



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM
SCHOOL



University of Birmingham School

Candidate Information

uobschool.org.uk

Professional Services

Teaching Support Assistant – KS2/KS3 Transition

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

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For more information, please go to www.uobschool.org.uk.

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in working at University of Birmingham School.

We passionately believe that the purpose of education is to develop the character of our pupils and students so they actively pursue a good life. We want them to be confident, curious and ambitious learners; we want them to show compassion, empathy and patience in their relationships with others and we want everyone to find a place in their local and global communities where they can flourish and thrive. The successful candidate will share our passion to make a positive and lasting difference to the lives of our pupils and students.

Our academic curriculum is delivered by our staff together with a pioneering programme of Character Education that embeds an enrichment programme of clubs, societies, sport, music, trips and visits into our school day. This approach is significantly enhanced by the full support of the University of Birmingham, to develop and integrate curricular, creative, sporting, intellectual and career enhancing links with our 'parent body'.

As the first secondary 'University Training School' in the country, we aspire to play a significant role in developing future generations of outstanding classroom practitioners, middle and senior leaders.

Our Targeted Intervention Assistants will work closely with the whole School community to ensure the School delivers its vision.

If you are someone with relevant experience, passion, expertise and vision, we offer an opportunity to work in a 'school for Birmingham', one that is designed to develop the flourishing citizens of tomorrow. We are committed to ensuring the well-being of our staff, but, at the same time, we have the highest expectations in terms of both quality of performance and commitment.

I hope you are as excited as I am by this challenging, yet immensely rewarding, opportunity. My team are happy to answer any questions you may have and I look forward to receiving your application.



Colin Townsend
Principal

University of Birmingham School – Information for Candidates

University of Birmingham School opened in September 2015 in a new £23 million building located on the University of Birmingham's Selly Oak campus. In that first year, we welcomed 150 students into Year 7 and nearly 200 students into the Lower Sixth Form. In September 2020 we reached full capacity.

At University of Birmingham School, we are pioneering a comprehensive school and sixth form for a truly diverse and inclusive learning community that creates great citizens. We are proud to welcome 11-19 year olds from all across Birmingham through our doors to be part of our state-of-the-art school, and give them the opportunity to develop great character and achieve academic success in a thriving community - without limits.

Our partnership with the University of Birmingham gives our pupils, students and our staff unrivalled access to their world-class resources, research and people. This partnership makes us the UK's first secondary University Training School and gives us endless opportunities to collaborate, learn and grow as a school.

Our diverse curriculum is supported by a school-wide enrichment programme that ensures all pupils and students have the opportunity to explore their passions and develop as well-rounded citizens with great character.

By balancing character development with academic success, we are creating better citizens, better communities, and a better world.

About our Education

The curriculum in Years 7 to 11 includes Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Design Technology, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, Physical Education, Physics, and Religious Studies. In the Sixth Form, we offer Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Design Engineering, English Literature, French, Geography, History, Mathematics & Further Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Politics, Psychology, Religious Studies, and Sociology.

The Form Tutor, Pupil Pastoral Managers and Year Leaders provide pastoral support and are the main conduit of communication between home and school on a day-to-day basis. Information about progress and attainment in terms of both academic performance and enrichment involvement is provided at least termly, together with an annual Parents' Meeting.

How is University of Birmingham School different?

1. Character Education

A feature of many of the most successful and traditional schools in the country is that their structures support, not necessarily by design, the development of character. Underpinning our ethos and provision is the first difference in our school - a focus on both 'taught and caught' character education.

2. Enrichment Programme

A second distinctive feature of the school is our enrichment programme. This timetabled opportunity allows the teaching staff, alongside trainee teachers, university sports coaches and professional services staff to provide an unparalleled programme of activities and host special activities.

3. Links with the University of Birmingham

The third distinctive feature of the School are the possibilities created through the extensive links with the University resources, staff, pupils, students, and alumni.

Why should you apply to work at University of Birmingham School?

We are committed to developing a school of the future, one focused to self-improvement and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of our work and play. We aim to nurture, encourage and challenge all of our pupils and students to make the best of the opportunities available, to enjoy their time with us, and to realise their potential so that they can go on to make a real difference to other people and the communities in which they live.

We are seeking to recruit committed and ambitious individuals determined to transform the lives of our youngsters. In return, you will have the opportunity to work in outstanding facilities, with and for aspirational children and their parents/ carers, and receive the best quality professional pedagogical and academic support to continue to develop your knowledge and skills in a unique and high profile environment. You will also have access to the physical and intellectual resources of a world class University.

As the School has now grown to full capacity, the department and pastoral teams have also grown and, dependent on performance, this is reflected in the payment to those who hold leadership or responsibility positions. In addition, there will be growing opportunities to be involved in a whole myriad of professional development opportunities as we seek to exploit our position and utilise our resources to lead on research based teaching and learning.



Whilst we will be expecting a lot of each member of our community, the well-being and happiness of all is a priority. From experience we believe that people work best in institutions that value and promote a 'high accountability but high autonomy' approach. From time to time events occur that affect our personal and working lives. Under such circumstances, we will endeavour to provide the flexibility in approach and seek to provide access to whatever resources are required to support you when you need them.

We will expect you to do your best; to be an outstanding role model; to be committed to self-improvement; and, like the students, to demonstrate resilience and be fully committed to exploiting the opportunities available. We do hope, along the way, you will enjoy yourself and get the personal satisfaction and reward from doing what is the most important role in a modern society.

We look forward to receiving your application. We intend that our graduates will go on to make a difference to the lives of others – the real value of education. Join Team UoBS today.

Indicative Pay and Benefits

Commitment to Staff

We recognise that our staff are the School's most important asset and will value the commitment, support and goodwill of all those working at the School. To match our high expectations, we provide competitive pay and benefits by:

- Paying staff a single salary for doing an excellent job;
- Broadly reflecting but simplifying the Standard Teachers Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) whilst offering competitive pay and benefits to match our enhanced expectations;
- Maintaining a properly remunerated leadership and management structure within the School that reflects the levels of responsibility that staff undertake;
- Making fair, justifiable, open, objective, and accountable decisions within agreed policies and procedures;
- Promoting excellence, as well as a sustained, substantial contribution to the distinctive nature of the School;
- Putting care for staff, their wellbeing and professional development at the heart of the School;
- Establishing a culture of robust performance development and appraisal to underpin this policy;
- Developing and maintaining a harmonious working environment.

Salary Scales 2025/26

Professional Services

			Pro-rata Term Time only
UOB2	201	£26,142	£23,081
	202	£26,735	£23,604
	203	£27,327	£24,127
	204	£27,920	£24,650
	205	£28,512	£25,173
	206	£29,104	£25,696
UOB3	301	£29,697	£26,219
	302	£30,289	£26,742
	303	£30,881	£27,265

Pension

All professional service staff will be eligible to contribute to the Local Government Scheme.

Teaching Support Assistant - Job Description

The purpose of the Job Description and Person Specification is to provide information about the role, the qualifications skills and experience a successful candidate should have.

Salary	UoBS 2 - Annual salary £26,142 – £30,881 per annum (£23,081– £27,265 pro rata, term time only)
Reporting to	SENDCO
Hours	08:30 – 16:30 This is a full-time, term-time only post

We are seeking to recruit an appropriately qualified Teaching Support Assistant to undertake the following specific and general duties and responsibilities.

Core Purpose

The purpose of the Teaching Support Assistant role is to support pupils who may have sensory and/or physical impairment, cognitive or learning difficulties, behavioral, emotional and social development needs or communication and interaction difficulties, providing one-on-one support/ supervision/ assistance for some aspects of daily living activities. The role may also include some support for other pupils with visual impairments and/ or physical difficulties in their movement around school.

Specific Responsibilities

The list of tasks below is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of this post. This is likely to change over time in response to the School's and the pupil's needs and the experience and skills of the team as a whole.

- providing one-on-one support in all lessons;
- modifying, adapting and creating resources as necessary;
- providing one-to-one support/ supervision/ assistance for some aspects of daily living activities including supervision at break and lunchtime;
- ensuring safe mobility around the School, including accompanying pupils in the School lifts and between lessons;
- providing support with practical subjects where specialist equipment is used, e.g. PE, Science, DT, Food Technology and enrichment programmes;
- providing one-on-one support for educational visits and outdoor learning activities, including off site PE lessons.
- supporting with developing alternative means of recording written work and the use of ICT;
- acting as the designated contact person for parents and liaise with the family as well as oversee collection and drop-off with the pupil's transport provider;
- Providing personal care for students as needed.
- implementing physiotherapy/ OT programmes as advised (training provided)

School Life

To play an active role in the life of the School, including:

- promoting the inclusion and acceptance of all pupils in the classroom and wider School community; including during SEND specific sports fixtures.
- participating in meetings at the School which relate to its curriculum, administration and organisation (e.g. pastoral arrangements, information events and parents' evenings);
- working within and contributing to established discipline policy to anticipate and manage behaviour constructively promoting self-control and independence;
- assisting in the creation of learning environments where each student can demonstrate consistently thoughtful, ethical behaviour, showing consideration for others and offering support to them.
- taking an active part in the School's rewards programme celebrating achievement and, where necessary, applying School sanctions.

General Duties

In addition to the Job Description there will be the following general duties. They may be modified as the school develops by the Principal, after consultation with you, to reflect or anticipate changes in your role commensurate with the salary and job title.

General Responsibilities:

To play a role, under the overall direction of the Principal, in:

- Managing resources.
- Supporting the School's responsibility to provide opportunities for personal and professional growth of all staff.
- Creating a School environment with an outstanding care and guidance of, and for, each other.
- Supporting outstanding teaching and learning, achievement and behavior across the School.
- Undertaking any other professional duties reasonably delegated by the Principal, Head of School or Director of Operations.

Main Functions:

- To support the activities of individual pupils or groups.
- Establish and maintain relationships with individual pupils and groups.
- Contribute to Individual Education Plans as appropriate.
- Support pupils during learning activities.
- Promote pupils' social and emotional development.
- Contribute to the health and well-being of pupils.
- Support pupils with specific needs (where appropriate to the focus of the role), for example sensory and/ or physical impairment, cognitive or learning difficulties, behavioral, emotional and social development needs, communication and interaction difficulties.
- To support pupils with special needs, either in small groups or on an individual basis to ensure their full access and entitlement to the curriculum.
- Provide a flexible service that adapts to the changing needs of the School Community and responds to day to day situations as they arise.
- To ensure that a proactive customer service approach is adopted in all tasks undertaken.
- To be an excellent communicator with the whole School community.
- Ensuring that the School community has the right information at the right time to enable an excellent service.

- To contribute to the ethos of the School by participating and leading on enrichment activities.
- Take on relevant responsibilities that are both essential or add value to the School community. For example becoming a First Aider and/ or Fire Warden.
- Be aware and alert to the care of each child in the School, monitoring as appropriate and raising concerns when they appear.
- Provide lunchtime and break time supervision as required.
- Consistently produce a high standard of written work.
- To be a professional role model with a clear understanding of tolerance and the importance of diversity.

School Improvement:

- Demonstrate the School's vision and values in everyday work and practice.
- Continually look to improve practice and keep up to date with latest developments related to your role.
- Be knowledgeable in your role and provide advice and guidance to the School community.

Developing Self and Working with Others:

- Develop positive and collaborative working relationships with, and between staff to provide them with appropriate support and guidance in achieving the school's priorities and targets.
- Regularly review own practice, set personal objectives and take responsibility for own development.
- Manage own workload and that of others to allow an appropriate work/ home life balance.
- Consistently enhance knowledge in relation to your role utilising self-directed learning.

Securing Accountability:

- Support the Principal in developing a school ethos which enables everyone to work collaboratively, to share knowledge and understanding, celebrate success and accept responsibility for outcomes.

Community Development:

- Develop effective links, collaboration and the sharing of best practice with local schools and the wider community.
- Promote/ preserve outstanding community cohesion across the School and beyond.
- Attend out of school hours events, as directed by the Director of Operations.

Other Requirements:

- To be aware of all Safeguarding/ Child Protection issues.
- To assist with registration as required.
- To carry out your responsibilities at all times with due regard to the organisation and arrangements for Health and Safety at Work (including the preparation of Risk Assessments).
- To carry out your duties in line with the School's Policy on Equality and Diversity and be sensitive and caring to the needs of others, promoting a positive approach to a harmonious working environment.
- The University of Birmingham School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check with barred list information is required for all successful applicants in addition to checking the individual is not subject to a prohibition order. Applicants are required, before appointment to disclose any conviction, caution or binding over including 'spent convictions' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975.
- Non-disclosure may lead to termination of employment. However, disclosure of a criminal background will not necessarily debar from employment – this will depend upon the nature of the offense(s) and when they were recorded.

Teaching Support Assistant - Person Specification

Qualifications

- 5A*-C grades at GCSE including at least C grade in English and Mathematics

Personal Qualities and Relationships

- To be able to identify individual needs of children;
- To have the ambition to develop each child to his or her maximum potential;
- To be compassionate, patient and empathetic;
- To be able to establish and develop good relationships with all involved in the School, demonstrating positive personal impact and presence;
- To have a positive and motivated approach to work;
- To be willing to share expertise, skills and knowledge and ability to encourage others to follow suit;
- To be able to work under own initiative whilst also drawing upon support as required;
- To have the ability to set high standards and provide a focus for improvement;
- To be able to adapt curriculum resources, as necessary
- To be able to recommend practical solutions to issues that arise;
- To be flexible and approachable, resilient and calm under pressure, and to demonstrate good judgement;
- To have the ability to deal sensitively with people;
- To display an awareness, understanding and commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people.

Operational Knowledge and Experience

- To have experience of working with pupils with a range of special needs including Autism;
- To demonstrate clear understanding of good care principles;
- To be able to deal with emergencies and difficult situations;
- To have experience of providing high standards of support to pupils with SEN, e.g. supporting teachers with the implementation of pupils' IEPs;
- To be prepared to further own knowledge and understanding of SEN children and conditions by reading and further research;
- To have knowledge of best practice and the challenges relating to inclusion in mainstream education;
- To have an understanding of the requirements of SEN and Disability Legislation;
- To have experience of collaborative working with teaching and support staff and external agencies;

Other

- An understanding and willingness to be involved in School enrichment activities;
- A desire to act as a Character Mentor and to deliver outstanding lessons in Character Education.

Complaints

If, following a future review amendment(s) are made to this document and an agreement is not reached, the appropriate grievance procedure should be used for the settling of any disputes.

Job Description issued by _____
(Signature of the Principal)

Copy received by _____ Date: _____
(Signature of Employee)