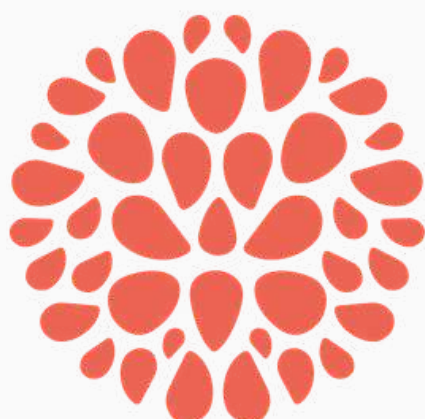




ADVANTAGE
SCHOOLS



THE VALE
ACADEMY

WHY WORK FOR US?

ABOUT ADVANTAGE SCHOOLS

At Advantage Schools, we aim to provide all children with the highest quality of teaching of an excellent curriculum, which enables them to become highly educated and active participants of society.

You'll be working alongside an expert team of colleagues within a forward thinking, collaborative and supportive trust.

We provide sector-leading professional development and offer extensive networking opportunities, and excellent opportunities to develop and grow in a successful and expanding trust.

The Vale Academy also runs a Specialist Resourced Provision.

This small but important provision provides education to 10 primary-aged children with a diagnosis of autism and is commissioned by Central Bedfordshire Local Authority to support with the increased number of primary aged children with an EHC plan stating autism as the main special educational need. Although housed in a separate building the provision is part of the mainstream school and, where appropriate, children join the main school for learning and activities. We believe that all children are capable of extraordinary things, and this obviously includes pupils who access the SRP.

ABOUT THE ROLE AND YOUR APPLICATION

This post would suit a highly motivated individual whose values are aligned with ours. You need to want this school to be the best, full stop.

You will be well supported in developing your competencies as a valued member of our trust wide education team and you'll be leading a smart group of friendly and supportive colleagues in order to achieve our ambitions collectively.

To apply, you should include a letter with your application form on no more than two sides of A4, giving your reasons to for applying for the post, addressing information you have read in the pack with particular reference to the person specification and outline any relevant experience you would bring to the trust. Please do not send a generic letter; we really are looking for someone who is prepared to respond to us as an individual trust. You can be sure we will take time and care in reading your letter; we appreciate how much energy goes into it.

Please read the information in this pack. If you are interested in this job opportunity, please apply online today via our career site on: www.advantageschools.co.uk/join-us/work-for-us

ABOUT THE VALE ACADEMY

The Vale Academy is a 3 form entry school that achieves good outcomes, has very good behaviour, and superb extra-curricular opportunities, performances, and sporting achievements. We are a thriving community made up of dedicated colleagues, fantastic children and supportive families.

But we believe it can be so much more. We believe our children are capable of extraordinary things, including excellent outcomes.



SAFEGUARDING

The safeguarding and welfare of children is paramount and all our staff share this view. Applicants must be willing to undergo safeguarding and child protection checks including with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

OUR LEADERSHIP

Thank you for taking the time to read our information pack and finding out more about Advantage Schools.

I am very proud of our family of schools. Together we are determined to provide , for this region, the best educational provision in the country, ending educational disadvantage.

At Advantage Schools, we 'punch above our weight'. Despite being a medium-sized trust we have been involved in national policy. We are a delivery partner for the National Professional Qualifications and the Early Career Framework. We deliver very large amounts of bespoke training via the Advantage Schools Knowledge Exchange. We share our work with other like-minded schools and trusts, and work towards being an 'outlier' organisation

Our collaborative partnership of schools provide exceptional educational provision inside and outside of the classroom for all of our children. Our schools ensure that pupils are supported, monitored and encouraged, ensuring that their learning experience will be challenging, rewarding and memorable. Pupils enjoy their time at our academies and give back to the wider community.

I have been one of the Department for Education's National Behaviour Advisors, and at Advantage Schools, we have a national reputation for excellent behaviour and a focus on strong outcomes. We take behaviour and curriculum really seriously. Our teachers must be able to teach, and pupils able to learn. Our curriculum is an entitlement for all – we do not make exceptions in our high aspirations. But our families, colleagues and trustees are hungry for more. We will, therefore, recruit a colleague who is hungry for the school and trust to be better still; who will not tolerate mediocrity; who will challenge when required and inspire regularly. This will be underpinned by substantial knowledge about education.

We expect hard work, but we support and manage workload so that you can do the job sustainably.

If you are interested in the post but are unsure whether you have the skills and expertise that would make you ready to apply, please do get in touch for an informal, honest conversation. We can arrange tours of our schools and are happy to put you in touch with relevant colleagues. We will ensure that the right candidate is fully supported with training and through our established support network.

I very much hope that we receive your application.

With best wishes, Stuart Lock





ABOUT THE VALE ACADEMY

At The Vale Academy, we champion all of our pupils to achieve the following goals by the end of their primary journey:

- Be aspirational in all that they do, getting the most out of their learning experience.
- Be a leader, acting with integrity and spirit.
- Strive for excellence, academically and socially.
- Be fully prepared to thrive in the next stage in their education.

OUR VISION IS TO:

- Provide a first-class learning environment so that all children can thrive.
- Be the first-choice school for parents and carers within our local community.
- Provide exceptional experiences in and out of the classroom, tailored to children's interests.
- Ensure that our pupils are think deeply and knowledgeably in a range of curriculum areas.
- Provide the building blocks for children's future career aspirations.

To help achieve our vision, everything we do is underpinned by our VALE Values:

VALOUR, ASPIRATION, LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE.

VALUES



INTEGRITY, AMBITION, EXCELLENCE

We are a unique family of schools, sharing our practice and beliefs to enable young people to achieve the very highest standards.

At Advantage Schools, we provide exceptional opportunities for all to be knowledgeable with experiences that broaden horizons. We ensure our children, students and adults cultivate a strong self-belief so that they can flourish and develop into successful, well- rounded, self-respecting people.

Our commitment to this vision can be demonstrated by our values.

INTEGRITY

We provide a caring, nurturing environment where children and young adults feel happy, healthy and supported. Our academies will be places of safety, enabling pupils to develop courage, strong ambition and be the best that they can be.

We act honestly and transparently, advocating for pupils even when this causes difficulties.

We work together to share innovative practice and to provide a wealth of opportunities for all pupils and staff.

We focus on the development of all our colleagues through quality recruitment and retention, with excellent opportunities for clear and dynamic career progression.

AMBITION

We provide exceptional lessons enabling our pupils to be highly successful.

We share the most impactful approaches to teaching, curriculum and assessment, ensuring an interesting, inclusive and challenging education is on offer in each of our schools.

Our aim is to guarantee excellent 2-19 provision, with clear progression routes for all. You can expect excellent behaviour and conduct at all times, allowing all to make progress and achieve.

EXCELLENCE

We enable all of our pupils to develop and flourish, through close working and regular communication with our families and local community.

Our Cross-Trust focus is to ensure children are supported to meet ambitious targets and to provide exciting opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom.

STAFF BENEFITS

We offer a fantastic range of benefits across our trust, supporting our staff in a variety of ways. Ranging from an extensive **Wellbeing package**, to free tea and coffee, you can be reassured that we have your best interests at heart.



Whole trust training events



Free eye test vouchers



Refer a friend £500 bonus scheme



Staff recognition with reward shopping vouchers



Enhanced pension employer's contribution & death in service payment



We are in the process of a big benefit review. Watch this space!



Support for all staff with an experienced licensed counsellor



Cycle to work scheme

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS



CAREER PROGRESSION

At Advantage Schools, we are committed to helping every colleague grow, thrive, and achieve their full potential. Supporting career progression is at the heart of what we do.

To empower our staff, we provide fully funded opportunities to study for NPQs, along with tailored middle leader training for eligible colleagues.

Additionally, we offer a wide range of CPD training through various partnerships and platforms, giving all staff access to an extensive selection of professional development courses.

Join us and take your career to the next level with our exceptional development opportunities!



All colleagues have access to Perkbox, our Employee Benefits Programme, offering them a huge range of perks from vouchers, hot drinks, cinema tickets, gym classes and so much more. It also offers a substantial **wellbeing package**.

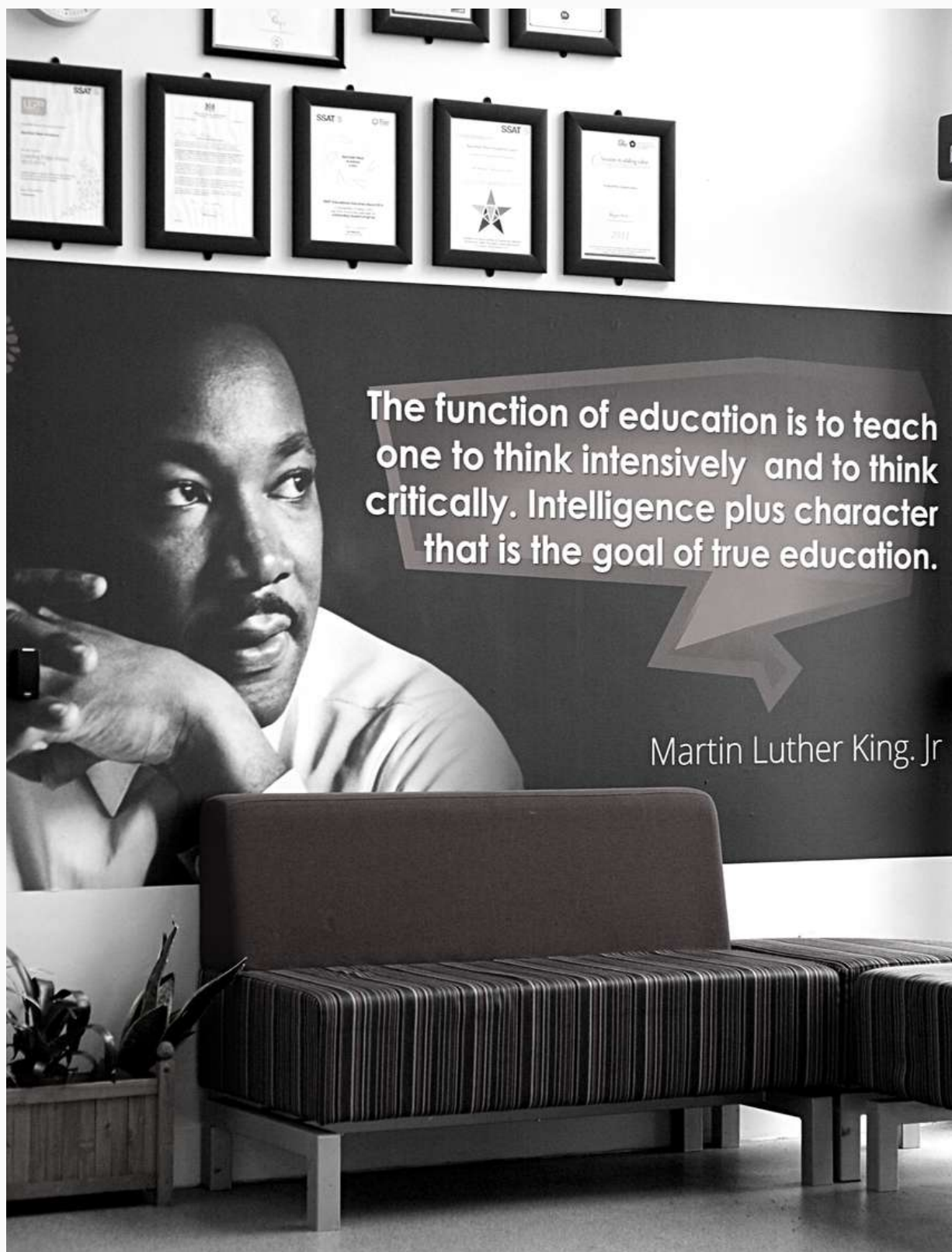


MEDICAL

Perkbox also provides 24/7 access to GP appointments, confidential support and guidance through the Employee Assistance Programme.

Colleagues have access to a team of fully qualified counsellors and advisors, with support for a range of emotional, legal and financial issues, along with a wellbeing portal, full of resources and videos

RECRUITMENT BOOKLET



SEE MORE AT

WWW.ADVANTAGESCHOOLS.CO.UK



Nursery Apprentice

The Vale Academy has an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic and creative Level 3 Early Years Apprentice to join our wonderful Nursery provision. Children are at the heart of our nursery and through meaningful and motivating learning opportunities we strive to develop children into confident, thoughtful learners who are happy and love learning. The successful candidates appointed would be enthusiastic, imaginative professionals with a proven record of accomplishment. We require high standards and relevant EYFS experience, ready to enthuse our little learners with a creative and playful style.

It is very important to us that we provide a high level of physical, emotional, social and intellectual care for all our children ensuring positive development and growth. Therefore, we are seeking a new member of our team with experience working in a Nursery setting that will be as equally committed and passionate as we are.

Roles and responsibilities

- Supporting teachers and children during practical work, to include setting up demonstrations and equipment, providing guidance to children in the development of their tasks, including the safe operation and demonstration of equipment
- To assist with overseeing the work of small groups of students engaged in practical tasks, as requested by and under the supervision of the Nursery teacher
- Day-to-day support of lessons, including preparing equipment, materials and teaching aids
- To support with efficient organisation of the work and storage areas and to ensure the cleanliness, safety and security of these areas at all times
- To assist with the delivery of extra curriculum/lunchtime activities
- Working as a team member within your school and gaining invaluable experience

The successful candidate will have

- GCSEs at grades A*-C/9-4 (or equivalent) in Maths and English.
- A Level 2 Childcare qualification
- Previous experience working with nursery aged children
- Excellent communication skills
- Kind, caring and nurturing approach, valuing equality, diversity, and inclusion of each child.
- Self-motivation, be well organised, and fully committed to the role
- Ability to be flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of the day as part of a team.
- Paediatric First Aid or Emergency Paediatric First Aid qualification or willing to complete this training.

Job Specifics

Start date: asap

Salary: National minimum apprenticeship wage, £8 per hour for first 12 months, then £10.85 - £12.71 per hour dependent on age

Contract: Full time, 52 weeks per year, Fixed-Term for 18 months (until end of apprenticeship), Monday to Friday 08:15am–3:30pm

The Trust reserves the right to interview and appoint a suitable candidate before the deadline date.

Person Specification

Early Years Educator Apprentice (Level 3)

Candidates will be assessed on the following:

	Essential	Desirable	Source of Evidence
EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS			
Level 2 Childcare qualification	√		AF
Good standard of English and Maths (GCSEs)	√		
Further and/or continued CPD		√	AF
EXPERIENCE			
Previous experience of working with children	√		AF/IV
SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE/ABILITIES			
Good organisational skills with the ability to work on own initiative and to liaise with other professionals, parents and carers, as required	√		IV
Subject specific knowledge with an understanding of how the curriculum supports the ethos and values of the school		√	AF
Understanding and implementation of range of behaviour management strategies with a positive approach to promote learning and excellent behaviour	√		IV
Confident and competent user of ICT in teaching and planning, with the ability to plan for progression across the ability range	√		AF/IV
A child centred approach with a commitment to a range of teaching and learning strategies to engage all learners and make learning fun	√		IV
Support for curriculum enrichment through extra curricular learning, competitions and school visits where applicable	√		IV
Understanding what constitutes quality and high standards in teaching and learning, how the learning environment supports high standards, and how to achieve and sustain high standards	√		IV
Thorough knowledge of National Curriculum and of assessment procedures		√	AF/IV

Evidence of cross curricular teaching and learning		√	AF/IV
Experience of working with children with SEN and/or EAL		√	AF/IV
Understanding what constitutes appropriate and successful relationships with children	√		IV
Understanding and implementing inclusion strategies for all learners	√		AF/IV
Supporting and nurturing development within the classroom/lessons		√	IV
Ability to demonstrate knowledge and commitment to Equality and Diversity and how this has been applied in previous roles	√		AF/IV
A knowledge and understanding of the requirements of Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults in the education sector as applicable to this role	√		AF/IV
A knowledge and understanding of health and safety standards and best practice, including risk assessment	√		AF/IV
PERSONAL QUALITIES			
Passionate about teaching and learning, displaying warmth, care and sensitivity in dealing with children	√		IV/REF
Open minded and flexible towards change, with the ability to reflect on experience, changing where necessary	√		IV
Trustworthy, reliable and punctual with a willingness to be involved in the wider life of the school and a desire to strive for excellence	√		REF
Good interpersonal and communication skills	√		IV
Ability to bring personal interests to the school community		√	IV/REF

We will consider any reasonable adjustments under the terms of the Disability Discrimination Act (1995), to enable an applicant with a disability (as defined under the Act) to meet the requirements of the post.