AMPLEFORTH
COLLEGE

Teacher of French

Welcome from the Headmaster

Thank you for your interest in this role.

Ampleforth is a very fulfilling place to work, particularly because it is a school with a mission. As Catholic educators, we seek to educate the whole person, mind, body and spirit, supporting our pupils to fulfil their potential and to flourish in all aspects of life. Everyone can benefit from being part of and contributing to this enriching education, whether you are Catholic or not.

Ampleforth's community ethos, rooted in the tenets of our Benedictine monastic founders, is centred on being welcoming to all, caring for each other, and valuing inclusion, empathy and compassion. We aim to form responsible young people of integrity and courage, proactive members of society who serve others and do good in the world. As such, an Ampleforth education provides a compass for life. Our ethos extends to the whole community, students, families, staff, alumni and visitors. Leading the team here is a joy, as well as a privilege and an honour.

Ampleforth offers the highest possible level of pastoral care, embedded within a robust safeguarding culture. Our pupils are happy, well-balanced and grounded; each one is known well by staff and cherished. We want the very best for them and work hard to help them achieve it.

Good and inspiring teaching is key, and every pupil is challenged academically. We cultivate intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and independence of mind, all vital for further studies after school and to thrive in our complex world. Alongside the pursuit of academic excellence, the lessons gained from music, drama, art, and sport are equally important for developing the whole person, the well-rounded character that Ampleforth appreciates.

The dedication of the Governors, the whole staff, and the many friends and supporters of Ampleforth inspires me to give all I can to our collective goal of being the world's foremost Catholic boarding and day school.

Jon Mutton,
Headmaster

Our Mission

"An Ampleforth Education is an invitation to young people to discover the value and the purpose of life, by entering into a transforming encounter with Christ throughactive participation in the life of a living Christian Community."

Our Benedictine values:

Catholic education and Benedictine values underpin everything we do at Ampleforth, whether a student or member of staff is Catholic or not. We believe that humanity is a gift we receive through others and that our relationships unlock the unique potential in each person. Our values provide the foundation to all of our work and how we work with one another:

Respect: recognising and nurturing the unique talents of every individual and oneself, understanding that we grow and learn from our differences and are made a better person by each other.

Hospitality: committing to live in such a way as to be welcoming and open to all, and to invite people to experience living life more fully in our community.

Attentiveness: being sensitive to the needs of others as well as one's own needs and supporting the mutual well-being of everyone in the community; wanting what is best for each other.

Equilibrium: nurturing the well-being and resilience of each individual and one's own, and thereby of the community, to achieve mental and emotional balance and personal fulfilment.

Stewardship: cultivating a sense of responsibility and care for the people and the world around us, as well as oneself, to ensure our community and environment thrive.

Integrity: developing within ourselves strong principles, sound judgement, and the resilience needed to do the right thing.

A Snapshot of the College

Founded in 1802 and set in a beautiful Yorkshire valley, Ampleforth College is the world's foremost Catholic day and boarding school, welcoming girls and boys of all faiths aged 11-18.

Ampleforth College at a glance 2020-2025

1180 pupils have attended the school

53% Boys & **47%** Girls

80% Boarders & **20%** Day Pupils

1 Junior House – ages 11-13

4 Boys Houses & **3** Girls Houses

Over
200 Pupils
awarded a bursary

20 Subjects
offered at GCSE

30 Sixth Form options
(25 A Levels,
4 vocational BTEC
courses, and 1 Advanced
Subsidiary Level)

88% achieve a place at
their first choice university

Over **70** outreach and partnership events every year for local schools and the Diocese

More than **2,500** children from our local area benefit each year from Ampleforth's facilities and partnerships programmes

Home for our pupils is:

36% North of England and Scotland

36% London, South East, South West, East Anglia, Midlands and Wales

20% Europe including: Spain, France, Austria, Germany, Benelux, Poland, Ireland, Gibraltar and Malta

8% Rest of World including: South America, USA, Mexico, Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Kenya and Nigeria

Modern Lanaguages Department

The department offers French, Spanish and German at both GCSE and A-Level. Languages are a very popular subject and some of our students are choosing two languages at GCSE. In Year 7 and year 8, all students study French and in year 9 the vast majority study French and either Spanish or German at beginner level.

In French, we follow the Edexcel board for GCSE and AQA syllabus at A level. We design our own high-quality resources rooted in the latest educational research, active teaching, purposeful modelling, and Conti's methods of retrieval and fluency. Due to our classes being relatively small, we can truly tailor our support and challenge every student. At Ampleforth, we want our students to become independent in their use of language and we encourage them to use their linguistic skills creatively and actively. All our A level students enjoy a weekly individual one to one lesson with our French teachers in addition to their timetabled contact hours. Our lessons at KS3 are lively and fun and we have been experimenting more recently with the phonics approach.

From year 9, all our students are issued with an IPAD and MFL teachers are using TEAMS to set homework and to share teaching material and resources.

We take every opportunity to bring the language to the classroom with a wide range of French media, visits to the cinema or university language focused days, participation in the regional MFL debating competition, theatre visits and entries to the Oxford flash writing competitions as well as entries to the Linguistic Olympiads.

In the MFL department, we are a group of skilled like-minded linguists with a passion for our subject and where we actively collaborate with one another. You will often hear us speaking our respective languages with one another around school. We are determined to share new pedagogical methods and perspectives in teaching and learning MFL and would welcome a new colleague who would be willing to explore this with us.

MFL Round Up 2026

The languages department has experienced another exceptionally busy year. Alongside delivering an engaging and rigorous curriculum, we have worked to enrich the learning experience by integrating technology and authentic materials into our lively lessons. We also continued to offer specialized speaking support and coaching. Furthermore, our students benefited from numerous curriculum-enhancing opportunities that truly brought their language studies to life.

We have continued to provide our students with opportunities to showcase their skills in various competitions and events. In November, a group of Year 12 students—Alice, Victoria, Katelyn, Emily, and Daniyal—took part in the UK Linguistics Olympiad. This year, they tackled challenging tasks featuring languages such as Seri, Iñupiaq, Lezgian, Khana, and Cantonese Braille. It proved to be a highly enriching and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. Similarly, the Linguistic Society provides a weekly activity open to years 7 and 8. During the sessions, students solved language puzzles and explored amazing cultural facts about linguistics. They learned about the deep influences of Latin, Greek, Norse, and Celtic on the ways we speak. They also dove into the world of codes, cryptography, secret and made-up languages. To wrap up a fantastic year, the students even tried their hands at creating their very own language!

The Year 7 and Year 8 students enjoyed a session focused on how learning a language gives us new ways to express ourselves and helps us tell different stories. For the Year 9 students, Dr Summers showed how languages give you great skills for any future job, focusing on creativity and decoding patterns. The Year 9 students then put these skills to the test by decoding a Swedish poem.

On 12th November, our KS3 students took part in an exciting Language Day. We welcomed Dr Caroline Summers from Warwick University, who came to give an inspiring talk called 'The Power of Languages'.

From 17th to 21st November, our Year 9 students took part in a thrilling national language competition designed by GCHQ, the UK's intelligence service. This special contest aims to get young people excited about languages. It does not require any previous language knowledge because it focuses on solving puzzles of all different difficulty levels.

Ampleforth College was proudly represented by Ellie, Mary, Max, and Maria. Operating under the team's name "Receptive Rattlesnake," the students used their own chosen secret agent names: Alert Intriguing Duck, Intelligent Super Bear, Compassionate Rapid Starfish, and Royal Loyal Tiger. Together, they fought valiantly and scored an impressive 3,070 points.

In January, our Year 13 Spanish students enjoyed an enriching cultural visit from three Chilean members of the Manquehue group. They gave a fascinating talk and live demonstration on El canto a lo poeta, a beautiful musical and poetic tradition practised for over 400 years.

Students learned that this art features cantores (singers) who perform complex verses from memory. They accompany themselves on a standard guitar or a traditional, multi-stringed guitarrón chileno. Deeply rooted in local communities, the tradition is split into two primary branches. The first is Canto a lo Divino, which features sacred poetry about biblical stories and saints sung during religious vigils and rural festivals. The second is Canto a lo Humano, which covers secular themes like love, history, and social commentary. It even includes fun, improvised singing battles called payas.

The Lent term saw an exciting mix of science, space, and deep thinking for our linguists.

First, in January, a team of years 10 & 11 students visited the RAF base in Leeming for the International Space Challenge. It involved the design of a practical space hotel for a European company. The twist? They had to work with foreign materials suppliers and pitch their ideas to investors in French, German, or Spanish! It was a brilliant, fun way to use science and languages together while building great skills for future jobs.

Around the same time, our Academic Scholars enjoyed two fascinating talks. They explored big ideas in 'Language and Culture' and 'Universal Grammar and Language', looking deep into how human speech develops.

Our Sixth Form linguists explored big questions about global culture, history, and politics through their Independent Research Projects, diving far beyond standard textbooks.

In the French department, pupils debated the impact of the 2024 Paris Olympics, the future of French cinema, the law on secularism, and Paris's changing food scene.

Spanish students tackled complex social issues, exploring Argentina's El Gauchito Gil folk culture, Mexico's "los muxes" third gender, wealth gaps in Madrid, the commercialism of the St. James' Way, Peru's environmental crisis, and peace in the Basque Country.

Russian students investigated the New Year movie The Irony of Fate, Maya Plisetskaya's impact on ballet, Pavel Durov's influence on social media, and tourism threats to Lake Baikal. Whilst the Chinese speakers weighed up the future of overseas students and the role of Artificial Intelligence in education. Finally, German students analysed the Alpine region, the rise of the AfD party, social networks in action, and cannabis legalisation; with our Italian speaker investigating the role of mafia informant Tommaso Buscetta. Needless to say, we are incredibly proud of our Sixth Formers, who proved that learning a language is truly about understanding the world.

Our final big event has been the French exchange, a new exciting venture involving the GCSE French students. In March, eight year 10 students and two staff members visited our partner school in Versailles, St Joseph de Lys.

Staying with French host families gave our pupils a genuine taste of everyday life in France. They attended morning school lessons and spent their afternoons exploring famous sights. Unforgettable highlights included a scenic boat tour along the Seine, witnessing the Crown of Thorns procession at Notre-Dame, and taking part in the moving "Flame of the Nation" ceremony beneath the Arc de Triomphe. They also loved visiting the magnificent Palace of Versailles and, of course, eating plenty of delicious crêpes!

We then welcomed the French students into our Valley at the start of June. They enjoyed a busy programme of visits to local attractions and participated fully in the daily life of the College. This has been a fabulous experience for everyone involved, creating long-lasting memories and friendships!

By Aileen Wallington – Head of French

Teacher of French

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Responsible to the Head of French, the appointed Teacher of French will carry out duties in the most cost-effective and efficient way, demonstrating all due care to safer practice for children and for all relevant Health and Safety legislation. Satisfy all criteria and checks relating to suitability to work in a school environment.

MAIN DUTIES:

- Supporting the policies and aims of the School and exercising the highest standards of professionalism
- Preparing lessons in accordance with the Schemes of Work promulgated by the Head of Subject.
- Teaching in such a manner as to maintain the best academic standard, supporting the individual needs of students and encouraging an enthusiasm for, and an interest in, the subject.
- Marking pupils' work on a regular basis, allocate grades and targets as agreed with the Head of Departments and writing reports by the set deadlines.
- Keeping up to date with current educational developments and attending any necessary courses as advised or instructed by the relevant Head of French.
- Undertaking, as directed, agreed supervisory tasks and being a House Tutor, supporting activities within the house.
- Attending Staff Meetings, Staff Briefings and Parents' meetings.
- Attending full School Assemblies and Year Group Assemblies as appropriate.
- Contributing to the general breadth and quality of pupils' experiences within the School by:

-Helping to provide opportunities for curriculum enhancement.
-Contributing to sport and to the running of activities
-Supervising social and cultural activities according to the published rota

- Taking part in the School's system of Professional Review.
- Carrying out duties in the most cost-effective and efficient way, demonstrating all due care to safer practice for children and for all relevant Health and Safety legislation

"There is a strong team spirit and colleagues are always helpful and supportive. Specialist training is provided which means I am building a new set of skills, and there are opportunities for development. Staff well-being is given a high priority and being in a beautiful location makes coming to work a pleasure."

Carolyn, Compliance Administrator

PERSONAL SPECIFICATION:

Qualifications and Training

Essential

- Has a good degree in the subject, or a substantive alternative
- Has a PGCE or recognised equivalent

Desirable

- Has additional qualification in taught subject or in Education
- Has up-to-date knowledge of the content and structure of the National Curriculum and of current developments within subject field education

Skills and Experience

Essential:

- Has relevant teaching experience including at A level
- Is competent in the use of ICT both within the classroom and for administration

Desirable:

- Has experience of working effectively as part of a team

Personal Attributes

Essential

- Is empathetic to the aims and objectives of a Catholic Benedictine School
- Medically fit and able to teach
- Has or will develop excellent teaching ability
- Is committed to sharing their enthusiasm for their subject with students of all ages and abilities
- Is well organised and adaptable, able to prioritise tasks and show initiative
- Shows the ability to establish good working relationships
- Shows the ability to evaluate and improve their own performance

Extra-curricular / Pastoral

Essential

- Is able to contribute to the extra-curricular activities within the department
- Is willing to take on academic tutorial and pastoral responsibilities

Desirable

- Is able to contibute to the wider life of a full boarding school by offering activites

"Ampleforth is very much a community in its own right and even as a part time staff member, I feel included, involved and that my work here is valued. The College team are friendly and supportive and it is clearthat everybody here is passionate about their role. The College is unlike anywhere I have ever worked before, no two days are ever the same, and I really look forward to coming to work."

Emma Darbyshire-Mezzanottee, Database Project Executive

"It has been rewarding, both professionally and personally, to have worked for almost 20 years in a place with a clear sense of purpose, collegiality, and a profound respect for cultural diversity whilst maintaining traditions and values which give it its unique character."

Francisca Garcia-Ortega, Head of Spanish

Conditions of Employment

Hours: 0.5FTE
Probationary period: 4 months
Salary: Dependent on qualifications / experience up to a maximum of £51,858 pro rata

Working Environment
Ampleforth is an enjoyable and stimulating place to work. Our staff body seeks to work to core values and codes of conduct developed from the Rule of St Benedict.

Benefits

- Group Personal Pension Scheme
- Affordable staff lodging (where available)
- Lunch during working hours (hot and cold choices)
- Discounted on-site Sports Centre membership
- Free car parking on-site
- E-Vehicle salary sacrifice scheme (pending)
- Cycle to work scheme
- 10% Staff discount at the Abbey Shop and Tearooms
- Bounty scheme for referral of new staff
- Employee assistance programme
- Death in Service Gratuity
- Fee remission (at Headmaster's discretion)

Staff Support & Welfare
Ampleforth takes the welfare, health and wellbeing of its staff seriously. Our beautiful grounds are well maintained and open to staff for walking and running. In addition to professional development, we endeavour to support all staff members to the very best of our ability. We operate family-friendly policies such as childcare voucher schemes, company maternity provisions (enhanced Statutory Maternity Pay) and flexible working opportunities. There is also an Employee Assistant Programme offering a free and confidential 24/7 support service. This service provides unlimited access to advice, information, coaching and counselling where appropriate. A Staff Chaplain is also available to offer advice and support.

Apply now

For more information or to discuss the role further, please contact the Human Resources department on 01439 766415 or employment@ampleforth.org.uk or Aileen Wallington, Head of French on awal@ampleforth.org.uk

The Trust is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and will take every possible step to ensure fair and equal treatment of all. All Trust policies and practices will support the commitment to equality of opportunity in respect of any recruitment, and selection process. No member of staff or applicant will be unfairly disadvantaged by the Trust policies or practices.

Safeguarding and Child protection at Ampleforth College
The St Laurence Education Trust is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people. They expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and will ensure that all recruitment and selection practices and procedures reflect this commitment.

All successful candidates will be subject to checks by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) along with other relevant employment check. All applicants, (regardless of position) are requested to read the Safeguarding Policy as part of our commitment to safeguarding of children

All posts at Ampleforth are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. We therefore require applicants to declare all convictions, cautions and bindovers, including those regarded as 'spent'.

All information provided will be treated as confidential.

Our Safeguarding Policy can be accessed via our website. Any offer of employment is made subject to a full range of checks and satisfactory references.

The Application Process
If you have enjoyed reading about life here in the Ampleforth valley, and would like to join the team, we encourage you to apply. Applications should be made via our application form.

Please visit Ampleforth College- Join the team to start your application.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the HR Department on 01439 766415 or email employment@ampleforth.org.uk.

The interview process will take place in school. Further details will be provided once the shortlist has been agreed.

Closing date for applications: 28th October, midday

Interviews will take place week commencing: 2nd November

How to reach us

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

York

Board the 31X bus towards Kirkbymoorside on Station Avenue. Exit bus at Ampleforth College and walk 0.2 miles to the College site.

Harrogate

Take the train from Harrogate station to York Station. Walk 280 yards to Station Avenue and board the 31X bus towards Kirkbymoorside. Exit bus at Ampleforth College and walk 0.2 miles to the College site.

Middlesborough

Take the train from Middlesborough station to York Station. Walk 280 yards to Station Avenue and board the 31X bus towards Kirkbymoorside. Exit bus at Ampleforth College and walk 0.2 miles to the College site.

BY CAR

Please use https://what3words.com/couple.shoulders.autumn or YO62 4EP for Sat Nav

York

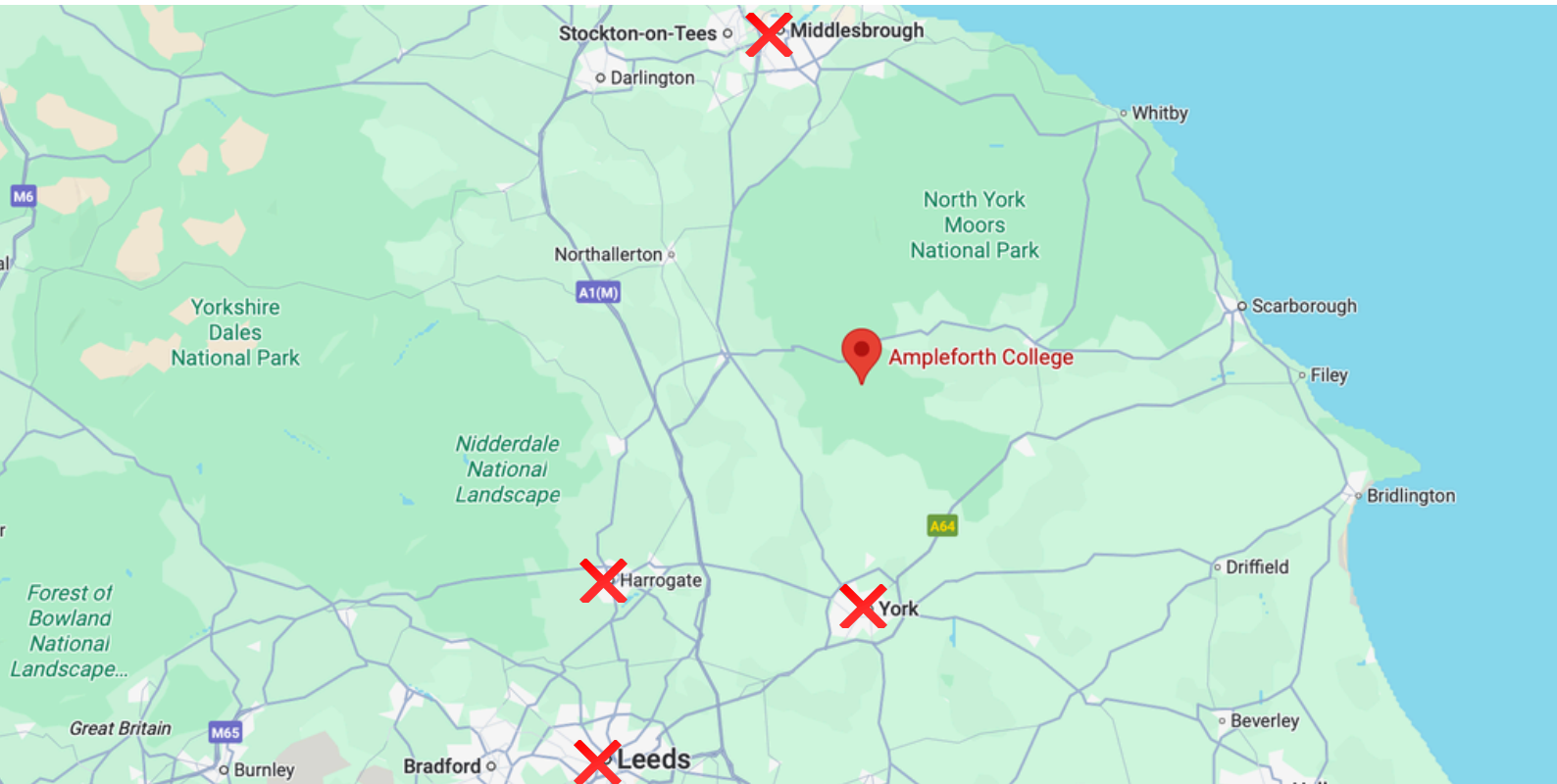
- Via B1363 through Sutton-on-the-Forest, Brandsby and Oswaldkirk – 21.9 miles
- Via A64 & B1257 through Stockton on the Forest, Welburn and Hovingham – 25.2 miles
- Via B1257 through Strensall, Terrington and Hovingham– 22.9 miles

Harrogate

- Via A170 through Ripley, Ripon and Thirsk– 36.1 miles
- Via A1(M) & A170 through Flaxby, Dishforth and Thirsk– 39.3 miles
- Via A6055through Knaresborough, Helperby and Coxwold – 29.7 miles

Middlesborough

- Via A19 through Crathorne, Ingleby Arncliffe and Thirsk – 39.7 miles
- Via B1257 through Stokesley, Laskill and Helmsley– 32.9 miles
- Via A19 & A170 through Crathorne, Northallerton and Thirsk 43.8 miles



an Ampleforth education is

A Compass for Life

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