewards system, using points awarded, acknowledges students' successes and achievements over the course of the academic year in a variety of different ways such as certificates of achievement, achievement assemblies, praise emails, postcards and phone calls home and rewards' meals.

In addition to the above we have a Bishop's Awards programmes which rewards achievements in school and celebrates accomplishments outside of the usual school activities. The 'B' for Bishop's Badge is presented to students who have achieved success whilst representing the Academy, or who have achieved personal accomplishments outside of school. There are 7 categories of 'B' for Bishop's Badges - each one recognising a slightly different personal achievement such as charity, sports or the Arts. Students will also receive a Headteacher's Award once they have gained 2 or more 'B' for Bishop's badges in different categories. There are different levels depending on how many 'B' for Bishops badges they have received and students can also be nominated directly for a Headteacher's Award for competing nationally, or for doing something else that is exceptional at the Headteacher's discretion. Our Awards programme is popular amongst students and they wear their badges with pride around school.

“ Individual talents and interests are nurtured and this exemplifies the approach to valuing all God's children.

SIAMS



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School teaches us we can become whatever we want to be if we work hard.

Zarina Thobani, Year 8
Bretherton Endowed CE
Primary School

OUR PURPOSE-BUILT FACILITIES

The Academy has excellent, purpose-built buildings and comprehensive sports facilities. Many of our buildings have been built or modernised in recent years and the facilities have been specifically tailored to students needs to best support them in each curriculum area.

The newest buildings, such as the English block, include ramps, disabled toilets, and lift access and our sports facilities include playing fields, a fully equipped sports hall, gymnasium, netball and tennis courts and a 3G pitch. The Science block consists of 8 fully equipped science laboratories including dedicated rooms for Physics, Biology and Chemistry, and we have a vibrant and engaging Art & Technology block for Design and Technology, Art, Textiles, Engineering, Computing and Graphics.

Our school grounds have a number of different areas for students to socialise with their peers in break times, including three separate dining areas, benches, picnic areas and grassy areas, available in the summer. Each year group has a dedicated toilet block which are all located in different buildings around the school.

Our most recent school improvements have been a new reception area to ensure the safeguarding of our students, a new chapel and our new Learning Support building which is a quiet, supportive space away from the main school. Solar panels and air source heat pumps have also been installed on our main building and Science and Technology blocks.

Year-on-year, we have invested significantly in improving the environment for all of our students and we are committed to investing and upgrading our infrastructure in the future ensuring we continue to cater for our students' changing needs and their on-going success.



NEXT STEPS

We hope this prospectus has given you a flavour of the ethos and values of our school, and of all the opportunities that Bishop Rawstorne has to offer.

We take students who live within our foundation and named parishes, but also from a broad geographical area and we encourage you to view the Admissions section of our website which contains all the information you need to apply for a place, including our Admissions Policy and 2025 Intake Supplementary Form. The national closing date for secondary applications is Thursday 31 October 2024.

For further information on anything in this prospectus please visit our website, or contact our Admissions team who would be happy to speak to you and help answer any questions that you may have.

We look forward to welcoming you to Bishop Rawstorne!

www.bishopr.co.uk

Admissions page - <https://bishopr.co.uk/parents/admissions>

office@bishorc.o.uk

01772 600394



Naturally, I felt nervous on my first day but after a day or two I felt like I belonged at Bishops.

Laurie Whiteside, Year 8

Our Lady and All Saints
Primary School



BISHOP RAWSTORNE

Church of England Academy

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