



Blanchelande College

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

HEAD OF LEARNING SUPPORT (full time)

For September 2025

The College

Blanchelande College in Guernsey, Channel Islands, is a Catholic, fully co-educational independent school offering a seamless education from nursery to sixth form. Nestled on a picturesque 40-acre rural estate, the college provides an exceptional all-round education that fosters academic excellence, personal growth, and strong character. Rooted in Catholic values but open to all, our inclusive community inspires pupils to achieve their best while building confidence, integrity, and a commitment to service.

Since 2016, the college has experienced rapid growth, marked by the opening of a sixth form in 2020 and a nursery in 2021. It now educates 440 pupils. Year groups follow a one-form structure from Pre-School and Reception to Year 3, expanding to two forms in Years 4, 5, and 6, and three forms in the senior school (Years 7–11). Class sizes are typically around twenty, while Sixth Form cohorts are smaller, allowing for seminar-style A-Level teaching.

Although not academically selective, new pupils must pass an entrance assessment

to ensure they can access our mainstream curriculum. Many of those admitted benefit from our superb learning support department, which nurtures students with minor to moderate additional learning needs.

GCSE results reflect excellent value-added across subject areas, with pass rates and the number of grades 7–9 well above island and English national averages.

Blanchelande's holistic approach nurtures the whole child, combining academic excellence with personal development and a deep connection to the natural world. The college's rural estate provides an inspiring setting for sport and outdoor learning, with facilities such as a nature trail, eco hut, and outdoor learning area fostering curiosity, well-being, and environmental awareness. Character formation is embedded through the Blanchelande Diploma and Hero's Journey, which develop leadership, resilience, and a sense of purpose. Inquiry-based learning enhances holistic development, with cross-curricular research projects fostering independence, curiosity, and a lifelong pursuit of knowledge.

The college also offers an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities before, during, and after the school day, with all academic staff expected to



Blanchelande College

contribute at least one weekly session throughout the year.

ISI

The most recent ISI inspection in October 2018 rated the college as 'excellent' (the highest grade) in both the quality of the pupils' learning and achievement and the quality of the pupils' personal development as well as meeting all the regulatory requirements. The College is also subject to inspection by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth.

History

Blanchelande was re-founded in 1992 by parents and members of the local community after the Sisters of Mercy withdrew their Order from Guernsey. The new school began in temporary accommodation and in its first five years grew from 40 pupils to almost 200. It has now more than doubled in size from its inception and in recent years, following the introduction of co-education, is experiencing a sustained period of strong growth.

In April 1999, the College moved to its current address at Les Vauxbelets (former site of the De La Salle boys' school) after an extensive refurbishment programme. Les Vauxbelets is a beautiful estate in a rural setting with large historical buildings. In November 2022, Blanchelande College Trust purchased Les Vauxbelets Estate from the De La Salle Brothers, which puts the College in

a strong position for planning improvements and extensions to the buildings, as well as creating opportunities for imaginative use of the surrounding land to develop outdoor learning centres and other facilities.

Since 2017, a substantial number of upgrades have been made to facilities, including: the relocation of the Infant department to renovated classrooms in the main school buildings; the conversion of Victor House (formerly the Infant school) into an Arts Centre for music, drama and art; new Science laboratories; a new cricket pitch and resurfaced netball/ tennis courts; a new classroom block; a new Senior school library; new Sixth Form facilities, including a common room and seminar rooms; the conversion of The Pink Cottage into two Modern Language classrooms, and a new Design & Technology Studio and photography darkroom. Improvement in facilities is very much ongoing as the school continues to develop.

Governance

Blanchelande is administered as a charitable trust and three Trustees oversee the finances of the College. As a grant-maintained college, Blanchelande receives a degree of funding from the States of Guernsey.

The Board of Governors meets twice a term and is responsible for working with



the

Principal in setting the strategic direction for the school, including approval of school policies, and for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the school. The Board operates sub-committees – such as for educational issues, ICT and property management – which also meet regularly.

The Trustees are responsible for the administration of the whole school site, including the financial administration of the College.

Management and Leadership

The Senior Leadership consists of the Principal, Vice Principal and the Bursar. This team is supported by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) which meets weekly to collaborate on all aspects of College life. In addition to the Principal, Vice-Principal and Bursar, the SLT comprises: the Pastoral Manager (who is also the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Head of Careers); Heads of Phase (Head of Infants, Head of Juniors, Head of Lower Seniors, Head of Upper Seniors and Head of Sixth Form); and the Director of Studies.

Head of Learning Support

We are seeking an enthusiastic and experienced SENCO, passionate about supporting pupils with learning needs, to join our thriving 2–18 Catholic school,

overseeing

the provision of SEN across the whole school. This is a full-time role, with the possibility of some class teaching by negotiation.

The Learning Support Department

Blanchelande College is an academically inclusive school, welcoming pupils who are able to access and complete our mainstream curriculum. Our Learning Support Department plays a vital role in ensuring that all pupils are equipped to succeed within this framework, offering high-quality, tailored support that promotes confidence, independence and academic progress.

The department works with pupils from Infants through to Sixth Form, supporting a wide range of learning profiles within the mainstream context. Students in receipt of learning support consistently make strong progress, as reflected in excellent value-added scores at GCSE, and continued success at A-Level. September 2025 will see our largest ever A-Level intake, further reflecting the strength of our provision and the ambition of our students.

The Head of Learning Support leads a committed and experienced team, including an Assistant SENCO and several Learning Support Assistants. A separate Nursery SENCO oversees provision for our youngest pupils. The postholder will provide strategic leadership for the department, oversee IEPs, the SEND register and interventions and access arrangements, liaise with external agencies, and work directly with pupils across Key Stages 1–5.



Blanchelande College

This is an exciting opportunity for a dedicated and knowledgeable professional to make a real difference in a school where learning support is both valued and effective.

If you are passionate about inclusive education within a mainstream academic context, we warmly invite you to apply.



Blanchelande College

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Closing date for applications is 5pm Saturday 31st May 2025

Applications should be sent to:

Mrs Alexa Yeoman, Principal:

Email recruitment@blanchelande.sch.gg

Blanchelande College

Les Vauxbelets

St Andrews

Guernsey

GY6 8XY

Applications for this post should consist of:

- A detailed letter of application stating how you believe you meet the criteria for this role.
- A completed application form.
- *Optional*: an up-to-date copy of your C.V.

We will assume that you are happy for us to take up references straight away, unless you state otherwise on your application form.

You may be asked for further information following shortlisting. You will be asked to provide proof of identity. Original qualification certificates may also be required at this stage (and certainly prior to confirmation of appointment).

After short listing, the selection process will then normally include:

- A tour of the College.
- An observed lesson if applicable
- Interview, including Safeguarding, with a Governor, Principal and Director of Studies.



Blanchelande College

The Contract

The position of Head of learning Support is full-time, and remuneration and will reflect the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

All Blanchelande staff are admitted to the contributory Guernsey Civil Service Pension Scheme.

All staff are required to undergo a current police check, a medical declaration, provide proof of qualifications and identity and have (or be eligible for) a Guernsey residency permit.

Further information about Blanchelande College can also be obtained from our website, www.blanchelande.co.uk. Our prospectus can be downloaded from the homepage.

If you have any further questions or need any clarification, please contact the Principal's P.A., Mrs Sarah Curle.

Tel 01481 237200 Email curles@blanchelande.sch.gg



PERSON SPECIFICATION

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Either a proven track record as a classroom teacher or a well-qualified professional in SEN and child development;• SENCo qualified or willingness to undertake the qualification whilst in the role;• Qualified Teacher Status.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be able to act as an access arrangements assessor and to have therefore successfully completed a postgraduate course at or equivalent to Level 7, including at least 100 hours relating to individual specialist assessment. If not already qualified, a willingness to undertake the qualification whilst in the role.
Knowledge and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Detailed knowledge of the Special educational needs and disability code of practice (2024) and Guernsey code of practice;• Experience of working closely with parents;• Familiarity with and evidence of interest in current educational issues;• Knowledge and understanding of how children learn;• A sound grasp of the concept of inclusive practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding of personal, social and health education (PSHE);• Some knowledge and experience of using basic diagnostic tests;• Knowledge of the ISI inspection requirements.
Skills	<p>The ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Form positive relationships with children;• Stimulate the interest of children with SEN;• Express ideas clearly to pupils, prospective and current parents and colleagues across all age-ranges at the school;• Manage parental expectations sensitively;	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop pupils' self-esteem and make them; independent learners. • Plan intervention work, assess the needs and achievements of children and maintain appropriate records. 	
Personal qualities & characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to further professional learning; • Self-motivated and resilient; • Able to listen and to reflect; • A 'can do' attitude; • Able to relate well to children; • Reliable, punctual and well organised; • Promoting caring community ethos of the school and its teamwork approach; • Approachable, enthusiastic, self-motivated and able to motivate others; • Supportive of the Catholic identity and mission of the College. 	
Safeguarding and pastoral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people • A satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the DBS 	