



LEARNING
ACADEMIES TRUST

TEACHING ASSISTANT RECRUITMENT PACK

PLAISTOW HILL PRIMARY AND
NURSERY SCHOOL

BELIEVE YOU CAN, TOGETHER WE WILL

About the Learning Academies Trust

The Learning Academies Trust was originally formed by three Plymouth primary schools in November 2016 and has grown from there. In terms of pupil numbers, the Trust is now the largest primary school MAT, or Multi Academy Trust in the city of Plymouth.

The Learning Academies Trust is a family of schools dedicated to delivering outstanding education to all our children, whatever their starting point or background. Our Trust's mission is:

Together we will... work with our children, families, and communities to provide exceptional learning opportunities for all our children

All of our schools are committed to the following values:

Aspiration Excellence Collaboration Inclusivity Kindness Respect



We know that with great leadership, inspirational teaching, caring pastoral support and hard work, every child in every one of our schools can succeed. By joining our Trust, you will become part of an inspiring group of people, committed to shaping a great future for our city's children.

The Learning Academies Trust is comprised of 18 Primary Schools across the city of Plymouth and delivers exceptional education to approximately 5000 children and employs over 900 members of staff. Each school has a unique identity and set of values but are joined together in their aspirations for their communities. For more information about the Trust, our schools and what we do, check out our website www.learningat.uk

A message from our Chair of the Trust Board...

Thank you for your interest in joining Learning Academies Trust. Whether you are at the beginning of your career or bringing years of experience, we are delighted that you are considering becoming part of our community.



At Learning Academies Trust we are committed to providing outstanding education that prioritises our children's needs. Our Trust is proudly made up of 18 primary schools, each united by a shared belief in the power of education to transform lives. Central to our mission is a deep and enduring commitment to improving the life chances of disadvantaged children, and this shapes our strategic decisions and every aspect of our culture. We know that when a child is given the right support, challenge and care, there is no limit to what they can achieve—and every member of staff plays a vital role in making this a reality.

Our values—**Collaboration, inclusivity, kindness, and respect**—are at the heart of who we are. They guide how we work with one another, how we engage with our children, families, and communities, and how we face challenges and opportunities together. These values are grounded in our shared sense of **purpose, ambition, and care**, driving us to strive for excellence while nurturing a culture where every individual is seen, heard, and supported.

As a Trust, we believe in investing in our people. When you join us, you join a team that celebrates professional growth, encourages innovation, and places strong relationships at the centre of its work. We want every colleague to feel valued and empowered to make a meaningful difference.

If you share our ambition and feel inspired by our mission, we look forward to welcoming you. Together, we can continue to create exceptional schools where all children—and all staff—can thrive.

Mrs Debbie Taylor

A message from our CEO...

This is an exciting time to be considering a career with us at the Learning Academies Trust. As a Primary phase family of local schools, we have high expectations to deliver the very best for our children.



If you are passionate about working with us and the children in our schools, we'd love to hear from you. Information about the role and the school you are applying for are detailed in this pack and for wider Trust wide news and information, please check out our website or Twitter feed @learningatceo.

If you would like any further information or a conversation about the Trust, then there is no better way than to do this in person.

Please contact our Trust HR Team to arrange a time to talk hr@learningat.uk

Mr Simon Spry

About Plaistow Hill Primary and Nursery School

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Sharon Burnett

Location: Roman Way, St Budeaux, Plymouth, PL5 2DT

Approximate number of students: 140

Approximate number of staff: 30



Message from the Headteacher

Plaistow Hill Primary school is a small school and friendly school. Our fabulous and dedicated staff strive to encourage each child to reach their full potential in all areas of the curriculum through excellent teaching, the provision of an interesting, challenging and stimulating environment and curriculum. We are proud to know our families really well and this makes for such a family feel within the school. We are passionate about our children succeeding and start preparing children with lifelong skills and a love of learning. We have a wonderful outdoor space including secure, open play spaces, sports field, willow structure and a nature garden.

Plaistow Hill is one of 18 schools within the Learning Academies Trust. Our partnership is embedded by clear values and working collaboratively with other local schools brings a wealth of experience and expertise to our school.

Mrs Sharon Burnett, Headteacher

Teaching Assistant Job Description

Terms of contract	Temporary until 31 st August 2026
Grade	Grade C
Salary FTE	£25,583 - £26,403
Actual annual salary	£7,133 - £7,361
Hours/weeks or FTE	12 hours per week, 39 weeks per year
Closing date	9am Friday 23 rd January 2026
Proposed interview date	TBC
Anticipated start date	As soon as possible

Job Summary:

To support the teaching staff in providing an outstanding education to all our children, to ensure learning objectives for pupils are achieved and to assist the teacher in the management of pupils in the classroom and working 1:1. Promoting and embedding the school's ethos and values in everyday activities. Work may be conducted in the classroom or may take place outside the classroom. Our TA's work across the school supporting children in all year groups so you will need to be flexible to meet the needs of the school.

Key Roles and Responsibilities

- Deliver planned teaching and learning activities and adjust the learning as required to support the needs of all pupils, working both in the classroom and providing 1:1 support.
- Create and maintain a supportive and orderly classroom environment, to ensure the learning objectives of the lesson are met.
- Assisting with school displays celebrating pupils' work.
- Create strategies, with guidance from the teacher, to support and encourage pupils to achieve their learning goals.
- Support the learning and pastoral needs of children with additional needs
- Assist teachers with lesson planning.
- Monitoring and record pupils' attainment and report pupils' progress and achievements to the teacher.
- Provide feedback to pupils under the guidance of the teacher.
- Promote good behaviour and support the building of positive relationships between pupils, promoting inclusion and acceptance of all pupils.
- Provide administrative support to the teacher.
- Deal promptly with conflicts and incidents in line with the school's policy and encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their own behaviour.
- Establish positive relationships with parents/carers and where appropriate participate in meetings with parents/carers alongside the teacher.
- Comply with and support the schools' policies and procedures relating to Safeguarding, GDPR, Health and Safety, school security and report any concerns to the appropriate person.
- Accompany the teacher and pupils on all out of school activities as required.
- Ensure all equipment and resources are available to meet the lesson objectives, support pupils with the use of the equipment/resources.

Additional Information

- The post holder is required to uphold and promote the school's policy on Data Protection and GDPR, to be mindful of their responsibilities under the act/s in processing personal data and of the implications of unauthorised disclosure.
- As part of the wider duties and responsibilities, the post holder is expected to promote and actively support the Trust's responsibilities towards safeguarding.
- This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check for Regulated activity.

Person Specification

Job Title	Teaching Assistant
Location	Plaistow Hill Primary and Nursery School
Grade	Grade C

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Education/ Qualifications	<p>NVQ2 or equivalent qualification in relevant discipline</p> <p>Able to evidence a willingness to take part in professional development opportunities</p> <p>A minimum of Grade C/4 in GCSE Maths and English or equivalent qualification</p>	<p>Achieved or training for an NVQ 3 or equivalent qualification in relevant discipline</p>
Experience	<p>A minimum of a year's experience in a primary school</p> <p>Experience in a school with high numbers of children with additional needs e.g. SEND, EAL, pupil premium children</p>	<p>Recent experience of supporting individuals, groups and whole class settings</p> <p>Experience with SEND and/or pastorally supporting children</p>
Skills/Knowledge/ Aptitude/	<p>Able to provide evidence of having a positive impact on the learning outcomes of the children</p> <p>Ability to have a positive impact on the pastoral support of children; clear awareness of how to respond to safeguarding issues</p> <p>Ability to encourage positive and appropriate behaviour from children with additional needs</p> <p>Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues throughout the school, responding quickly to problems and to advice from senior leaders</p> <p>Good emotional intelligence; ability to communicate effectively with</p>	<p>Understanding of the use of ICT in a classroom setting</p> <p>Sense of humour</p> <p>Ability to support the class teacher / SLT in communicating with parents</p> <p>Experience of running interventions</p> <p>Experience of TEACCH/ PECS</p>

	colleagues and show empathy towards pupils	
Motivation	<p>Evidence of an ongoing positive and enthusiastic approach to motivating the children and to supporting colleagues</p> <p>Ability to use initiative and able to prioritise work</p>	Willingness to lead or support extra-curricular activities
Physical	Ability to work across the school and carry out the duties of a teaching assistant, including lunchtime duties	Ability and willingness to sit on the floor with children where this will support their behaviour or learning

Working for our Trust

By working within our Trust, you will be part of a team of people who want to make a difference in the lives of the children and communities we serve. Whether you are joining us in a teaching capacity or a support service position, you will become vital in helping to shape the futures of the next generation for our city.

The Learning Academies Trust strives to be an employer of choice in the southwest. We are committed to developing our employees to their full potential and take great pride in the availability of learning and development resources for our staff. From training days to an extensive package of e-learning courses, you will have a wealth of opportunities available to develop your skills and experience.

Employee benefits



In January 2020, the Learning Academies Trust became the first education employer in Plymouth to achieve the Livewell Southwest Wellbeing at Work Bronze Award. The Trust is committed to supporting the wellbeing of all staff and is proud to work closely with official bodies to ensure we have a holistic approach to staff wellbeing.

As a Learning Academies Trust employee, you will have access to a growing list of benefits to support you both professionally and personally. Our benefit package includes:

- Free counselling services for personal or professional support
- Cycle Scheme
- Employee Newsletter
- Regular recognition awards

- DSE Eyecare scheme
- iHASCO online training courses
- Annual flu vaccination
- Annual health check
- Discounted gym membership

How to apply

If you believe you can demonstrate the dedication, skills and passion required, we look forward to receiving your application. Please click the link to submit your application form. Please note – we do not accept CVs. Completed applications should be submitted prior to the closing date.

Please note, the closing date is for guidance only. Successful applicants will be invited to interview at the earliest available opportunity. Learning Academies Trust reserves the right to close the vacancy early if a suitable candidate is found.

With 18 schools, we are regularly looking for passionate people to join our teams. If there are no vacancies currently, but you would like to register your interest for future vacancies, please join our talent pool and we will be in touch as soon as we have a suitable position.