Thank you for your interest in this new post combining the role of parish priest in Hastings Old Town with the chaplaincy of Ark Alexandra (secondary) Academy in Hastings.

Hastings Old Town is a picturesque and vibrant area, with a multitude of shops, cafes and restaurants, leading down to the fishing area at the seafront. It was extensively featured in the TV series Foyle’s War. It is served by the two ancient churches of St Clement’s and All Saints, with the Rectory in the centre of the community. The interim priest in charge has achieved a great deal in helping the benefice to face the future with confidence.

Ark Alexandra Academy is a merger of two former schools (William Parker [boys] and Helenswood [girls]). It is part of the Ark association but has continued to have strong links with local churches and with the diocesan Board of Education. The chaplaincy aspect of the role has been made possible by some generous sponsorship funding.

We are hoping to appoint a priest called and excited by the opportunity to minister in dual environments that are challenging, but have plenty of opportunity. The appointed person will need to be able to rise to the spiritual and civic demands of a town centre parish whilst, at the same time, working confidently among teenagers – a considerable proportion of whom are from deprived backgrounds – in a school context.

If, after prayer and reflection, you believe that it would be right to apply for this post, then we would love to hear from you.

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The Right Reverend William Hazlewood