

Head, Beeston Hall Preparatory School

September 2026

Radley Schools Group



RADLEY
SCHOOLS GROUP

INTRODUCTION

Radley Schools Group believes in the timeless and authentic values of high quality charitable independent education. Through the strength and stability of our group, we are committed to providing exceptional educational opportunities for all our pupils throughout their childhood. Blending the very best of tradition and innovation, we seek to develop young people of outstanding character and purpose for generations to come.

Being a Head within the Radley Schools Group offers the rare opportunity to combine the independence of leading a distinctive school with the professional support of a wider organisation. Heads enjoy the freedom to shape their school in line with its individual ethos and character, while benefitting from the Group's shared expertise such as finance, HR, estates, planning and IT. This model allows leaders to focus on delivering excellence in education, supported by strong strategic guidance and a collaborative network of peers. It provides the best of both worlds: the autonomy to lead with vision, and the security of being part of a trusted, forward-looking group committed to the success of every school.

A typical Beeston pupil is well-rounded, happy and confident. They have learnt to strive, to listen, to be tolerant and to value relationships, such that they are recognised for their positive attitude, good manners and outgoing natures, as well as their academic preparation. We are looking for an exceptional leader who has the vision, energy and ability to maintain and develop Beeston's prominent position in Norfolk.

Andrew Ashton
CEO, Radley Schools Group (Prep Schools)



THE SCHOOL

Beeston is arguably one of the most idyllically located prep schools in the country and boasts wonderful facilities. The school's beautiful campus is surrounded by 700 acres of National Trust woodland and sits a short walk from West Runton beach, a setting that gives children space and freedom to grow at a natural pace.

Founded in 1948 by Thomas Tapping, Beeston has flourished as a leading North Norfolk prep school, defined by academic ambition, outdoor learning and strong community values. The first girls joined in 1975, with boarding places following three years later, establishing the inclusive culture that continues today. In 2016, Beeston opened a purpose-built Pre-Prep to foster curiosity, exploration and a love of learning from the earliest years. Following the merger of the Prep Schools Trust in September 2025, Beeston became part of the Radley Schools Group, beginning a new chapter with the backing of a strong and supportive network.



This small co-ed prep school is down to earth with a strong family feel and very good results. Set in 33 acres, its rural location and proximity to the coast are its super power.

MUDDY STILETTOS





THE BEESTON VISION

To inspire and nurture spirited, confident children.

The guiding principle at Beeston is that happy children learn best. Academic success is important, but it sits within a rounded education where curiosity, kindness and confidence grow together. Each week brings rich experiences, from surfing and sailing to cross stitch and cricket, so pupils explore widely, try bravely and delight in discovery. The school is built on trust and relationships; it is warm and family minded, yet academically sharp and professionally ambitious, with talented, caring and imaginative staff who believe in every child's potential.



Down-to-earth, happy, lots of fun and challenge - all a country prep should be. As one parent summed up, 'It's a bit rough around the edges, but with a lovely family feeling. The sense of freedom is very special.'

GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

LEARNING AND LIFE AT BEESTON

Early Years & Pre-Prep (3–7): A topic-based, creative curriculum builds firm foundations in reading, writing and maths. Forest School and Beach School are part of the weekly rhythm, and transitions are carefully planned so children feel known, secure and ready for the next step.

Prep (7–13): A broad, balanced curriculum, offering core subjects alongside art, Latin, music, drama, computing and Design & Technology, encourages ambition in every child. Specialist teaching, small classes and targeted support combine warmth with academic rigour.

Pastoral & Wellbeing: Relationships come first. Beeston's pastoral culture is calm, consistent and proactive, with a strong partnership with parents and a clear focus on emotional literacy and character.

Boarding: Flexible options add time, friendship and breadth to school life. Evenings feel homely and purposeful, with simple routines that help children thrive.

Co-curricular: Days are busy and varied. Children discover strengths on the coast and in the woods, studios and workshops, with programmes that range from water sports to textiles and coding.



Sport: Sport for all and sport for excellence sit side by side. Every pupil represents the school; many progress to county, regional and senior school teams. Central facilities and experienced coaches create an energetic, team-minded culture.

Performing Arts: Regular, inclusive productions build confidence on stage and behind the scenes; music is part of everyday life, with high participation and frequent performance. Refurbishment of the music school is due to begin shortly.

Art & Design: The Art Centre and Design & Technology studio are lively, well-equipped spaces where ideas become high-quality work across media.

Many traditions add to the magic of a Beeston education, from the summer ice cream van to cross-country runs on the beach and the shared rituals of matches, concerts and performances, giving the school a distinctive blend of warmth, imagination and ambition.





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SCHOOLS GROUP

Radley Schools Group, launched in September, brings together eight schools – Radley College, Barfield, Beeston Hall, Chandlings, Cothill, Kitebrook, Mowden Hall and West Hill Park. Collectively, we believe in, and celebrate, the timeless and authentic values of charitable independent education.

Through the strength and stability of our group, we are committed to providing exceptional educational opportunities for all our pupils throughout their childhood. Blending the very best of tradition and innovation, we seek to develop young people of outstanding character and purpose for generations to come.



Beeston Hall gives the impression of being a family house that is run as a school. 'It felt personal and homely,' says one parent and her peers also love the cosy atmosphere.

TATLER



THE PERSON

We are seeking a Head with vision, energy and a strong record of leadership to move Beeston forward with the full support of the Radley Schools Group. Working closely with the Group CEO, COO and Local Advisory Group, you will lead strategy, operations and community life as a personable, visible leader who inspires children, earns parents' trust and leads by example with natural authority.

We welcome applications from experienced Heads and from outstanding senior leaders seeking a first headship. You will be respectful of tradition and confidently forward-looking.

DESIRABLE QUALITIES AND EXPERIENCE

- **Inspires confidence in children and parents:** warm, approachable and present; a clear, persuasive communicator who listens well, manages change and handles conflict with sensitivity.
- **Strategic thinker.** Uses data intelligently and manages resources well; models integrity, fairness and transparency.
- Ambitious for every child: deep empathy for the 3–13 age range; sets high expectations across academics, co-curricular and character education, knowing each pupil well.
- **Inclusive and empathetic:** models kindness and respect; leads with an open, collegiate style that empowers staff, builds trust and fosters strong team spirit.
- **Strong senior school links:** maintains excellent relationships (or demonstrable capacity to build them) and advises families with authority and care.
- **Marketing and admissions savvy:** understands the realities of a small school; confident with parent engagement to support roll growth.
- **Respectful of tradition, focused on the future:** honours Beeston's heritage and setting while keeping practice current for a fast-changing world; resilient, optimistic and authentic.

EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a strong record of professional experience and technical expertise, including:

Qualifications & professional outlook: Good honours degree and teaching qualification; current awareness of educational developments.

Leadership & strategy: Senior leadership track record; proven strategic leadership with measurable impact.

Operations & compliance: Strong day-to-day operations; sets clear standards and monitors performance; up-to-date on inspection, safeguarding, child protection, health and safety (H&S) and wider compliance.

Curriculum & innovation: Leads curriculum development; evidence-informed, future-focused teaching; confident use of IT for teaching, communication and management.

Destination schools: Understands how an excellent 3–13 education links to 13+ processes and selective senior school entry.

Pastoral & wellbeing: Builds proactive systems that promote children's wellbeing, safety and safeguarding.

People & culture: Empathetic and supportive; understands professional development and performance management; builds collegiate, high-trust teams.

Commercial, marketing & growth: Experience of budgeting and financial oversight; marketing and admissions to support roll growth.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Vision and Strategy

- Shape, articulate, and deliver a clear vision for the school's future in line with its ethos and the wider Group's strategic priorities.
- Maintain and review the School Development Plan, ensuring policies, practices, and initiatives remain current and effective.

Academic and Pastoral Leadership

- Provide inspiring leadership in teaching, learning, and pastoral care to achieve the highest standards in all areas of school life.
- Oversee the design, delivery, and review of a broad and balanced curriculum, adapting to best serve the needs of pupils.
- Build strong links with senior schools to support pupil progression and future opportunities.

People and Culture

- Recruit, retain, and develop dedicated staff who embody the school's ethos and values.
- Support staff in their professional growth, fostering a culture of collaboration, respect, and ambition.
- Promote the wellbeing and safeguarding of both pupils and staff.

Finance and Operations

- Work with the Group CEO and COO to set and manage budgets, ensuring efficient use of resources and sound financial management.
- Support fundraising and development initiatives to enhance the school's facilities and future growth.



KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance and Safeguarding

- Ensure the school meets all legal, regulatory, and inspection requirements.
- Prioritise health, safety, and safeguarding across the school community, managing risks effectively.

Community and External Relations

- Communicate effectively with staff, parents, pupils, prospective parents, alumni, partner schools, and the wider community.
- Strengthen the school's profile in a competitive market, ensuring it remains distinctive and attractive to prospective families.
- Ensure the school fulfils its charitable purpose and maintains strong relationships with stakeholders.

The Head reports directly to the Chief Executive of Radley Schools Group and will be supported by the Chief Operating Officer, the Group's Senior Team, and the specialist services provided by Group Office.



HOW TO APPLY

The deadline for applications is midday on Monday 10 November 2025. Applications should be submitted using the link here. [Beeston Hall Head](#)

The first round of interviews will take place with a selection panel including Andrew Ashton, CEO of Radley Schools Group and John Moule, Warden of Radley College. These will take place on Thursday 20 November 2025 at Radley College.

Candidates invited to the shortlist stage will be invited to have a tour of Beeston Hall between 26 and 28 November 2025, where there will also be the opportunity to meet key staff. The final interview, for shortlisted candidates, will take place at Beeston on Tuesday 2 December 2025.

Alastair Speers, Education Consultant to the Radley Schools Group, is supporting the Group with the recruitment of the next Head of Beeston. For a confidential conversation regarding this role, please contact Alastair: aspeers@radleyschoolsgroup.org.uk or 01865 419051.

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all backgrounds. Please let us know if you require adjustments during the process.

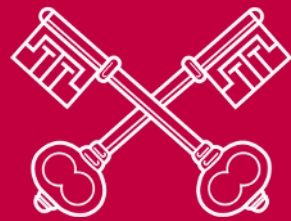




SAFEGUARDING

Radley Schools Group is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all employees to share this commitment. Employees must, at all times, have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in line with the provisions of the Children Act 2004 (as amended) and Keeping Children Safe in Education (as amended) and be fully aware of, and understand, the duties and responsibilities that apply to their role in relation to these requirements. All employees must attend appropriate training in accordance with Group and local Safeguarding Board stipulations.

Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. A disclosure, at the enhanced level, will be requested from the successful applicant but a criminal record will not necessarily be a bar to obtaining this position. They will also be required to produce original evidence of qualifications as well as evidence of the right to work in the UK.



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