



Drayton Community Primary School

Come and Join Our Team!

Teaching Assistant

Full-time, term-time only | Required from October/November 2026. Fixed term until Summer 2027, subject to review and continued funding

Salary: Grade 4.4 (pro-rata – term time only)

Location: Drayton Community Primary School, near Abingdon, South Oxfordshire

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, compassionate, and committed individual to join our inclusive and supportive school community. The successful candidate will play a key role in supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), primarily within our Enhanced Pathways provision for pupils with Communication and Language (C&L) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs.

This role will also provide opportunities to work within mainstream classrooms, supporting children to access learning successfully and promoting inclusion across the school. A central aspect of the role will be helping pupils from the Enhanced Pathways provision to integrate confidently into the wider school environment, while also supporting other children who may require additional support.

We are looking for someone who is passionate about inclusive practice and committed to ensuring that every child is supported to achieve their full potential socially, emotionally, and academically. This role would suit an individual with experience of working with children with SEND, particularly SEMH and C&L needs, or someone eager to develop their expertise within a nurturing, supportive, and ambitious school environment.

In September 2025, we established a nurture group provision to support children with C&L and SEMH needs. This provision has been highly successful, with pupils making significant progress socially, emotionally, and academically. From September 2026, the provision will expand to include a second nurture group following the successful approval of our Enhanced Pathways application by Oxfordshire County Council.

The provision will be overseen by the SENCo and supported through close collaboration with a range of external professionals, including the Communication and Interaction (C&I) Team, Special Schools Outreach Services, and Educational Psychologists, ensuring a holistic and inclusive approach to meeting pupils' needs.

About Us

Drayton Community Primary School is a welcoming, one-form entry school situated just outside Abingdon in South Oxfordshire, with excellent transport links to the A34/M4, Oxford, Didcot,

Wallingford and Wantage. We are proud of our strong community spirit, with an active parent group (FODSA), a dedicated team of staff, and children who are eager to learn and take pride in their achievements.

What We Offer

- A warm, purposeful school culture with high expectations and clear routines
- Children who are enthusiastic, kind and proud of their learning
- A supportive and ambitious leadership team committed to staff wellbeing and professional growth
- A 6-month induction programme with a mentor, as part of a structured probation period
- A coaching-based professional development model, rooted in current research
- A creative, inclusive environment where your voice is valued

What We're Looking For

- Passionate and dedicated Teaching Assistants with experience of supporting pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), including children with SEMH and Communication and Language needs.
- Kind, compassionate, and nurturing practitioners who are committed to supporting vulnerable learners and creating an inclusive environment where every child feels valued, safe, and supported.
- Experience of working with children across a range of needs and age groups, with the ability to adapt support strategies to meet individual learning and emotional needs.
- A strong commitment to improving pupil wellbeing, inclusion, engagement, and outcomes across all areas of the curriculum.
- Reflective practitioners who thrive on collaboration, value professional development, and are committed to continually improving their practice to best support children with additional needs.
- Individuals who are passionate about inclusive, holistic education and dedicated to ensuring every child is empowered to flourish socially, emotionally, and academically.

Our Pupils Say:

"Our school is amazing because we have a variety of learning opportunities, a wonderful school library, and lots of support with learning. Our lessons are creative, fun and everyone here is friendly and generous." – **School Council, January 2025**

Our Parents Say:

"We are very happy with our child's progress in school and she is very happy here."

"Both my daughters have been to Drayton and I can safely say it is a wonderful place to be."

"My child is really very happy at school. She loves all her teachers and has never had a bad word to say (although she would like more snow days)!" **February 2025**

Ofsted said:

"Pupils are proud to attend this welcoming school where everyone flourishes... The school has high ambition for all pupils, including those with SEND. Pupils engage highly in lessons and value the support that staff provide... They love to share their learning and talk enthusiastically about the interesting topics they study." **September 2023**

How to Apply

If you are a passionate educator ready to take the next step in your career and contribute to our vibrant school community, we would love to hear from you. Visit our website <https://drayton-pri.oxon.sch.uk> for the full job description and application form. Visits to our school are strongly encouraged. You will get to tour the whole school with our friendly class ambassadors, meet the staff team and experience our school in action as well as join the leadership team for an informal conversation. You can arrange a visit by emailing office.2560@drayton-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Application deadline: Wednesday 24th June, interview on Tuesday 30th June

Please note applications will be reviewed on arrival and the closing date and interviews may be brought forward.

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted by email the same week, or following early applications, with interview day requirements.

Drayton Community Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people. All staff and volunteers must share this commitment. Successful candidates will be required to undertake all necessary safer recruitment checks, including an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check. We reserve the right to carry out an online search as part of our due diligence on shortlisted candidates. References will be sought on shortlisted candidates before the interview.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Job Description & Person Specification

Post Title	Teaching Assistant
Reporting to	Class teacher and Senior Leadership Team
Working Time	Full time – term time only
Salary / Grade	Grade 4.4 (pro-rata – term time only)
Disclosure Level	Enhanced DBS

Key Responsibilities

1. Supporting Pupils

- Supervise and provide targeted support for pupils, including those with special needs, ensuring their safety and access to learning activities

- Establish constructive, caring relationships with pupils
- Promote the inclusion and acceptance of all pupils
- Encourage pupils to interact with others and engage in activities led by the teacher
- Model challenging and appropriately ambitious expectations and promote self-esteem and independence
- Provide feedback to pupils in relation to progress and achievement under guidance of the teacher
- Teach aspects of the curriculum to individuals or small groups under the direction of the class teacher
- Deliver specific interventions under the direction of the class teacher and guidance of the Senior Leadership Team

2. Support for the teacher

- Model and adhere to the consistent school behaviour policy
- Create and maintain a purposeful, orderly and supportive environment
- Assist with the display of pupils' work
- Use strategies, in liaison with the teacher, to support pupils to achieve learning goals
- Monitor pupils' responses to learning activities and accurately record achievement/progress as directed
- Provide detailed and regular feedback to teachers on pupil's achievement, progress, problems etc.
- Promote good pupil behaviour, dealing promptly with conflict and incidents in line with the school's behaviour policy as well as individual pupils' plans and encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own behaviour
- Provide administrative support as directed by class teacher
- Pupil observations and assessments

3. Support for the School

- To work collaboratively with other members of the wider school team
- To participate in and act on relevant professional development
- To be aware of and follow the schools policies and procedures
- Attend and support some schools events, including during non working hours
- To complete any other relevant tasks as directed by class teacher or Senior Leadership Team

- Maintain confidentiality and professionalism at all times and specifically in relation to child protection and safeguarding.

Person Specification

Qualifications & Training

Essential	Desirable
Good level of spoken and written English	GCSE Maths and English
Good level of maths	Additional Childcare or Education related qualifications
Qualifications in a specific subject area	Full and relevant Level 3 Early Years qualification
Evidence of recent and relevant CPD	First-aid qualification
Current Enhanced DBS	Paediatric First Aid training
	Level 2 Safeguarding (or commitment to obtain)

Experience

Essential	Desirable
Experience of working with primary school or Early Years aged children (can be in a voluntary capacity)	Experience of working in an educational setting
	Experience of working as part of a team
	Experience or knowledge in a particular subject area or intervention

Knowledge & Skills

- Able to communicate clearly in both written and spoken forms
- Well-organised and pro-active
- Able to maintain confidentiality
- Show resilience in motivating and supporting children, especially when faced with a challenge
- Ability to demonstrate awareness and understanding of inclusion and diversity and other people's behaviour, physical, social and welfare needs.
- Able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the commitment to Health and Safety and willing to undertake safeguarding training

Personal Attributes

- Passion for inclusive, child-centred education.
- High expectations for all learners and a commitment to equity and diversity.
- Empathy, approachability and the ability to build positive relationships with pupils, families and colleagues.
- Organisational skills, resilience and the capacity to work under pressure.
- Reflective practitioner with a growth mindset and commitment to ongoing professional learning.
- Integrity and reliability

Other

- Right to work in the UK
- Commitment to equality of opportunity and the safeguarding and welfare of all students
- Willingness to undertake training
- This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check

Commitment to our mission and school values

We seek individuals who embody our mission and school values, and possess the requisite skills and attributes, or demonstrate a clear capacity to cultivate them:

A community in which everyone flourishes.

Value	Meaning	Commitment
<i>Be kind - to me, to others, to the world</i>	We support everyone to be happy, safe and successful by showing gratitude, taking care of each other and feeling proud of our achievements. We are passionate about creating a better future.	• We are polite and considerate in our words and actions. • We listen carefully and speak respectfully to everyone. • We make sure everyone is included and treated with respect. • We show understanding and empathy for people, wildlife, places, events and situations. • Our positive choices influence others

<i>Aim high - work hard</i>	We prepare for success and work hard to achieve our best. We focus on the right things to achieve our learning goals.	• We get started straight away. • We give 100%. • We work hard to achieve the highest possible standards. • We stick to our goals. • We prepare for success: dress smartly, bring the right equipment, read at home, do our homework. • We are always learning.
<i>Be brave – challenge yourself</i>	We are brave, we forgive, and we use our initiative. We own our mistakes and never give up on ourselves or others.	• We reflect on our choices and take responsibility for our actions. • We are honest and acknowledge our mistakes. • We do the right thing, even when it is hard, or no one is watching. • We challenge ourselves to complete things we do not find easy. • We aim to be independent but are not scared to ask for help when we need it.
<i>Together we succeed</i>	We achieve our best as a team. We build on and respect each other's strengths and flaws. We are patient and help each other to be better.	• We maintain a focussed learning environment and share space and resources. • We follow instructions. • We ask and answer questions. • We give and receive meaningful feedback that helps us to improve. • We celebrate our similarities and champion everyone's unique qualities. • We are proud of our whole school community.

		• We support the community in many ways, for example: supporting FODSA events, contributing to whole school events and joining staff socials. • We prioritise the needs and successes of the whole school.
--	--	---