

Job Description – Teaching Assistant

Our lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust is committed to creating a diverse workforce. We will consider all qualified applicants for employment without regard to sex, race, religion, belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity, age, disability, marriage or civil partnership.

Reporting to: Headteacher or Lead Teaching Assistant (if post exists in the school)
Liaising with: SLT, Teachers, other Teaching Assistants
Grade/Salary: Band 3, NJC Points 6 – –

The Teaching Assistant will:

- Work with class teachers to raise the learning and attainment of pupils
- Promote pupils' independence, self-esteem and social inclusion
- Give support to pupils, individually or in groups, so they can access the curriculum, take part in learning and experience a sense of achievement

Duties and responsibilities

Supporting pupils

- Build positive relationships with pupils, promoting high self-esteem and independence
- Adapt communication style to respond to pupils according to their individual needs
- Support pupils with their social, emotional and mental health needs, escalating concerns where appropriate
- Promote high standards of behaviour, responding to incidents in line with the school's behaviour policy and guidelines on physical intervention
- Assist with the development and delivery of individual education and support plans (as appropriate)

Teaching and learning

- Demonstrate an informed and efficient approach to teaching and learning by adopting relevant strategies to support the work of the teacher and increase achievement of all pupils including, where appropriate, those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Support the teaching of a broad and balanced curriculum aimed at pupils achieving their full potential in all areas of learning
- Promote, support and facilitate inclusion by encouraging participation of all pupils in learning and extracurricular activities
- Use effective behaviour management strategies consistently in line with the school's policy and procedures
- Support class teachers with maintaining good order and discipline among pupils, managing behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment



- Organise and manage teaching space and resources to help maintain a stimulating and safe learning environment
- Through observations, provide regular feedback to teachers on pupil progress, attainment and barriers to learning
- Supervise a class if the teacher is temporarily unavailable
- Use ICT skills to advance pupils' learning
- Undertake any other relevant duties given by the class teacher

For TAs with a specialism in supporting pupils with SEND:

- Contribute to the planning of differentiated learning activities for individual or small groups of pupils with special educational needs (SEN), delivering activities inside or outside the classroom

Planning

- Contribute to effective assessment and planning by supporting the monitoring, recording and reporting of pupil performance and progress as appropriate to the level of the role
- Read and understand lesson plans shared prior to lessons, if available
- Prepare the classroom for lessons

Working with colleagues and other relevant professionals

- Communicate effectively with other staff members and pupils, and with parents and carers under the direction of the class teacher
- Communicate their knowledge and understanding of pupils to other school staff and education, health and social care professionals, so that informed decision making can take place on intervention and provision
- With the class teacher, keep other professionals accurately informed of performance and progress or concerns they may have about the pupils they work with
- Collaborate and work with colleagues and other relevant professionals within and beyond the school
- Develop effective professional relationships with colleagues

Whole-school organisation, strategy and development

- Contribute to the development, implementation and evaluation of the school's policies, practices and procedures, so as to support the school's values and vision
- Make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school

Health and safety

- Promote the safety and wellbeing of pupils, and help to safeguard pupils' well-being by following the requirements of Keeping Children Safe in Education and our school's child protection policy
- Look after children who are upset or have had accidents



Professional development

- Help keep their own knowledge and understanding relevant and up-to-date by reflecting on their own practice, liaising with school leaders, and identifying relevant professional development to improve personal effectiveness
- Take opportunities to build the appropriate skills, qualifications, and/or experience needed for the role, with support from the school
- Take part in the school's appraisal procedures

Personal and professional conduct

- Uphold public trust in the education profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school
- Have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school, and maintain high standards of attendance and punctuality
- Demonstrate positive attitudes, values and behaviours to develop and sustain effective relationships with the school community
- Respect individual differences and cultural diversity

The Teaching Assistant will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and follow school policies and the staff code of conduct.

Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the teacher will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the headteacher or line manager.



Person Specification – Teaching Assistant

Key: I = Interview A = Application Form

		Essential	Desirable	How evidenced?
Qualifications and Experience	Level 2 or 3 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools, Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education, or other relevant qualification in primary work or childcare (or willingness to work towards a qualification if not already held)	Y		A
	GCSEs or equivalent at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English and Maths	Y		A
	Experience of working with children	Y		A
	For TAs with a specialism in supporting pupils with SEND: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and interaction needs • Cognition and learning difficulties • Social, emotional and mental health difficulties • Sensory and/or communication needs 		Y	
Skills and Knowledge	Good literacy and numeracy skills	Y		A & I
	Good organisational skills		Y	I
	Ability to build effective working relationships with pupils and adults	Y		I
	Skills and expertise in understanding the needs of all pupils		Y	I
	Knowledge of how to help adapt and deliver support to meet individual needs		Y	I
	Excellent verbal communication skills	Y		I
	Subject and curriculum knowledge relevant to the role and ability to apply this effectively in supporting teachers and pupils		Y	I
	Active listening skills	Y		I
	Knowledge of guidance and requirements around safeguarding children	Y		I
	Good ICT skills, particularly using ICT to support learning		Y	I
	Understanding of roles and responsibilities within the classroom and wider school context		Y	I
Personal Qualities	Enjoyment of working with children	Y		I
	Sensitivity and understanding, to help build good relationships with pupils	Y		I
	A commitment to getting the best outcomes for	Y		I



	pupils and promoting the Catholic ethos and values of the school			
	Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times	Y		I
	Commitment to safeguarding and equality	Y		I

The Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to satisfactory references, which will be requested, prior to interview, an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, medical check, evidence of qualifications plus verification of the right to work in the UK.

The Trust will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition.

Whilst every effort has been made to outline the key duties and responsibilities of the role, it is not an exhaustive list. The duties and responsibilities of the role may vary from time to time, commensurate with and without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed, and would not in itself justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.

