



Crowdys Hill
School

Teaching Assistant



Thank you for your interest in the vacancy at Crowdys Hill School.

These guidance notes are designed to provide you with information to help you complete your application form correctly and give you information about our and on our recruitment process and associated policies. You should read all the guidance notes prior to completion of the application form. If you would like any further advice regarding the vacancy or the recruitment process please contact Trudy Topp Senior Admin Manager at Crowdys Hill School – 01793 312266 or email ttopp@crowdyhill.swindon.sch.uk

When completing the application form, please refer to the following information:

Job Description – this details the main duties and requirements for the post and provides an understanding of the role

Person Specification – this describes the skills, knowledge and experience required for the post

Advertisement – this will give you brief details of the job and key dates of the recruitment process

Please ensure you complete all parts of the application form, unless otherwise indicated, preferably electronically. **Curriculum Vitaes (CV's) are not accepted.**

The application form will be used to assess your skills, knowledge and suitability for the job against the criteria on the person specification, so please ensure it is accurate and complete.

If you require additional space, separate sheets will be accepted, but please ensure they are attached securely to the back of the application form or as attachments if submitting electronically.

Late applications will not normally be considered.

We reserve the right to contact any of your previous employers/educational establishments to verify the information provided.

Personal Details

Only personal information required for processing your application is requested in the main body of the application form.

Disabled Applicants

As an equal opportunity employer, we welcome applications from disabled people. Disabled applicants meeting all the essential criteria will be shortlisted for interview or test.

If you consider yourself disabled, **please indicate this on the form in the appropriate section** also indicating if you require any adjustments and/or adaptations in order to attend for interview.

Equal Opportunities

To view the Equal Opportunities Policy in full, please visit <https://crowdyhill.swindon.sch.uk/policies.html>

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding students at Crowdys Hill is a priority. All appointments to posts are made through stringent adherence to the requirements of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (most recent edition). The school

maintains a cohort of staff trained in Safer Recruitment and the trained colleague(s) most appropriate to this post will participate in the selection process.

All staff will be trained annually in Child Protection requirements. Cognisant of Part 1 of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', (most recent edition), staff are required to refer all Child Protection concerns to the Child Protection trained staff team in their school (recognising that they can refer directly themselves in extraordinary circumstances). Those trained in Child Protection are identified throughout school documentation and on the school's website.

Within their work, employees are required to identify, attempt to prevent or at least minimise the risk of interpersonal abuse or violence; safeguarding children, other vulnerable people and themselves. This includes the timely sharing of information with appropriate colleagues to enable action to be initiated and protection to be afforded to both students and/or colleagues as needed.

All employees are required to be aware of and update colleagues, as appropriate, to comply with current legislation and statutory guidance which will affect their practice in role and must adhere to all policies and protocols of Crowdys Hill School.

We are committed to keeping children and young people safe from harm and abuse and to promoting their welfare, and we expect that everyone who comes to work for us will share the same commitment. Fulfilling this responsibility includes making sure that our recruitment process includes a range of measures to identify those who may be unsuitable to work with children and young people.

In accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998, and new GDPR 2018, jobholders should take reasonable care to ensure that personal data is not disclosed outside Council procedures, or use personal data held on others for their own purposes. In accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, ensure requests for non-personal information are dealt with in accordance with the Council's written procedures

To comply with the Asylum and Immigration Act 1998 (as amended by S147 of the Nationality and Immigration and Asylum Act 2002) all prospective employees will be required to supply evidence of eligibility to work in the UK.

This organisation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Background checks and an enhanced DBS will be required.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Crowdys Hill School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Background checks and an enhanced DBS will be required. Further information about what the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (2013 and 2020) means for applicants is provided on the Application Form.

Applicants must be fluent in the English Language (as a requirement of Part 7 of the Immigration Act – for the effective performance of a customer facing role).

In addition, all roles within the school/college are covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 and are subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) (formerly Criminal Records Bureau (CRB)) check. These posts may also be subject to further DBS re-checks at appropriate intervals.

Please note that having a criminal record is not an automatic bar from working with us: whether or not your criminal record has a bearing on the post you have applied for will be carefully considered as part of the recruitment process. This may involve a discussion with yourself about the circumstances and background to your offences.

References

All applicants are expected to provide **a minimum of two referees**, as detailed on the application form, these must be professional references with a business email address NB Personal email addresses are not permitted.

If you have just completed full-time education, you will need to provide the name of your Headteacher/Principal or other professional as a reference. If you are self-employed you will need to provide details of individuals/businesses that can provide you with a professional reference with business email addresses.

‘Open’ references e.g. those addressed “To Whom It May Concern”, will not be accepted.

Supporting Documents

All applicants called for interview will be required to provide original evidence for the following:

For interview:

- Eligibility to Work in the UK**
- Proof of current address (less than 3 months old)
- Proof of qualifications, for teaching vacancies you must provide your Teacher Reference Number on the application form.

When employment is offered:

- Identity*
- DBS (formerly CRB) application form*
- Qualifications/Training*** – if applicable
- Confirmation of Registration with the relevant Professional Body – if applicable
- Driving documents – if applicable

We **will not** be able to confirm an offer of employment until we have confirmed the above and received suitable references.

* Details of what documentary evidence you can provide will be detailed on the invite to interview letter, alternatively please refer to http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Employment/Startinganewjob/DG_195811

** In accordance with the Immigration, Asylum, and Nationality Act 2006, all candidates are required to provide proof of the Right to Work in the United Kingdom. For further information please refer to <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas>

*** You can check the validity/level of any overseas national's qualifications by contacting the National Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom (NARIC) www.naric.org.uk

Employment History & Gaps in Employment

To ensure our responsibilities for safeguarding children and young people are met you must ensure your employment history and reasons for any gaps are clearly detailed. This must be a full history going right back to your first employment, giving the month and year of each job. If this is incomplete and you are shortlisted for interview you will be asked to supply this before the interview date.

Private Health Care

After 6 months' employment you will be eligible to join our free health care scheme provided by Vitality.

Use of AI

The use of AI to fill in your application form is strongly discouraged, if used this should be stated on the application form.

Data Protection

The information you provide on your application form and any subsequent information gathered in respect of your application will be held securely, in confidence and processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the new GDPR Regulations 2018.

The information you provide will be used in the following ways:

- To assess your suitability for the post
- To confirm information you have supplied, with third parties, as considered appropriate
- To promote, monitor, and act to ensure our recruitment policies, procedures and processes comply with legislation, our Employment Equality Policy and associated strategies and plans
- To answer requests for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or related legislation
- It will only be disclosed where lawful obligation applies

Applications and related information in respect of successful candidates will be held securely on computerised and/or manual filing systems in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the new GDPR Regulations 2018.

All successful candidates must complete a 6-month probation period.

Full details available upon request.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Teaching Assistant

Introductory Statement: Our school meets the needs of a range of young people, from 4 to 19, who all have moderate learning difficulties and additional complex needs. TAs work as part of a wider team to promote the emotional, physical and educational development of our pupils across the school.

Various salary options available:

L1 grade £26,522 per annum pro rata for 33.75 hours per week/term time only paid over a year. No part-time hours will be considered.

Duty hours: 8.30am – 3.30pm, term time only working over lunch (with paid breaks).

Accountable to: Head of Care, Deputy Head, Headteacher

Accountable for Line Management of: N/A

Liaising with: Teaching staff, TAs, Senior Leadership Team, relevant associate staff, external partners, LA staff, parents and Governors.

“Learning for Life”

Our emphasis on self-improvement and the continuing desire to do what we do well, is integral to the successful delivery of high-quality teaching and learning that serves to meet the complex needs of all our pupils.

Recruiting high quality, specialist staff is of critical importance as part of our improvement process. Each member of our team has individual and specific responsibilities as well as fulfilling wider duties of care and education for our young people. We are all aware that our shared responsibility is the strength which underpins the successful promotion of Governing Body principles and the school’s aims and objectives.

Our school, and the needs of the pupils on our roll, demands flexible, solution focussed and positive responses from all staff, who are expected to exercise individual initiative within a team framework. We are, therefore, seeking to employ an outstanding professional to work as part of a team to promote the educational development of our pupils

Crowdys Hill is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and postholders will be subject to a satisfactory report from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Key Accountabilities:

Under the direction of the classroom teacher or designated supervisor:

Supporting the pupil

1. Participate in activities designed to meet the emotional, physical and learning needs of individual children and groups of children, including those with special needs including supervising pupils during lunchtimes.
2. Monitor pupils' responses to learning activities and encourage them to take an interest in their own learning. This will include outside learning for extended periods of time.
3. Develop and maintain effective relationships with individual pupils and groups to ensure that pupils achieve learning targets.
4. Personal care, intimate care, physical/ manual handling of a pupil, and first aid and medical duties. (All training will be given).
5. Ensuring the pupil is dignified at all times, and to be respectful of their vulnerability.
6. Promote independence with our pupils showing a positive attitude to their future lives.
7. Supporting the pupils at lunchtimes.

Supporting the teacher

8. Assist with the organisation of the learning environment and ensure adequate supplies of learning materials.
9. Take responsibility for maintaining accurate records in accordance with school policies and data protection.
10. Provide consistent and effective support for colleagues in line with the responsibilities of this role.

Supporting the curriculum

11. Assist in the planning delivery and evaluation of learning activities for individuals, groups or the whole class, working with the teacher to ensure coverage of the curriculum, including ICT.
12. Help pupils to develop their literacy and numeracy skills including reading, writing, number and shape.
13. Be willing to support pupils when educated offsite and with school trips.

Supporting the school

14. Assist with the implementation of a behaviour management programme.
15. Support the maintenance of pupil safety and security and minimise the risks from health emergencies.

Other duties

16. In accordance with the provisions of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974, to take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself, colleagues and pupils who may be affected by your omissions at work, and to co-operate with the school so far as is necessary to enable the school to perform or comply with their duties under statutory health and safety provisions.
17. Undertake any other duties that can be accommodated within the grading level and nature of this post across the school.

How we support you

1. Participation in regular performance reviews to ensure that any personal development needs are identified and met.
2. **Attend compulsory 2 hours of after-hours training (3.30-5.30pm) once a term (6 times a year, overtime can be claimed).**
3. Review and maintain your own professional practice through agreed development activities.
4. Crowds Hill provides further employee benefits including access to our Health Care Scheme run by Vitality.

PERSON SPECIFICATION: TEACHING ASSISTANT

In order to effectively undertake the role of a Teaching Assistant, the following attributes have been identified as important for the post holder to have.

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable	A	I	R
Good general level of education to include Maths and English – GCSE Grade C (or new grading 9-1 - minimum grade 4) or Further relevant experience in the absence of formal qualifications	✓		✓	✓	
An application form filled in without the use of AI (i.e Chat GPT, Co Pilot etc)	✓		✓	✓	
2 years' experience working as a Teaching Assistant or other relevant experience		✓	✓	✓	✓
2 years' experience of either:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with pupils with SEN Supervising & delivering a catch-up programme Supporting a pupil with complex SEN by modifying & delivering programmes as directed by teachers & other professionals 		✓	✓	✓	✓
Good knowledge of ICT packages including MS office & email		✓	✓	✓	✓
Evidence of continuing professional development		✓	✓	✓	
Further relevant qualifications (e.g. First Aid/Coaching etc)		✓	✓	✓	
Experience	Essential	Desirable	A	I	R
Evidence of recent CPD activity, related to the post		✓	✓		
Have some experience of children with special educational needs		✓	✓	✓	
Evidence of ability to develop positive and effective relationships with pupils, staff and parents/carers		✓	✓	✓	✓
Skills	Essential	Desirable	A	I	R
Demonstrate a good level of written English language via your application form	✓		✓		
Fully completed all sections of the application form including details of all referees including email addresses and full employment history	✓		✓		
Have good communication skills	✓			✓	✓
Be patient and have good listening skills	✓			✓	✓
Be able to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with pupils	✓			✓	✓
Effective team work within the organisation including being supportive of colleagues	✓			✓	✓

Have good organisational skills	✓				✓
Be reliable and adaptable	✓			✓	✓
Be able to carry out manual handling of pupils with disabilities; assist in supporting medical needs; assist in supporting personal care (training will be provided)		✓	✓	✓	
Attributes	Essential	Desirable	A	I	R
High level of integrity, honesty and fairness with sensitivity to the needs of the children with disabilities	✓			✓	✓
Demonstrate high levels of energy and good humour with full dedication and commitment to Crowdys Hill School	✓			✓	✓
Ability to communicate orally and in writing	✓		✓	✓	✓
Be able to work flexibly under direction	✓		✓	✓	✓
Self-motivated and able to work with initiative	✓		✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate effective time management skills	✓		✓	✓	✓
Readiness to reflect on, evaluate and improve practice	✓			✓	✓
Ability to support pupils across the curriculum	✓			✓	✓
Ability to relate well to young people and adults from a range of backgrounds	✓			✓	✓
Be trustworthy and discreet, maintaining confidentiality	✓			✓	✓
Others	Essential	Desirable	A	I	R
Work through lunchtimes (comfort breaks allowed as directed)	✓		✓	✓	
Be committed to own professional development showing willingness to undertake relevant training	✓		✓	✓	✓
Be able to fulfil the statutory requirements of a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service disclosure and Independent Safeguarding Authority Registration	✓			✓	
Be willing to make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school	✓			✓	✓
Be able to work on their own initiative, ensuring the safety of all at all times	✓		✓		

These attributes will be identified by means of the Application, Interview and References as appropriate.