

Blyth Town Deal



Andrew Thelwell

Principal, Bede Academy (Secondary)

Having been appointed as Principal of Bede Secondary in 2019, I relocated from West Yorkshire to the North East coast with my wife and three boys.

Bede Academy was set up in 2009 as part of the Emmanuel Schools Foundation and was the first all-through Academy in Northumberland, currently educating 1,850 children aged from 3 to 19 years. It is a privilege to lead the Secondary phase of Bede Academy alongside Bethan Harding (OBE) who is Principal of the Primary phase.

The Core Values of the Foundation's schools, together with the Christian ethos, reflect the importance of developing children in our care to become young men and women who have integrity, compassion, humility, accountability as well as honourable purpose, courage and determination. We focus on developing excellence in character as well as excellence in our curriculum and our community.

Bede Academy was founded with an Engineering and Enterprise specialism. This remains a core part of our curriculum offer to this day, we are looking to grow these pathways through our curriculum provision as we strive to prepare students for their future workplaces.

I consider it an honour to lead one of the most inspiring schools in Northumberland, and a privilege to be part of the academy's remarkable journey here in Blyth.