

Job Profile

The Meadows School				
Job Number	Post Title	Grade	Points	Date
AA6960 (formerly C1049)	Teaching Assistant (Special School)	Grade 5	398 NJC	April 2008

Reporting Relationships

Responsible to: Head of School

School Purpose and Values

The Meadows School is a generic Special School providing high quality education to young people with a range of special educational needs and disabilities. The school has expertise in working with those who have complex needs in terms of their physical and sensory development, communication and interaction, as well as those with more moderate cognition and learning difficulties. The school provides education to over 130 students aged between 11 and 19 from Staffordshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Stoke on Trent. The school is organised through a combination of chronological age, key stages and learning needs.

Statement of Purpose

To work, under direct instruction of specialist needs teaching staff, usually in the classroom with the teacher. Provide specific support in addressing the needs of pupils who need particular help to overcome barriers to learning. Assist specialist needs teachers in the following:

Supporting Pupils

- Provide pastoral support to pupils within the school environment.
- Receive and supervise pupils excluded from, or otherwise not working to, a normal timetable.
- Attend to pupils' personal needs and provide advice to assist in their social, health and hygiene development on a daily basis.
- Care for pupils who are critically or terminally ill.
- Participate in the comprehensive assessment of pupils to determine those in need of particular help.
- In conjunction with the teacher the development and implementation of Individual Education/ Behaviour/Support/Mentoring plans.
- Support provision for pupils with additional needs.
- Develop 1:1 mentoring arrangements with pupils and provide support for distressed pupils.
- Use specialist knowledge/experience to provide appropriate support to pupils in relation to their individual needs (e.g. daily exercise programme).
- Provide feedback to pupils and teachers in relation to progress, achievement, behaviour, attendance etc.

Support for the Teacher

- Support pupils' access to learning using appropriate strategies, resources etc.

- Work with other staff in planning, evaluating and adjusting learning activities as appropriate.
- Monitor and evaluate pupils' responses and progress against action plans through observation and planned recording under the supervision of a teacher.
- Support the teacher in providing objective and accurate feedback and reports as required, to other staff on pupils' achievement, progress and other matters, ensuring the availability of appropriate evidence (e.g. Headteacher).
- Assist in keeping and updating records as agreed with other staff, contributing to reviews of systems/records as requested.
- Assist in the development and implementation of appropriate behaviour management strategies.
- Establish constructive relationships with parents/carers, exchanging information, facilitating their support for their child's attendance, access and learning and supporting home to school and community links.
- Assist the teacher in the development, implementation and monitoring of systems relating to attendance and integration.
- Clerical/admin support relating to classroom activity e.g. dealing with correspondence, compilation/analysis/reporting on attendance, exclusions etc, and making phone calls etc.
- Co-ordinate and organise pupils attending extra curricular activities/work experience or other out of school activities under guidance of teacher.

Support for the Curriculum

- Implement agreed learning activities/teaching programmes under direction of teacher.
- To be aware of and appreciate a range of activities, courses, organisations and individuals to provide support for pupils.
- Under direction of teacher determine the need for, prepare and use specialist equipment, plans and resources to support pupils.

Professional Accountabilities (this list is not exhaustive and should reflect the ethos of the school)

The post holder is required to be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person. In addition, they are to contribute to the achievement of the school's objectives through:

Safeguarding

- Promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons you are responsible for or come into contact with.

Financial Management

- Personally accountable for delivering services efficiently, efficiently within budget and to implement any approved savings and investment allocated to the service area.

People Management

- To comply and engage with people management policies and processes
- Contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school.
- Establish constructive relationships and communicate with other agencies/professionals.
- Attend and participate in regular meetings.
- Participate in training and other learning activities and performance development as required.
- Recognise own strengths, areas of expertise and use these to advise and support others.

Equalities

- Ensure that all work is completed with a commitment to equality and anti-discriminatory practice, as a minimum to standards required by legislation.

Climate Change

- Delivering energy conservation practices in line with the County Council's corporate climate change strategy.

Health and Safety

- Ensure a work environment that protects people's health and safety and that promotes welfare and which is in accordance with the County Council's Health and Safety policy.

Note 1:

The content of this job description will be reviewed with the post holder on an annual basis in line with the School's performance and development review policy. Any significant change in level of accountability that could result in a change to the grade must be discussed with the post holder and the relevant trade union before submitting for re-evaluation.

**Person Specification
Teaching Assistant (Special School)
Level 2**

Minimum Criteria for Two Ticks *	Criteria	Measured by
	<p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with pupils with additional needs. 	A
	<p>Qualifications/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good numeracy/literacy skills equivalent to GCSE C and above. • NVQ 2 for Teaching Assistants (or demonstrate equivalent knowledge, skills and experience). • Training in the relevant strategies e.g. literacy and/or in particular curriculum or learning area such as bilingual, sign language, dyslexia, ICT, CACHE, etc. 	I
	<p>Knowledge/Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of relevant policies/codes of practice. • Good understanding of areas of learning, e.g. literacy, numeracy, science, SEN, Early Years. • Understanding of principles of child development and learning processes and in particular, barriers to learning. • Effective use of ICT to support learning. • Use of other equipment technology – video, photocopier. • Excellent interpersonal skills to be able to relate well to a wide range of people. • Work constructively as part of a team whilst being able to demonstrate initiative. • Good communication skills. • Willing to work towards NVQ Level 2 or recognised equivalent. 	A/I
	<p>Behavioural Attributes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer focused. • Has a friendly yet professional and respectful approach which demonstrates support and shows mutual respect. • Open, honest and an active listener. • Takes responsibility and accountability. • Committed to the needs of the pupils, parents and other stakeholders and challenge barriers and blocks to providing an effective service. • Demonstrates a “can do” attitude including suggesting solutions, participating, trusting and encouraging others and achieving expectations. 	A/I

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is committed to the provision and improvement of quality service provision. • Is adaptable to change/embraces and welcomes change. • Acts with pace and urgency being energetic, enthusiastic and decisive. • Communicates effectively. • Has the ability to learn from experiences and challenges. • Is committed to the continuous development of self and others by keeping up to date and sharing knowledge, encouraging new ideas, seeking new opportunities and challenges, open to ideas and developing new skills. 	
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A = Assessed at Application

I = Assessed at Interview

T = Assessed through Test

Note 1:

In addition to the ability to perform the duties of the post, issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children will need to be demonstrated these will include:

- ***Motivation to work with children and young people.***
- ***Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people.***
- ***Emotional resilience in working with challenging behaviours and***
- ***Attitudes to use of authority and maintaining discipline.***



If a disabled person meets the criteria indicated by the 'Two Ticks' symbol and provides evidence of this on their application form they will be guaranteed an interview.

We are proud to display the **Two Ticks Symbol**, which is a recognition given by Jobcentre plus to employers who agree to meet specific requirements regarding the recruitment, employment, retention and career development of disabled people.

If you need a copy of this information in large print, Braille, another language, on cassette or disc, please ask us by contacting the
SSC Recruitment Team on 01785 276480