

# Secondment Opportunity: Early Years Consultant

## **Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT)**

**Role Type:** Temporary Secondment (1 Year)

**Time Commitment:** 1 day per week, 38 weeks

**Funding:** £300 day rate paid directly to the employing school

**Location:** CDAT office (WA7 4QX). Travel required to schools across the Diocese

**Reporting To:** CDAT EYFS Lead

Are you an experienced early years practitioner looking to expand your impact and gain valuable system leadership experience? CDAT is seeking a passionate and driven individual to join us on a one-year secondment as an Early Years Consultant. This is a unique professional development opportunity to work collaboratively across our schools, sharing best practices and driving improvements in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provision.

## **Job Description**

### **Job Purpose**

To work under the strategic direction of the CDAT EYFS Lead to provide high-quality support, guidance, and challenge to Early Years settings across the Trust. You will help schools develop and sustain inclusive, high-quality EYFS provision, improve educational outcomes for all children, and close achievement gaps.

### **Main Responsibilities and Duties**

- Conduct targeted advisory visits to allocated schools across the trust, evaluating the quality of EYFS practice and environment.
- Work collaboratively with school leaders, early years leads, and practitioners to co-produce robust action plans and practical solutions to improve provision.
- Use professional knowledge to mentor early years staff, offering hands-on advice, model teaching, or coaching to build capacity within schools. This may include hosting visits to your own setting.
- Support settings in utilising data effectively to monitor the quality of education and adapt the curriculum and provision accordingly.
- Liaise regularly with the CDAT EYFS Lead and school leadership teams to ensure timescales, standards, and strategic trust priorities are achieved seamlessly.
- Assist in researching current issues (such as Ofsted regulations and framework updates) to help create or update training materials and digital resources for trust-wide use.

## **Person Specification**

The following criteria will be assessed from your application statement, interview, and references:

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
<b>Qualifications &amp; Training</b>		
Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or equivalent Level 6 Early Years qualification.	X	
Evidence of ongoing professional development in EYFS pedagogy and statutory frameworks.	X	
<b>Experience</b>		
Substantial, successful experience leading an EYFS setting or department with a proven track record of strong outcomes.	X	
Experience in successfully supporting or mentoring other schools or external practitioners.		X
Experience in multi-agency working or building positive stakeholder relationships.		X
<b>Knowledge &amp; Skills</b>		
Authoritative knowledge of statutory guidance.	X	
Secure knowledge of the Ofsted toolkit	X	
Keep up to date with the latest research and guidance.	X	
Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to negotiate, persuade, and navigate challenging conversations professionally.	X	
Good organisational and time management skills, with the ability to manage a caseload independently within 1 day a week.	X	
Clear and succinct communication skills (both verbal and written report writing).	X	
<b>Other Job Requirements</b>		
Full commitment to the CDAT vision and Christian ethos.	X	
Fully supportive of CDAT initiatives and approaches.	X	
Willingness and physical capability to travel regularly to various schools across the diocese.	X	
Full, clean driving license and access to a personal car for work travel (with Business Cover).	X	

## How to Apply

**Important Note:** Before submitting an application, you must obtain explicit, written permission from your current Headteacher confirming that the school is willing to release you for 1 day per week for the 38-week academic year under the £300/day reimbursement rate.

**Applications should be emailed to:** Kerry McLean ([kerry.mclean@cdat.co.uk](mailto:kerry.mclean@cdat.co.uk))

**Closing Date:** Thursday 9th July, midday

**Interview Date:** Visits to school, WB 13th July. Panel interview Monday 20th July.