



Are you our next Headteacher?

Lead the Way

Shape the future at Hetton Lyons Primary School



A proud member of

Headteacher Applicant Information



A warm welcome from our CEO

Welcome to Hetton Lyons Primary School, part of Balmoral Learning Trust. We are entering an exciting new chapter as we prepare to join Tyne and Wear Learning Trust, a growing multi-academy trust in the North East. This transition brings fresh opportunities for our children and staff to learn, grow and thrive together.

Our school sits at the heart of its community, with a strong commitment to giving every child the very best start in life. Through high-quality learning experiences, we support children's academic, creative and social development, helping them build the skills and values they need for the future.

Our dedicated staff team works closely across schools to share best practice, develop professionally and deliver the very best for our children and families.

Joining Hetton Lyons means becoming part of a welcoming, ambitious and supportive community, where people are valued and every child is encouraged to achieve their full potential.

Mrs S Bell

Chief Executive Officer
Balmoral Learning Trust





A message from the Chair of the Local Academy Committee

Thank you for your interest in Hetton Lyons Primary School.

As Chair of the Local Academy Committee, I am proud to be part of a school at the heart of its community. Hetton Lyons is a place where children are known, valued and supported to achieve their very best, through the commitment of our staff and families.

Rooted in its community and looking forward with ambition, the school benefits from being part of Balmoral Learning Trust, combining collaboration and shared expertise with a strong local identity.

We are looking for a Headteacher who is excited to lead the way, building on our strengths, inspiring our community and shaping the next chapter of the school's journey alongside the Trust and Local Academy Committee.

If you are an ambitious leader who believes in high expectations, collaboration and community, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Mrs E Knight

Chair of the Local Academy Committee
Hetton Lyons Primary School

Vision and Values

Balmoral Learning Trust has a clear vision; to create opportunity through collaboration, celebrating the prospects and the potential that can be found in our community through our overarching aim to achieve learning and excellence for all.

All Balmoral Learning Trusts' schools are firmly committed to the vision.

Hetton Lyons Primary School fulfil this vision by:

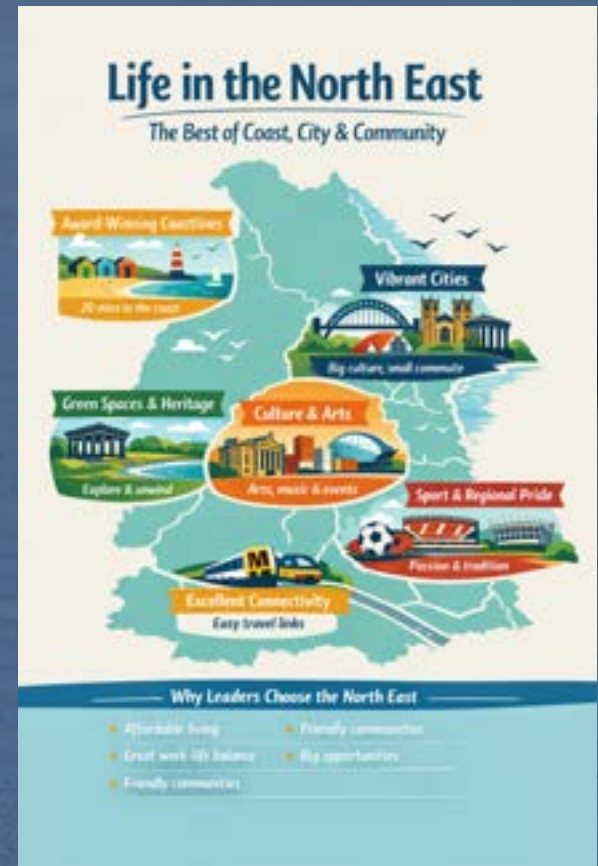
- Having the belief that everyone can inspire, can change and can achieve excellence in their own way
- Unlocking potential through knowledge, creativity, application, practice, discovery and passion
- Enabling the community to work together to create greatness inside and outside of the classroom
- Raising aspirations and inspiring adults and children to be ambitious and develop a lifelong love of learning
- Ensuring the intellectual, spiritual, cultural and physical development of children to equip them for life in our society.





Life in the North East

Hetton Lyons Primary School has been at the heart of its community since 1912, building strong, lasting relationships with generations of local families. With modern, purpose-built facilities and a forward-looking approach, the school combines proud heritage with high-quality learning and a strong local identity. Situated in the welcoming North East, Hetton offers the best of town, countryside, and coast, with easy access to Sunderland, Durham, and Newcastle. The area provides excellent connectivity, affordable living, and a strong sense of community, making it an ideal place to live, work, and lead.



Lead, Learn, Grow



ASPIRATION



ENDEAVOUR



EXPRESSION

At Hetton Lyons Primary School, we believe that great leaders help every child thrive. From September 2026, joining the Tyne and Wear Learning Trust will give our leaders an even wider platform to make a positive impact.

We support leaders with NPQs, apprenticeships, coaching, collaborative networks, and wellbeing initiatives.

Our curriculum inspires and challenges every child, balancing core knowledge with creative, thematic learning. Guided by our drivers of Aspiration, Endeavour, and Expression, pupils become independent, confident learners, while staff deliver high-quality, evidence-informed teaching in a supportive, progressive environment.



The Den

The Den is an innovative, purpose-built resource at Hetton Lyons Primary, supporting children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) across Sunderland. Developed in partnership with Sunderland City Council, the Department for Education, and Balmoral Learning Trust, this £1.4 million initiative puts children at the heart of specialist education.

Housed in a modular building with a sensory room, soft play area, and group room, The Den provides a calm, engaging, and stimulating environment designed to support social, emotional, and physical development. It forms part of Hetton Lyons' holistic approach to SEND, alongside nurture groups, the Healthy Heads programme, and tailored classroom support, ensuring all pupils feel valued, included, and able to thrive.

Officially opened by Bridget Phillipson MP, The Den represents a unique opportunity for the Headteacher to lead a pioneering provision, champion innovation in SEND, and make a lasting difference for children, families, and the wider community.



We asked our staff, why is Hetton Lyons a special place to work?

"The children - they make me smile every day. It is a privilege to work with children and watch them achieve and grow."

"Everything - I love working with children and creating a better life for all. We are all learning all of the time regardless where we are in our career and I am glad I have never lost this drive to improve."

"Working with the children and being supported by team members. Teaching good lessons which the children enjoy. Going on trips, clubs etc. to give children experiences."

"Working with the children and giving them new experiences which engage and enthuse them. Seeing how much progress the children make throughout the year and how much they enjoy learning. Seeing the children have those 'lightbulb' moments! "



Advert

Headteacher

Leadership Scale 21 - 24

Required September 2026

Hetton Lyons is now entering an exciting new chapter, and we are looking for a Headteacher to lead the way. We are seeking an inspiring, energetic, and forward-thinking leader who puts children at the heart of every decision, takes a strategic, hands-on approach to leadership, and is a visible presence across the school. The Headteacher will be approachable, supporting staff, pupils, and families, all while empowering the school community to thrive.

You will:

- Lead the way with vision, energy, and positivity, inspiring staff, pupils, and the wider community.
- Take a hands-on and supportive approach to leadership, ensuring staff are empowered and pupils thrive.
- Drive school improvement and innovation, ensuring every child achieves their potential.
- Champion a culture of collaboration, inclusion, and excellence across the school and the wider Trust.
- Uphold high standards across behaviour, learning, and conduct, supporting staff development and wellbeing.
- Demonstrate effective operational leadership, including managing resources and evaluating the impact of school initiatives.

Apply Here



SCAN ME