



Play Champion and Cover Supervisor

Equality Statement

Shefford Lower 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.

Reporting to: Deputy Headteacher/Behaviour Lead/Cover lead

Main purpose

To champion the emotional wellbeing of pupils across the school, developing their resilience and social skills through a combination of structured play, Forest School sessions, active outdoor learning and behaviour mentoring. To cover in the absence of a teacher by supervising pupils who are carrying out work set by the teacher in advance. As an unqualified teacher, the post holder will work under the direction of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to provide a safe, nurturing, and therapeutic environment, particularly for pupils with SEN or SEMH (Social, Emotional, and Mental Health) needs.

Duties and responsibilities

Forest School and Outdoor Learning

- Plan, prepare, and deliver engaging, progressive Forest School sessions for children across key stages, promoting learning in the outdoor environment. This may be to whole classes or groups.
- Working with the Forest School lead, ensure all Forest School activities adhere to high standards of safety and the Forest School ethos.
- Support the Forest School lead in developing a creative, child-led curriculum that fosters social, emotional, and physical development where children progressively build a range of skills.
- Maintain and manage outdoor equipment, tools, and the site, including performing regular risk assessments.

Behaviour Mentoring and Wellbeing Support

- Provide 1:1 and small group mentoring for pupils identified as having behavioural or social difficulties, supporting the development of a structured programme.
- Implement Individual Behaviour Plans (IBPs) and Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) strategies.
- Work with staff to identify difficult or challenging points in the day and develop strategies for positive engagement, particularly during unstructured times.
- Act as a trusted point of contact for pupils needing pastoral support.
- Carry out group interventions and after school clubs to support the development of skills such as self-regulation and resilience.



Job Description

OPAL champion and Play Lead

- Organise and lead lunchtime or after-school play clubs that promote prosocial behaviour, cooperation, and resilience.
- Use therapeutic play techniques to support children with anxiety or emotional regulation difficulties.
- Establish routines and boundaries in a playful, nurturing manner to ensure children feel safe and supported.
- Help to promote the school's Outdoor Play and Learning provision at lunchtimes. Working closely with the OPAL lead on the development of this provision.
- Support high quality play if covering learning in EYFS or Year 1.
- Promote positive play and role model games on the playground as required.

Cover – teaching and learning

- Cover whole classes leading lessons in sport, high quality play, forest school, outdoor learning or another curriculum area.
- Work closely with the cover lead to support covering staff absence, management time and teachers' planning time.
- Deliver high quality learning activities to classes or groups under the overall direction and supervision of a qualified teacher which may include sport, early years, structured play or forest school as well as other curriculum areas.
- Maintain a constructive and safe learning environment by implementing the school's behaviour policy during cover periods.
- Supervise pupils in the absence of a teacher, creating and maintaining a purposeful and orderly learning environment for pupils.
- Support expectations of pupil behaviour in the classroom, securing appropriate standards of discipline and ensuring that the school's behaviour management policy is adhered to.
- Assist in the general efficient operation of the school, including providing cover for other support staff where necessary and as directed by the headteacher.
- Participate in performance management arrangements and undertaking training and development as required.
- Undertake tasks of a similar nature and level, as directed by the headteacher.

Pastoral Care and Administration

- Record and report on student progress, contributing to EHCP annual reviews and pastoral meetings.
- Maintain accurate behaviour logs and provide feedback to teachers, parents, and external agencies.



Job Description

- Work collaboratively with the school inclusion team to ensure wellbeing is embedded across the curriculum.
- Support the extended curriculum by running clubs and attending trips promoting positive behaviour and wellbeing.

Safeguarding

- Work in line with statutory safeguarding guidance (e.g. Keeping Children Safe in Education, Prevent), and our child protection and health and safety policies.
- Work with the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) to promote the best interests of pupils, including sharing concerns where necessary.
- Support a strong safeguarding culture across the school.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times in respect of school-related matters and to prevent disclosure of confidential or sensitive information.

This job description and allocation of responsibilities may be amended by agreement from time to time.