



THE MISBOURNE
LEARNING • KINDNESS • EXCELLENCE



Recruitment Prospectus

WELCOME



Thank you for your interest in The Misbourne. I am proud to be Headteacher of this ambitious, diverse and friendly academy.

This is an exciting time for the academy and we are always looking for talented individuals who want to make a difference. I hope you like what you read over the coming pages - it will give you a flavour of what it is like to be a part of our dynamic, child-centred team; the training and wellbeing on offer; and what staff, students and Ofsted feel about the Academy. As Lead School for Careers in Bucks, our overarching priority is to ensure that our students are best-prepared to fulfil their ambitions when they leave full-time education. If you think that a career at The Misbourne is right for you, please visit the Staff Vacancies pages on our website for more information about available roles.

If you cannot find the information you are looking for on the website, or you wish to see the academy in action, then please do not hesitate to make arrangements via our HR Officer at hr@themisbourne.co.uk. Our staff and students are exceptionally proud of their academy and we would love to show you around.

Rich Peters
Headteacher



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ABOUT US

The Misbourne officially opened on 20 January 1956 and was the first modern-built secondary school in the UK. Over the years the school has expanded and developed to include many more facilities and buildings for our students and staff while retaining its modern, open feel.

In January 2018, The Misbourne converted to a single academy. We are an 11-18 mixed school single-academy trust in the picturesque village of Great Missenden, in the heart of the Chilterns. We have over 1100 students on roll, including a successful and growing Sixth Form. In summer 2024 our students achieved Progress 8 of +0.30, making us one of the top non-selective schools in the County. We are proudly non-selective and inclusive, ensuring that we live and breathe our values: we are a community that values learning, promotes kindness and strives for excellence in all we do. We are the Lead School for Careers in Bucks, and hold the prestigious Quality in Careers Standard.

The Misbourne Campus

The Misbourne enjoys a spacious and attractive campus which provides purpose-built, subject-specific areas, tennis courts, extensive playing fields, and a multi-million pound sports centre, including a fitness suite and dance studio. The campus also provides free staff parking.





What makes The Misbourne unique?

Our core values, known as 'The Misbourne Way', are at the heart of the Academy - 'We are a community that values **learning**, promotes **kindness**, and strives for **excellence** in all we do.' Our staff are passionate about providing a first-class educational experience for the students in their care. We believe that, through clarity of vision, collaboration and dedication, we can achieve great things for our young people and for the staff who join us on our journey.

We believe that any barrier to learning can be overcome. The academy has a highly-motivated and professional atmosphere where everyone strives for educational excellence in every lesson, every day. We have high expectations, which are actively promoted in all aspects of life at The Misbourne. The academy's learning environment allows all students to flourish through mutual respect, kindness and a strong desire to achieve.

Ethos, Culture and Values

The Misbourne is recognised for setting high standards through its innovative and collaborative approach. It is a friendly, family-oriented learning community with the fundamental purpose of providing an excellent education for all its students. In order to accomplish this, Misbourne staff share the following ethos and values:

- We have a culture of sharing best practice and finding ways to say yes to what works best for our staff, students and the whole community.
- We believe that students learn best when they are valued, inspired, curious and happy.
- We believe that all our students can become confident, resilient and courageous.
- We encourage students to discover their own passions and achieve their best.
- We believe that the learning habits developed by students are just as important as the knowledge and understanding they acquire during their time at The Misbourne.

The Misbourne is an academy where every student matters; where our professional and passionate staff work hard to instil the belief in students that they can achieve more than they ever thought possible.

Through inspiring teaching, excellent pastoral care and strong partnerships with families and the wider community, our students leave us with the qualifications, skills and values needed to lead happy and successful lives.

What our staff say:

Our staff tell us that they genuinely feel like part of a team; a team which is striving to help each student to flourish both academically and personally:

'We are incredibly proud of our strong and supportive staff community, which has a warmth and sense of collegiality unlike any other school I have worked in. Colleagues are friendly, approachable and always willing to support one another. Our passionate and driven senior leadership team is united in its vision for the school, with staff wellbeing at the heart of our decision making. We are equally committed to ensuring that every student thrives, particularly those who face additional challenges. Our evidence informed Teaching and Learning Framework is supported by high-quality professional development and an instructional coaching model delivered through Steplab, enabling staff to develop their practice and provide the very best learning opportunities for all students.'

Heather Golla, Deputy Headteacher

'The Misbourne has supported me through many stages of my career. When I started I was unqualified and unsure if teaching was the profession for me. Now, five years on, I am fully qualified and have completed my NQT year. The staff and students make The Misbourne an exciting and enjoyable place to improve skills and develop as a teacher. Support and guidance is always available and colleagues are kind and encouraging. I feel very lucky to have been given the opportunities I have had at The Misbourne.'

Alicia Balchin, Performance Director and Drama Teacher

'I have loved my time here and continue to do so. From the first day, all the staff have been so supportive, understanding and very friendly. It makes for a lovely atmosphere. My job is crazy-busy but I enjoy every minute of it.'

Samina Jahbeen, Reprographics

'Working at The Misbourne is all about working as a team, with each member supporting each other to ensure we are doing the 'why' of our jobs - to encourage and develop our students into independent and confident young people ready for their next steps. Exemplary staff training and mentoring offered at The Misbourne allows every curriculum area the opportunity to ensure that all students obtain excellent teaching; this is mirrored as solid progress throughout the academy. Building strong relationships between families, students and teachers is pivotal in the continued success of the academy and is a key factor in its success and popularity.'

Kerry Cato, Curriculum Leader DT, Art & Photography



What our students say:

Our students tell us that they enjoy school and the rich variety of co-curricular activities on offer. But don't just take our word for it...

'The extra-curricular activities at The Misbourne help us to develop and excel in our talents and find new ones. They also improve our confidence and we really enjoy and appreciate the time given by staff.'

Year 11 Student

'This school offers so many opportunities that you can explore with the support of the amazing school staff.'

Year 8 student

'The way teachers handle things here is so impressive, and they always make sure everyone ends up happy.'

Year 7 student

'All the teachers are really friendly and support you in everything you do.'

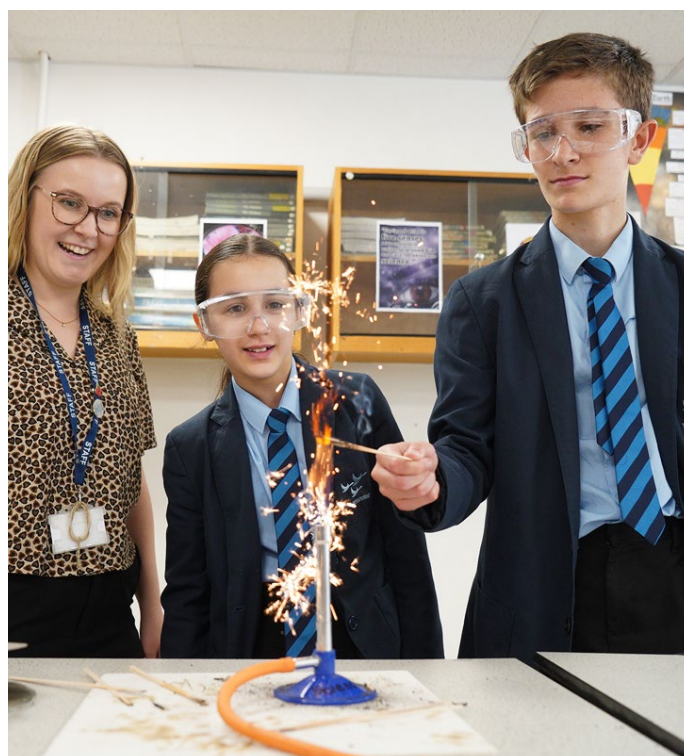
Year 8 student

'I know that I made the right decision coming to The Misbourne - the school has been amazing at supporting and encouraging me.'

Year 13 Student

'The excellent careers support I have received at The Misbourne has opened my eyes to an amazing range of potential careers.'

Senior Student



What Ofsted says:

In April 2026, The Misbourne had a full inspection under the new Ofsted framework. We were delighted to achieve **Expected Standard** in all categories. It demonstrated the outstanding commitment of our staff and the excellent attitude of our students. Inspectors found that leaders have planned a broad and ambitious curriculum, that the provision for the wider development of pupils is a strength of the school and complimented the school's strong pastoral systems. Highlights included:

- *Pupils are proud to attend The Misbourne. They feel well supported and cared for.*
- *Pupils enjoy learning. This is clear in the purposeful atmosphere in classrooms.*
- *Post-16 students show high levels of commitment to their learning. They work hard with staff to develop increasingly sophisticated study skills. This prepares them well for their studies.*
- *Pupils develop warm and positive relationships with staff. This creates a calm and positive environment where pupils feel safe and happy.*
- *Pupils are keen to serve the school community and enjoy the leadership roles they hold.*
- *Pupils achieve particularly well in English and Mathematics. These results are consistently above national averages.*
- *Staff have high expectations of behaviour. This helps pupils to behave well, creating a calm and positive atmosphere throughout the school.*
- *The school has well-established strategies to identify pupils' needs.*
- *The school's offer prepares pupils well for the future. They develop the knowledge, skills, character and integrity they need for life beyond school.*



BENEFITS

Health and Wellbeing

We are an academy that puts staff wellbeing at the top of our priorities. Working for us includes a range of benefits, including:

- A two-week October half term.
- Occupational sick pay.
- Maternity, paternity and adoption leave.
- Staff Buddies
- Free access to our own fully-fitted fitness suite.
- Headspace Day
- Flexible PPA for full-time teaching staff
- Employee discount scheme.
- On-site staff sports.
- A free, independent and confidential 24-hour Employee Assistance Programme, which provides advice and support, including a counselling service.
- Occupational health workstation assessments.
- Regular Staff Wellbeing Surveys.
- A free lunch is provided for staff working on INSET training days and food is provided for staff taking part in consultation evenings, open evenings and other after-hours events.
- Mental Health first aiders on site.
- Free parking on site.
- Staff complimentary 'cake and coffee' days.

Training

The Misbourne provides:

- An excellent induction programme.
- A supportive community with mentors to guide you and help develop and progress your career.
- A bespoke Continuing Professional Development and Learning (CPDL) programme linked to the academy's improvement plan, or individual employee's development needs identified in performance reviews.

Financial

- Teaching Staff Pension
- Support Staff Pension
- Free independent financial advice from Employee Assistance Programme: a confidential service to provide advice and support to all staff and their families.
- Staff Long-Service Award
- Cycle-to-work Scheme

WHERE IS THE MISBOURNE?

Our academy is situated in the picturesque village of Great Missenden in the heart of the Chilterns, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, just 27 miles from Oxford and 37 miles from Central London.

Great Missenden closely adjoins the villages of Little Kingshill, Little Missenden and the larger village of Prestwood. The towns of Amersham, Chesham, High Wycombe and Aylesbury are nearby. Great Missenden's narrow and historic High Street is bypassed by the main A413 London to Aylesbury Road. The village is best known as home to the late Roald Dahl, the world-famous author. The Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre as well as the Roald Dahl Foundation are located on the High Street.

Transport Links

The Misbourne offers free on-site parking to all staff.

Great Missenden is well connected to London and the Midlands:

By road... Lying just outside the M25, access to London, the Midlands and airports is very easy via the M40, M4 and M25.

By train... Great Missenden mainline railway station, which is a 10-minute walk from The Misbourne, provides direct trains to Central London in just over 40 minutes and to Aylesbury in around half an hour. You can hop onto the London Underground Metropolitan line at nearby Amersham or Chesham.

Nearest airports... Great Missenden is close to both Luton (27 miles) and Heathrow (24 miles) airports, convenient for family holidays or weekend European city breaks.



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIFE

Stretching from the outskirts of London in the south to the Midlands in the north, Buckinghamshire offers the best of both worlds – rolling hills on your doorstep with London, Birmingham and Oxford all just a short journey away. An area of outstanding natural beauty, it has been ranked as one of the top rural areas to live in the UK.

From the buzz of Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Milton Keynes, to the smaller market towns, including Amersham and Chesham, and characterful villages such as Great Missenden, Waddesdon and Brill, there are locations to suit a range of lifestyles and budgets.

Buckinghamshire has the most National Trust properties in England, is the birthplace of the Paralympic movement and is home to Pinewood Studios – the studios behind blockbusters including James Bond, Star Wars and Harry Potter.



TOP LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

From the Harry Potter Studio Tour to Bicester Retail Village, there are lots of great attractions nearby.

- Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre
- Roald Dahl Village and countryside trails which explore the local area and point out key sights that relate to Roald Dahl's books and life.
- Chiltern Open Air Museum
- Bletchley Park and The National Museum of Computing
- Silverstone Grand Prix Circuit
- Warner Bros Harry Potter Studio Tour
- Pinewood and Elstree film studios
- Tom Kerridge's 2 Michelin star pub, The Hand and Flowers
- Shopping at Bicester Retail Village, the centre:mk and Eden Shopping Centre
- Waterside Theatre in Aylesbury, Chesham Elgiva Theatre and the Wycombe Swan
- The Empire and Cineworld cinemas in High Wycombe, The Odeon Cinema in Aylesbury and the fabulous Rex Cinema in Berkhamsted.
- The city of Oxford with its historic buildings and world-renowned university.
- Henley and Marlow – known for their summer regattas.
- Wembley Stadium and MK Dons Stadium
- Windsor and Windsor Castle
- Legoland and Thorpe Park
- Fifteen National Trust estates, parks and monuments, including Hughenden Manor, West Wycombe Park and the Hellfire Caves, Waddeson Manor, Cliveden and Stowe
- Chenies Manor House
- Hartwell House Gardens
- Bekonscot Model Village, Beaconsfield
- Stunning countryside for walking, biking, horse riding
- Zoos and safari parks, including Whipsnade Zoo
- Garsington Opera
- PennFest





The Misbourne
Misbourne Drive
Great Missenden
Buckinghamshire
HP16 0BN
Tel: 01494 862869
www.themisbourne.co.uk



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