



AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

from The DEPUTY HEAD ACADEMIC:

BENEDICTINE SCHOLARSHIP

AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

YORK, YO62 4ER

Tel: +44 (0)1439 766000

Fax: +44 (0)1439 788330

E-mail:

helen.pepper@ampleforth.org.uk

www.ampleforth.org.uk

Friday 17th January 2025

Dear Parents

I am delighted to have taken on a new role as Deputy Head Academic, Benedictine Scholarship. My focus in this role is to ensure every student flourishes academically at Ampleforth and that we drive high academic expectations and standards.

I am responsible for the content and design of our academic curriculum. I want to ensure students are enthused by their subjects, are making the most of the opportunities to learn, and are prepared with the right knowledge and skills for public qualifications and beyond.

I continue to lead the development of best practice in teaching, working with Heads of Department to ensure consistent excellence in lessons and in the most effective ways to encourage learning for all students.

Through our collective work on Benedictine Scholarship, I will be encouraging all students to develop excellent study and revision habits to help them thrive academically. Our objective is to inspire students to be intellectually curious and to critically engage with the world around them. We aim to develop reflective and resilient young people who love learning. Ultimately, we want our students to strive to do their very best.

Finally, I will be exploring ways to prepare our students for the demands of the world beyond Ampleforth. This includes cutting-edge initiatives in AI education research to equip students to engage with AI both ethically and practically while at school and in preparation for their future work and life. It is helpful that I have recently been selected to be part of an Oxford University research project on Artificial Intelligence.

For those of you who don't know me, I joined Ampleforth as a teacher of Christian Theology in 2010 following my undergraduate degree in Theology and Religious Studies at Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge, and PGCE and Masters in Education Research at Darwin College, University of Cambridge. Over the last 15 years, I have served as Assistant Housemistress, Head of Christian Theology, and as Assistant Headteacher. I am a national lead inspector for the Catholic Schools Inspectorate with a specialism in independent schools.

Do get in touch with me if you have any questions on hcp@ampleforth.org.uk

All best wishes

Helen Pepper