The Purbeck School

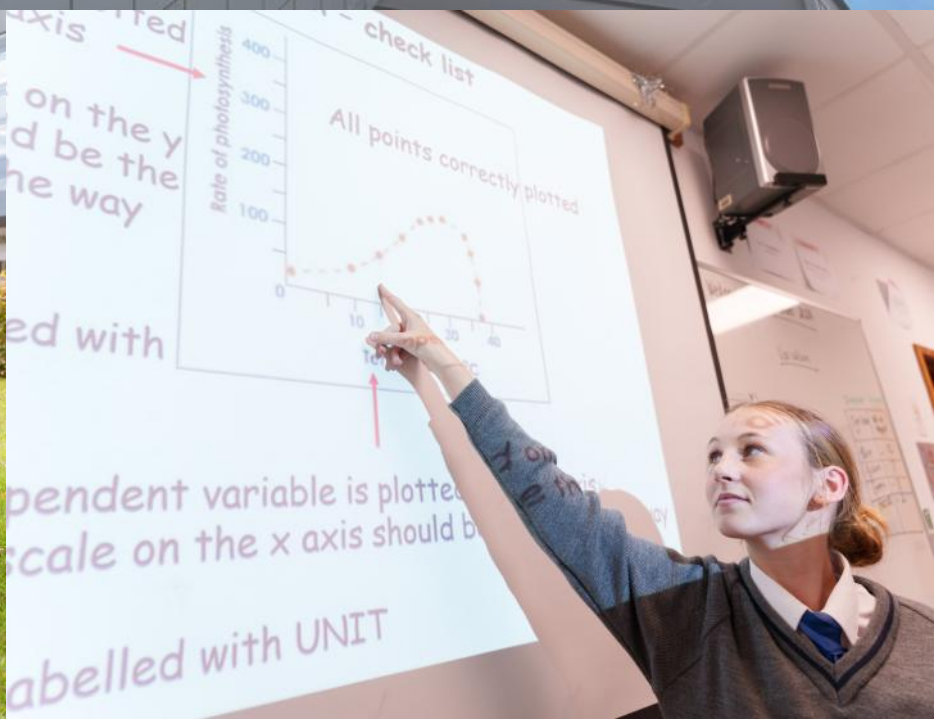
Achieving Excellence Together

APPLICATION PACK
for
Cover Supervisor

Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance

Ofsted
Good
Provider

THE PURBECK SCHOOL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Welcome to
The Purbeck School

Thank you for your interest in becoming part of the team at The Purbeck School.

I am obviously a little biased but The Purbeck School is a wonderful place to work. The school prides itself on ensuring that students not only leave with an excellent set of qualifications, but also a set of values based around our core principles of 'kindness, aspiration and perseverance'. In the last set of outcomes the school was placed in the top 10% for results at GCSE and A level across the country.

This is an exciting time to join the school as we have recently had an 'exceptional' Ofsted.

We have high expectations of our staff and students and work around the key principles of kindness, aspiration, and perseverance. We are looking for committed people who care passionately about education and the welfare and progress of students. This is also an incredibly supportive and friendly school with a very caring pastoral team.

Informal visits are welcomed, or if you have any questions please contact Claire Harris on charris@purbeck.wessex.ac

Full details of how to apply are available on our website: www.purbeck.wessex.ac

This role is UK based and your Right to Work will need to be established as part of the appointment process.

The closing date for applications, Wednesday 2nd December 2026.

Interviews to be held on Wednesday 9th December 2026.

I hope you find the information in this booklet useful and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Adam Darley
Headteacher

What OFSTED say

Recognises a school where students make 'exceptional progress'

We are absolutely delighted to share with you the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection (May/June 2025), which has resulted 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 is 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

Job Title: Cover Supervisor

Responsible to: Marie Simmonds, Assistant Headteacher

Salary: Grade 6

Working Hours - Full/Part time considered

Permanent position, start date, January 2027.

This post is to supervise and support pupils who are engaged in learning activities during the short-term absence of the teacher. The work will have been set in accordance with school policy.

Candidates are required to know and be able to apply consistently a range of school policies, particularly those regarding health & safety, equal opportunities, behaviour management, child protection and special educational needs (SEN).

You will be required to have the necessary skills to manage classroom activities and be concerned for student progress during the period of supervision.

To understand and be able to use a range of strategies to deal with classroom behaviour as a whole and also individual behavioural needs.

This role would suit someone who is considering training to become a teacher.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	• 5 GCSEs Grade C or equivalent to include English and Maths	• Level 2 in Support work in schools
Experience	• Experience of working within a school environment • Experience of working with young people	• Recent Teaching Assistant experience
Skills and Abilities	• Excellent Communication skills • Ability to motivate students to engage in the learning process • Ability to work effectively with professionals and parents	• Knowledge of some areas of the National Curriculum
Personal Attributes	• Cheerful and hardworking disposition. • Flexibility of working in different subjects • Willingness to collaborate as part of a team	
Other Specific Requirements	• Able to remain calm yet assertive under pressure	• Willingness to take part in after school activities

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Purbeck School is a very successful school. GCSE and A level results have consistently place us as one of the leading schools in the County. In 2024 our results for GCSE and A level placed us in the top 10% of providers across the country.

Many of our students go on to study Medicine, Law, Physics and English Literature at universities including Oxford and many other Russell Group establishments, whilst others have secured highly competitive places on Higher Level Apprenticeships with companies such as Wessex Water and Babcocks.

As a result we have been consistently oversubscribed. The school currently has around 870 lower school students and 165 in the sixth form, we are ambitious to grow these numbers over the coming years.

The School

Much of the existing school has was transformed in 2015 when a significant building project was undertaken. As a result the school does boast a wide range of excellent facilities, especially with the redevelopment of the Design Technology block, a suite of highly impressive Science laboratories, an excellent new Learning Resource Centre, a brand new café and canteen and a state of the art Sixth Form Centre. Indeed, all school accommodation is new or has been refurbished since Spring 2015.

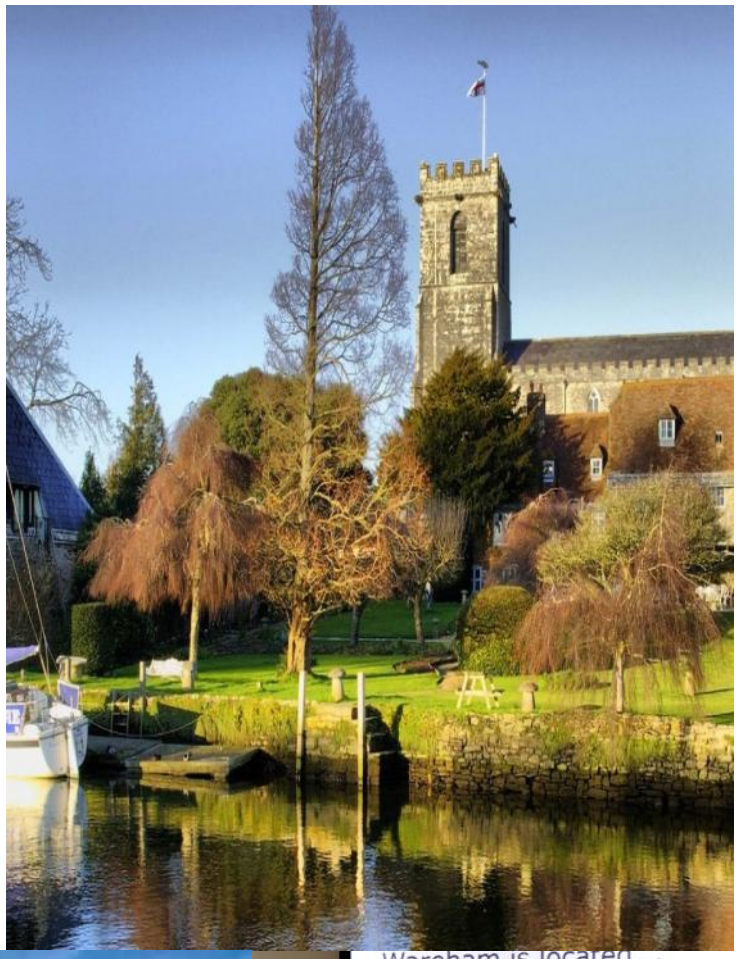
Our ICT network currently comprises over 250 networked computers located around the school and in our excellent Learning Resources Centre. All staff have their own laptop computers and a wireless network covers the whole site, allowing sixth form students to access the school network with their own devices.

An outstanding on-site sports centre with a sports hall, bar, floodlit all-weather tennis courts and astro pitches, gym, dance facilities, squash courts and a six-lane, heated indoor swimming pool is shared with the local community. The sports complex also houses the Wareham Youth Centre with whom we enjoy an excellent working relationship.

The school has a largely comprehensive rural intake. Our roll includes around 180 in the Sixth Form. We have around 65 FTE teachers and 30 FTE support staff. We are fortunate to have expert teaching in all areas of the school and staff turnover is low.

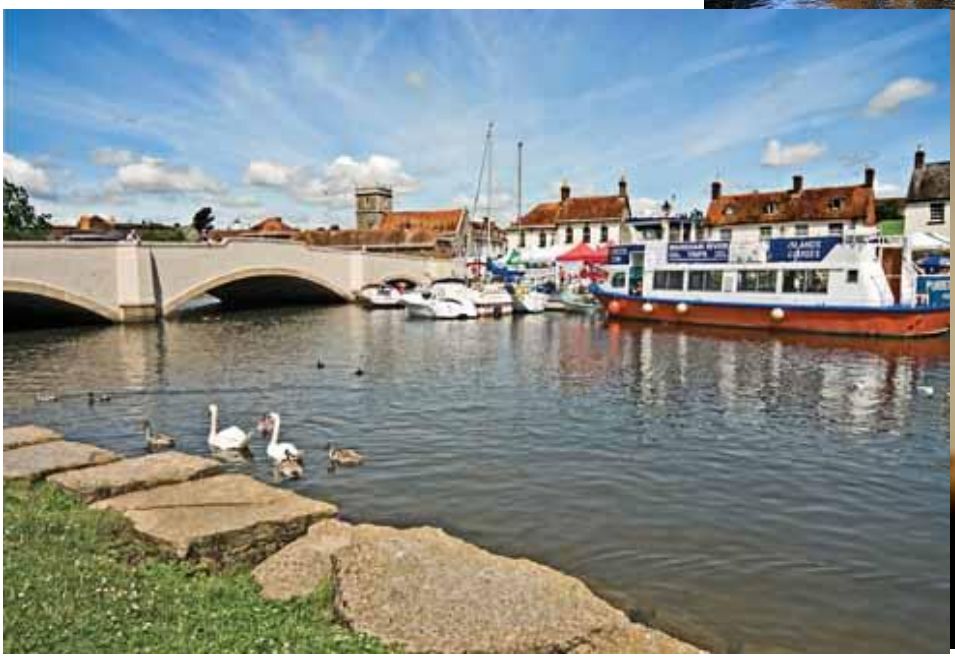
Location

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 1000 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.



Teaching and 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 teaching 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 SEN

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 4 non-teaching staff who support students with the day to day rigours of school. Within the Nest there is behavioural/ mental health/ attendance/ 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 SEN provision (Aim High). Our SENCO and team of HLTA/TA's 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 and Management

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

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 16 governors, including staff governors, who meet termly, as do their sub-committees for Finance, Teaching & Learning, Pay & HR, Student Development and Chairs'.

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 teachers 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.

School Staffing Structure 2026/27

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Headteacher – Mr Adam Darley
Deputy Headteacher – Mr Carl Morris

Assistant Headteachers

Mr Simon Holmes
Mrs Marie Simmonds
Mrs Carly Watson (maternity)
Mr Joshua Mead
Mr Joe Foyle
Miss L West (seconded)

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

Heads of Year

Head of Year 11 - Miss K Yarnold
Head of Year 10 - Mr Adrian Barker
Head of Year 9 - Mr Asa Tullett
Head of Year 8 - Mr Luke Maddison
Head of Year 7 - Mrs Gemma Heighway

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 - Mr S Holmes - Mr J Waterman

Support Services Manager

Ms Nicky Marsh

PA to Headteacher

Ms Claire Harris

Subject Leaders

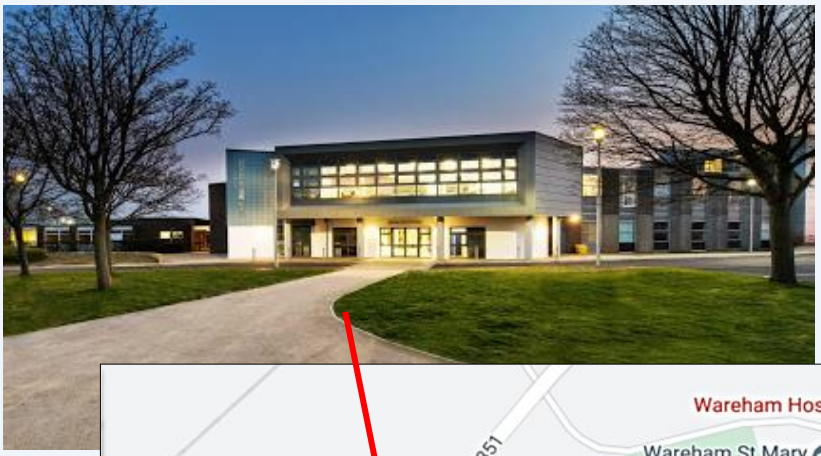
Form Teachers— Subject Teachers— Class Teachers

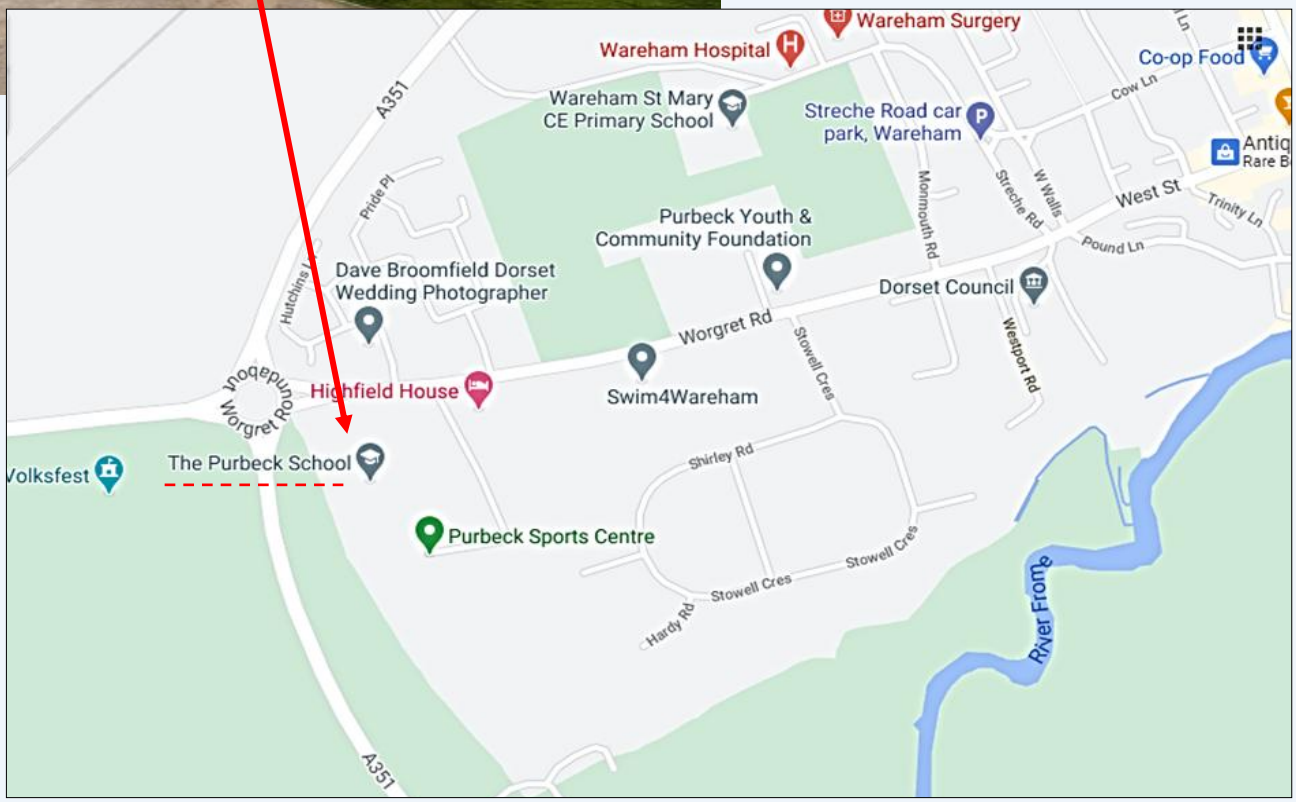
Support Staff— Office Staff

How to find us

The Purbeck School
Worgret Road
WAREHAM
BH20 4PF

Phone: 01929 550077
Email: office@purbeck.wessex.ac
www.purbeck.wessex.ac





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