



Job Description

Therapy Assistant

Contract type: Full-time permanent

Reporting to: Therapy Lead

Location: Serenity School

Serenity School 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.

The school-Aged Therapy Service is part of Serenity Schools SEND offer, working collaboratively in the Therapy Team as part of Serenity Education Group Central Services.

We aim to deliver the right support at the right time, through assessment and intervention, and equipping families and staff with the skills and resources to work together to help and support children with SLCN. We follow the set models to offer universal, targeted and specialist support for children, families, and the school workforce, and work with children and young people with EHCPs (Education, Health & Care Plan).

Your role will be to play a pivotal part in supporting children to achieve the outcomes agreed by a Speech and Language Therapist in conjunction with the school and family through a range of activities:

- Working individually with a child/ young person within the school
- Modelling strategies to class teachers/ teaching assistants
- Working with a small group
- Creating resources for the therapy team

Main purpose

To provide learning and care support for pupils with special educational needs (SEN) to help work towards the outcomes on their education and health care plan (EHCP). This will involve working with the MDT to plan and deliver activities and supporting the pupil with routines, transitions and behaviour management.

Duties and responsibilities

Supporting the students

- Build a positive relationship with the students, promoting high self-esteem, independence and social inclusion
- 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, support and care plans
- Support the students with their social, emotional and mental health needs, escalating concerns where 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 student achievement
- Contribute to the planning of differentiated learning activities for the individual, delivering activities inside or outside the classroom

- Support the teaching of a broad and balanced curriculum aimed at helping the students achieve their full potential in all areas of learning
- Promote, support and facilitate inclusion by encouraging student participation in learning and extracurricular activities
- Use effective behaviour management strategies consistently in line with the school's policy and procedures
- Organise and manage teaching space and resources to help maintain a stimulating and safe learning environment
- Use ICT skills to advance students learning
- Through observations, provide regular feedback on the student's progress, attainment and barriers to learning
- Monitor, record and report on progress and attainment
- Read and understand lesson plans shared prior to lessons, if available

Working with staff, parents/carers and relevant professionals

- Communicate effectively with other staff members, students, and parents and carers
- Keep other professionals accurately informed about performance, progress and any areas of concern
- Understand their role to be able to work collaboratively with classroom teachers and other colleagues, including specialist advisory teachers
- Collaborate and work with colleagues and other relevant professionals within and beyond the school
- Develop effective professional relationships with colleagues

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

Other areas of responsibility

Safeguarding

- Work in line with statutory safeguarding guidance (e.g. Keeping Children Safe in Education, Prevent) and our safeguarding and child protection policies
- Promote the safeguarding of all pupils in the school

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 postholder 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

CRITERIA	QUALITIES
Qualifications and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degree in psychology or any related field • GCSE or equivalent level, including at least a Grade 4 (previously Grade C) in English and maths
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience working in a school environment or other educational setting • Experience working with children / young people with special educational needs (SEN) • Experience planning and delivering learning activities
Skills and knowledge	<p>Good literacy and numeracy skills</p> <p>Good organisational skills</p> <p>Ability to build effective working relationships with pupils and adults</p> <p>Skills and expertise in understanding the needs of all pupils</p> <p>Knowledge of how to help adapt and deliver support to meet individual needs</p> <p>Subject and curriculum knowledge relevant to the role, and ability to apply this effectively in supporting teachers and pupils</p> <p>Excellent verbal communication skills</p> <p>Ability to work as part of a team and to be flexible in their approach to daily routines</p> <p>Active listening skills</p> <p>The ability to remain calm in stressful situations</p> <p>Knowledge of guidance and requirements around safeguarding children</p> <p>Good ICT skills, particularly in using ICT to support learning</p>
Personal qualities	<p>Enjoyment of working with children</p> <p>Sensitivity and understanding, to help build good relationships with pupils</p> <p>A commitment to getting the best outcomes for all pupils and promoting the ethos and values of the school</p> <p>Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times</p> <p>Commitment to safeguarding pupil wellbeing and equality</p> <p>Resilient, positive, forward looking and enthusiastic about making a difference</p> <p>Capacity to inspire, motivate and challenge children and young people</p>

Notes:

This job description may be amended at any time in consultation with the postholder.

Headteacher/line manager's signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Postholder's signature: _____ **Date:** _____