

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

I want to commend the students on their fantastic start to the year. Students are living out The St Bede's Way in their lessons and interactions with students and staff, being rewarded with a joint 11,745 house points since we began the term three weeks ago. This approach by each individual is helping foster an environment in which all students can flourish.

It seems crazy that we are already thinking about new Year 7s for September 2026, when we have only just welcomed our September 2025 cohort, but here we are with an open evening next Thursday, 2nd October, 6-8pm. As, I hope, families that are very happy with the education your children are receiving, please encourage your friends and families that are looking for secondary education for their children to come along and see the college and meet the staff and students next week.

Loving God, We thank You for the gift of Catholic education, for the schools and communities where faith and learning are united. We give thanks for the teachers and staff who dedicate their talents to nurturing young minds and spirits. We pray for their wisdom, guidance, and commitment to our mission. We are grateful for the supportive families and the vibrant student community that fosters growth and fellowship. Amen.

REFLECTION - 27 September - St Vincent De Paul

The French priest St. Vincent de Paul (1581-1660) organized works of charity, founded hospitals, and started two Roman Catholic religious' orders.

The patron saint of charitable societies, St. Vincent de Paul is primarily recognized for his charity and compassion for the poor, though he is also known for his reform of the clergy.

Vincent was a man of action rather than of theory. The religious spirit he communicated was simple, practical and straightforward.

The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), which was created in his name, works to honour this through its work in communities across the country.

His Feast day is celebrated on 27 September.

Reflection: "If God is the centre of your life, no words are necessary. Your mere presence will touch hearts"

Prayer: Noble Saint Vincent de Paul, beloved servant of the poor, may we follow your example and do good works among those whom society has abandoned.

Pray for us to our beloved God that we may commit ourselves selflessly to doing the same charitable acts that you did all your life. Amen



St. Bede's: *Faith in Action*

At the beginning of our new term, let's start with a prayer.

There is a lot of noise in our world today, to which young people in our community are not immune. This can make it difficult to anchor our thoughts and know where we belong.

Pope Francis called for a deep listening; a phrase echoed in recent weeks by Pope Leo. The notion of deep listening is vital to healthy relationships and is an integral part of being Catholic. Our faith transcends social status and political views. We are a universal Catholic family.

In the Catholic tradition, prayer involves raising one's mind and heart to God. The late Fr Bede Jarrett wrote, "the first act of prayer is knowledge, the second is love" (1953). Through prayer, we must ask ourselves where we anchor our love. This year, we relaunched our morning prayer routine with the introduction of prayer books to support our tutors and provide the opportunity for all students to practice meaningful prayer while maturing in their prayer life as they progress through the school. Copies of these prayer books will soon be available for reading on our college website. Please explore these resources, and if you have not already, consider introducing a quiet period of prayer within your home.

At the beginning of this new academic year, we pray that the Lord will bless our community, and help us to develop the bonds of communion, for the promotion of love. Amen

'The Agony in the Garden' by Giovanni Bellini (circa. 1458). The National Gallery, London.



Year 7 Retreat Day

On Monday, all Year 7 were off timetable for our Retreat Day. We had a series of workshops, looking at our role as a member of our community and also the role that Catholic Social Teaching and the Year of Jubilee can help us and those around us.

Everyone gained a great deal, learning about themselves and others.

We ended the day with Mass, Canon Michael joined us and we were able to celebrate together as a year group as we start our time together at St Bede's.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025

1st—3rd October

History - Ypres Trip

2nd October

MAIN COLLEGE
OPEN EVENING
6.00pm—8.00pm

9th October

Year 7 Parents'
Tutor Evening

17th October

Year 11
Careers Fair

22nd—26th October

MFL - French Trip

24th October

INSET DAY
END OF TERM 1

3rd November

START OF TERM 2

6th November

SIXTH FORM ARETÉ
OPEN EVENING
6.00pm—8.00pm



LOCKERS

Year 7 lockers will be made available toward the end of Term 1 and will be available to purchase via MCAS.

We will contact families to confirm dates closer to the time.

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE – FOR YEAR 7 STUDENTS



We are excited to introduce Year 7 students to the FIRST LEGO League—an international competition that combines creativity, problem-solving and technology. It's all about working as a team to design, build and program a LEGO® robot to complete a series of exciting challenges.

But the competition is about much more than robots. Students also work on an innovation project, where they research a real-world problem and come up with their own creative solution. Along the way, they'll develop skills in teamwork, communication, and critical thinking, while having fun.

Why get involved?

A chance to be creative and explore STEM in a hands-on way.
Learn coding and engineering skills in a supportive team environment.
Build confidence, resilience, and problem-solving abilities.
Represent our school in an inspiring global competition.

No prior experience with LEGO or coding is needed—just enthusiasm and a willingness to learn!

We can't wait to see the amazing ideas our Year 7 teams come up with as they take on this year's challenge. The team will be training at lunchtimes and occasionally after school as we prepare for the regional competition. If your child would like to participate - please encourage them to come along to Week A—Wednesday and Week B—Thursday in E9 at 12:35pm

HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Please be advised that we will be launching an App with families already signed up for travel on the Bakers Dolphin Coaches, so that families can book their child(ren) onto the appropriate coach. The App will contain a bus pass that will need to be shown to the driver via a mobile phone and they will need to show their phones with a QR code to the coach driver both morning and afternoon.

If your child does not have a phone with the capacity to download the App please contact Mrs Cheshire on 0117 2355623 or by email on cheshirem@stbcc.org, so that other arrangements can be made.

The App will also provide updates on where the coach is at any point on the route signed up to.

Please look out for an email that will be issued to you shortly. We will also send a tutorial so that you can see how the App works.

We anticipate the App will improve the home to college travel experience for the young people.

Please note if children are not already signed up to home to school transport please contact Mrs Cheshire to add your interest to our waiting list.


THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT- SEPTEMBER UPDATES

As part of the Clifton Literary Festival there is an exciting writing competition which students in Years 9 to 13 can enter. See details below! Students have also been given more information via their English Google Classrooms.

Are you a Bristol student who loves to write? Here's your chance to shine! Enter the **Young Writers Competition**—a platform to showcase your creativity.

This Year's Theme for all categories: "The Library"

Who Can Enter?	Submission Guidelines
Open to students at Bristol Schools entering Years 9 to 13 in the 2025/26 school year. Submit your work in one of the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fiction Year 9 to Year 11• Fiction Years 12 & 13• Non-Fiction Year 9 to Year 11• Non-Fiction Years 12 & 13	Word Count: no minimum word count, maximum 800 words for both fiction and non-fiction. Format: MS Word or PDF Deadline: Midday, 8th October 2025 Submit to: youngadult@cliftonlifefest.com
Prizes (Per Category) 1st Place – £100 Runner-Up – £50	Eligibility: You must attend a Bristol-based school, academy, or college (confirmation required)



Winners will be announced at a special event during the **Clifton Literary Festival on 15th November 2025**, where winning pieces will be celebrated and excerpts read aloud by Paul McGann, an award-winning actor!

Let your imagination soar. Celebrate your voice. Share your story.

There are also many talks as part of the festival - 14th -16th November, which you can discover more information about at: <https://foccal.com/lifefest>

Bedrock Learning- Home Learning for Years 7 and 8

In Years 7 and 8 students have access to an excellent program which helps them to improve their vocabulary and grammar skills. They are expected to complete 30 minutes or achieve 20 points each week. Students can access the website below through their school Google account. Parent/ guardian log ins will be emailed out shortly which will allow you to monitor your child's learning on this platform.

<https://app.bedrocklearning.org/>

Thank you for your support and if there are any questions please contact Mrs De Hondt - KS3 English

LEARNING SUPPORT BRISTOL PARENT CARERS FORUM

Bristol Parent Carers have issued a newsletter with updates on local services, helpful resources, and the latest SEND news.

Please click the following link for information: <https://bitt.ly/l7hY76>

FLU VACCINATIONS

Sirona will once again be offering Flu Vaccinations at the college for Years 7 to 11 as a nasal spray vaccine. If your child or a family member has a compromised immunity or your child is allergic to egg, you are welcome to choose the injectable option for your child if you still want them to receive the vaccine.

Please complete the below consent form at your earliest convenience:

<https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2025/consent?v=4>

FIND OUT IF YOUR CHILD CAN GET FREE SCHOOL MEALS, HOW TO GET EXTRA FUNDING FOR ST BEDE'S AND HOW TO APPLY

Free school meals

Children in Year 3 and above can apply for free school meals if their parent or guardian receives certain benefits.

Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is extra funding for every child whose family receive any of the benefits below throughout their time at school. The school gets £935 per secondary school child. This money makes a big difference to schools and the eligible pupils. It is often used for extra resources, school trips and additional staff

Who can apply

You can apply for free school meals and Pupil Premium if you get any of these benefits:

- Universal Credit if your household income is less than £7,400 a year or £616.67 a month after tax
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 If we find your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish their phase of schooling (primary or secondary) on 31 March 2025

How to apply

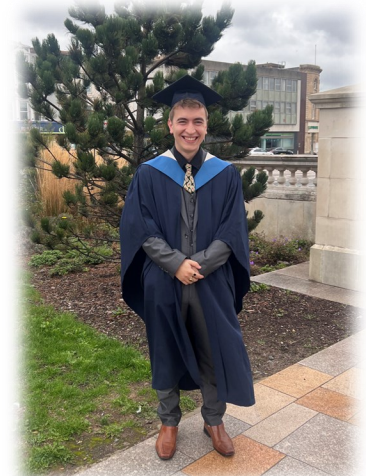
It is quick and simple to apply, go to your LA's website; Bristol [FSM Application](#) South Glos [Citizen Portal](#) - Sign in [North Somerset FSM Application](#)

PAST STUDENT SUCCESS

Congratulations to past students **Joseph Marcel-Ham** and **Izabela Jahn**.

Izabela has completed her LLB Law degree at UWE and Joseph an Early Years Education BA Hons degree at UCW (University of Centre Weston)

We wish you the very best in the future.



PARENT ACCOUNTS

We are pleased that all of our online systems are now in one app for parents called My Child At School (or MCAS for short). This includes online payments and absence reporting, as well as information such as attendance statistics, homework tasks and behaviour/reward events. Parents can delete any of our old systems as they will no longer work.

If you have not yet accessed MCAS, please head to www.mychildatschool.com and click on the Reset Password button. Follow the instructions on screen to generate an email to your inbox, which will contain a link to set your password.

Should you have any issues with accessing MCAS, please contact the College via contact@stbcc.org where a member of the IT Team will get back to you as soon as possible.

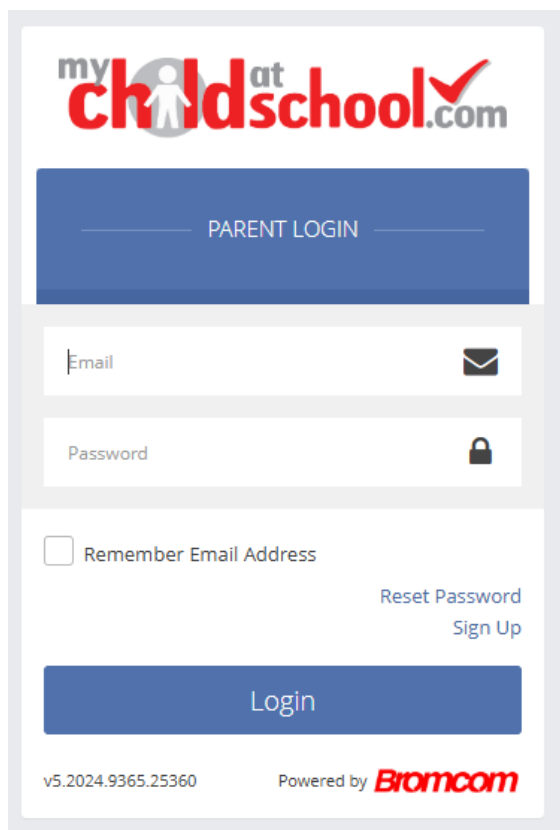
STUDENTS ACCOUNTS

Students have their own portal with which they access important information such as their homework tasks, timetable and behaviour/reward events. This is called the Student Portal and is accessed via www.bromcomvle.com.

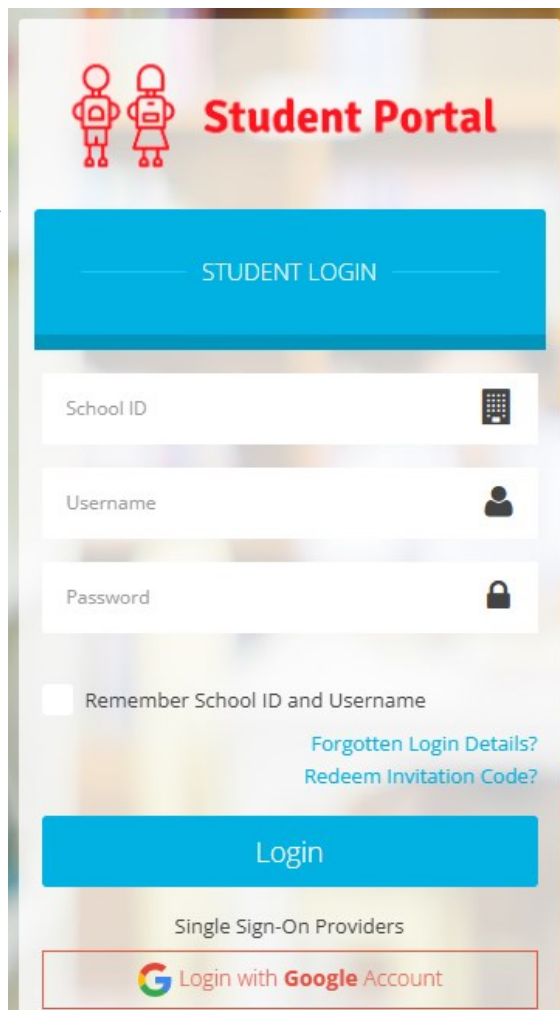
To login, students should click on 'Login with Google Account' and then enter their College email address and email password. They do not need to use any codes.

Please note that the Student Portal is for students to access - parent/carer email addresses will not work. The information contained in the Student Portal mirrors that displayed in MCAS.

If students have any issues accessing the Student Portal, they should speak to their tutor or visit the IT Office in E13 during break or lunch.



The screenshot shows the 'my child at school.com' logo at the top. Below it is a blue button labeled 'PARENT LOGIN'. There are two input fields: 'Email' with an envelope icon and 'Password' with a lock icon. A checkbox labeled 'Remember Email Address' is present. To the right of the checkbox are links for 'Reset Password' and 'Sign Up'. A large blue 'Login' button is at the bottom. At the very bottom, it says 'v5.2024.9365.25360' and 'Powered by Bromcom'.



The screenshot shows the 'Student Portal' logo with two robot icons. Below it is a blue button labeled 'STUDENT LOGIN'. There are three input fields: 'School ID' with a keypad icon, 'Username' with a person icon, and 'Password' with a lock icon. A checkbox labeled 'Remember School ID and Username' is present. To the right of the checkbox are links for 'Forgotten Login Details?' and 'Redeem Invitation Code?'. A large blue 'Login' button is at the bottom. Below the button, it says 'Single Sign-On Providers' and 'Login with Google Account' with the Google logo.



St. Bede's Catholic College



Work Hard. Be Kind. Do the Right Thing.

**We warmly welcome prospective
Year 5 and 6 pupils and their families to our**

OPEN EVENING

**On Thursday 2nd October 2025
From 6.00pm—8.00pm**

Principal's Presentation

Enjoy a College tour

Meet our Staff and Students

INTRODUCING TASSOMAI: HELPING STUDENTS BUILD KNOWLEDGE EVERY DAY

We're excited to let you know that the Science Faculty is now using Tassomai, an online learning program designed to help students strengthen their knowledge and build confidence through daily practice. Tassomai uses short quizzes that adapt to each student, ensuring the right level of challenge while reinforcing key Science topics.

Why Tassomai?

- It supports consistent revision in manageable daily chunks.
- Students see their progress build week by week.
- Teachers and parents can track engagement and celebrate successes.
- Research shows that regular use of Tassomai leads to improved understanding and better exam results.

What's expected? Each student has a weekly goal to complete on Tassomai. By meeting this target, they keep on top of their learning and avoid last-minute cramming. We encourage parents to check in with their child's progress regularly—just a few minutes each day makes a big difference.

Getting started is simple... Students can log in quickly and securely using their school Gmail account. All classes will be having an introduction session in their science lessons. Tassomai works on any device, and we recommend downloading the Tassomai app from the App Store or Google Play so practice can fit easily into daily routines.

For further details, tips for parents, and extra resources, please visit: www.tassomai.com/school-parents

Thank you for supporting your child in building strong learning habits with Tassomai—we look forward to seeing the progress!

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

When you are experiencing a mental health problem, supportive and reliable information can change your life. That's what MIND offer. They empower people to understand their condition and the choices available to them through:

An Infoline which offers callers confidential help for the price of a local call

A Legal Line which provides information on mental health related law to the public, service users, family members/carers, mental health professionals and mental health advocates

An award-winning publications and website, now certified by the Information Standard.

For more information about MIND – please visit their web-site: www.mind.org.uk



PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for a **Parent Governor** on the Governing Body of St Bede's Catholic College. This is a valuable opportunity for parents to play an active role in shaping the future of the College.

Parent Governors work alongside Foundation Governors and staff to:

- Preserve the Catholic character of the College.
- Help set its vision and direction.
- Support and challenge the College in maintaining high standards.
- Ensure accountability for performance.

You don't need to be an education expert – what matters most is the commitment to support our work. At this time, we would particularly welcome parents with skills in human resources, finance, or accountancy.

Governors meet four times a year, with additional committee meetings scheduled flexibly. Appointments are normally for a four-year term, and full training is provided.

How to apply:

Complete a nomination form online: <https://forms.gle/F2tYaTEjgX3Gagsu7>

Nominations must be proposed and seconded.

Paper forms are available from Mrs Walker, Clerk to the Governing Body (walkerc@stbcc.org).

Deadline: 10th October 2025

If only one nomination is received, that parent will be appointed unopposed. If there are multiple nominations, an election will be held.

We warmly encourage applications from parents of all backgrounds who are passionate about supporting our College community.

EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT AVONMOUTH RFC & STAR SCHEME PARTNERSHIP*

The star* scheme is teaming up with Avonmouth RFC to recruit young people in Years 7-11 to play rugby for their local club. This exciting opportunity is open to all young people, whether they are new to the sport or already have some experience.

Through the star* scheme, players can also receive emotional and financial support, ensuring that every child has the chance to get involved, develop their skills, and enjoy the game. For further information please contact: Wayne on 07557 022466

Introducing Team Pilgrim

We are proud to announce the launch of Team Pilgrim, our new school team identity that will bring pupils together under the banner of unity, sportsmanship, and faith. Guided by our motto, "One Team, One Spirit", Team Pilgrim is more than just a team name – it represents the values of respect, determination, and community that we aim to live out both on and off the field.



Before every game, players will join together in a short prayer, asking for courage, teamwork, and respect for opponents. This moment of reflection reminds us that sport is not only about competition, but also about gratitude and shared spirit.

To celebrate individual contributions, we are also introducing the "**Pilgrim of the Match**" award. This recognition will be given to the player who demonstrates outstanding effort, teamwork, and commitment to the values of Team Pilgrim, regardless of the score line. Through Team Pilgrim, we look forward to building a culture where every pupil can feel proud to belong, support one another, and play their part in representing our school with pride. Together, we truly are One Team, One Spirit.

The year 11 team began their campaign in the Bristol Area State Schools competition last week. In year 11 the boys play two waterfall competitions and the top two teams progress to the league finals and the bottom teams participate in the plate final. We faced RGS, St. Bernadette's, Castle and Mangotsfield. The boys played some excellent rugby. Their defence was amazing and in the 4 mini games not one try was scored against them. They moved the ball into space and ran some great attacking lines, winning all of their games by three or more tries. The 'pilgrim' of the game was nominated and voted for by the players and Mr Johnson. We all agreed that **Sam Norman** had played extremely well in all of the games, congratulations Sam! Good luck in the finals on 2nd October.



Team Pilgrim continued...

Year 8 started their season at the QEH 7's competition. We have such strong interest in year 8 that Mr Johnson was able to take 15 players. We were placed in a league with Clifton High, QEH A, The Downs and Cotham.

This is one competition that the boys enjoy facing some of our local private schools. The boys played really well and won all of their games with the exception of the game against QEH A, where we narrowly lost despite keeping them pinned in their own half for large parts of the game.

This meant that we finished second and hoped to get through to the semi-finals. However, QEH B team finished with the same number of points but scored two more tries than us, so we finished 5th out of the 15 schools that entered. Well done to all of the boys and hopefully they will take some of the skills they displayed into the rest of their season.

The pilgrim of the competition was voted by the team - congratulations to **Leon!**

Rugby Skills and Rugby Festival

The Year 7 girls took part in a T1 Rugby skills and games festival at Broadplains Rugby club on Thursday 18th September. Learning skill and rules of the game before playing games just like their England counterparts.

The girls did a fantastic job of representing the values of working hard, but also showed great respect for the young leaders and their opposition and brilliant resilience when needed.

A massive well done to all, but in particular **Karolina** who was voted as Pilgrim of the day by her peers for not only showing great skills on the pitch, but for encouraging everyone and always being positive.



Team Pilgrim continued...

Team Pilgrims Cup Match Report

This week saw two exciting national cup fixtures for Team Pilgrims as both the Year 9 and Year 10 boys' football teams travelled to Kings Academy, Cheddar.

Year 9 – National Cup Victory

The Year 9 boys produced a fine display to progress to the next round with a 2–1 win. In a tight and competitive game, the boys showed real resilience after going in level at the break. The second half was where Team Pilgrims came alive, playing with intensity and determination. Both goals came from the in-form **Ciaran P**, whose clinical finishing made the difference and sealed a deserved victory. A fantastic team effort and a result that sees the Year 9s continue their national cup journey.

Year 10 – Match of the Week

The Year 10 boys were involved in what can only be described as a thriller. Their tie finished 5–5 after full time in a match packed with goals and drama. Team Pilgrims' goals came from **Henri M** (2), **Alfie M**, **Anthony P**, and **Monga T**. Despite their attacking flair and fighting spirit, the game was ultimately decided by penalties, where unfortunately the boys were edged out and exited the competition. A tough result to take, but the squad can be proud of their performance in such a high-quality contest.

Both teams represented the school exceptionally well, demonstrating skill, teamwork, and determination throughout their matches.





EXTRA CURRICULAR *CLUBS*

LUNCHTIME CLUBS (12:35 – 1:05)

TUESDAY – STRONG GIRLS CLUB:

WEDNESDAY – YR 7, 8 & 9 GIRLS BASKETBALL

THURSDAY – YR 10 & 11 BOYS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FRIDAY – YR 7, 8 & 9 BOYS BASKETBALL

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS (3:30 – 4:30)

TUESDAY – YR 7 & 8 NETBALL

TUESDAY – YR 7 & 8 RUGBY

WEDNESDAY – CROSS COUNTRY (ALL YEARS)

THURSDAY – YR 9, 10 & 11 NETBALL

THURSDAY – YR 9, 10 & 11 RUGBY

⚡ GET INVOLVED, STAY ACTIVE, AND
REPRESENT YOUR SCHOOL! ⚡

NEWMAN CATHOLIC TRUST - FINANCE MANAGER

On behalf of Dr Daniel Doyle, the Newman Catholic Trust is recruiting a Finance Manager (4 days per week). This is more than a finance role – it is a chance to bring professional expertise into a mission-driven environment where every decision supports children's flourishing.

You will be part of a growing Trust with a strong proven track record, working flexibly and dynamically alongside committed colleagues. As Finance Manager, you will help shape clear systems, support Principals with confident decision-making, and steward resources so that our schools can focus on what matters most: forming lives and building communities of hope.

This is a role for a finance professional who combines technical skill with service, able to give leaders clarity and confidence as our family of schools grows.

4 days per week (29 hours)

Salary: £30,652-33,014

Location: Bristol (hybrid working across schools)

Closing date: 20th October 2025

Apply here: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/17561/EDV-2025-CNCET-13863>

Please do share this opportunity within your networks. We are keen to reach candidates who want to use their expertise in a role that makes a lasting difference.

St Bede's Catholic College Term Dates 2025-2026

Term 1 – 1st September 2025 to 24th October 2025

Term 2 – 3rd November 2025 to 19th December 2025

Term 3 – 5th January 2026 to 13th February 2026

Term 4 – 23rd February 2026 – 2nd April 2026

Term 5 – 20th April 2026 – 22nd May 2026

Term 6 – 1st June 2026 – 21st July 2026

Inset Days

Friday 24th October 2025, Thursday 2nd April 2026, Monday 20th July 2026 and Tuesday 21st July 2026

The Governors have also agreed to support the college's improvement agenda by retaining the early finish in-service training (INSET) in 2025/2026. College will finish at 2:15pm on the following days for in-service training:

Monday 15th December 2025, Wednesday 14th January 2026, Thursday 5th February 2026 and Tuesday 10th March 2026