

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT Candidate Information



At Southend High School for Boys, talent is nurtured, and learning is valued. Challenge is welcomed, participation is expected, and achievement is prized. Pupils are happy and prosper at the school. The education we provide is world class.

Thank you for your interest in our school and for reviewing this application pack.

I have been a member of the staff team at Southend High School for Boys since January 2005, taking on the role of Headteacher from September 2024. This is a great school. Every day is rewarding. The school and governing body are committed to providing a high-quality service so that every child fulfils his or her potential.

We recognise this can only be achieved through the recruitment and retention of talented, motivated employees who are suited to, and fulfilled in the roles they undertake. Please look at our website; it will help give you a sense of our values and offers an insight into the vibrant activity that fills each week.

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Pupils are happy and prosper at the school.

As a grammar school, high academic expectations are central to our purpose, and these are sustained through an extensive programme of support and guidance. Pupils develop their confidence and enthusiasm through a wide range of creative, sporting and other endeavours.

Southend High School for Boys stands on a superb site within walking distance of Prittlewell Station and the centre of Southend. Pupils retain fond memories of their years at the school and stay in contact for many years.

Our school preserves values and traditions from the past and prepares pupils through a contemporary curriculum for the world of tomorrow.

With best wishes



Rachel Worth
Headteacher

"Contemporary traditions: one with future and with past"



About The Role

For over 100 years, Southend High School for Boys (SHSB), has been providing a world-class education inspiring and empowering boys aged 11-16 along with boys and girls in our sixth form, to achieve their full potential. Our rich heritage and commitment to academic excellence, makes SHSB a truly unique and inspiring place to learn and work.

We are looking for a number of Learning Support Assistants to join our friendly and supportive team, as our cohort of students increases.

About The Role:

As a strong communicator you will:

- Promote the inclusion of children with Special Educational Needs within the classroom, and as individual or group work.
- Understand specific learning needs and provide differentiated

support to pupils individually and within a group.

- Establish strong relationships with students and parents, maintaining open communication.
- Use internal systems to log progress and communication and utilise resources.

About You:

- Preferably some prior experience working or volunteering with children, including those with Special Educational Needs, and a keen interest in doing so in a school context.
- Enthusiastic, patient and able to build rapport.
- Able to work within a team, developing strong working relationships with colleagues.
- Able to use basic IT (including Office packages) to plan work, communicate and keep records.

.....the opportunity



2020 Vision



SHSB's main school, has 180 boys in each year group 7 to 11, and a large sixth form with 400 A-level students - a mix of boys and girls, with over 100 girls. The school was rated outstanding against every inspection criteria (Ofsted 2024) and has been recognised as one of the top schools in East Anglia.

Ofsted referred to 'an ethos of excellence in both academic achievement and a wide range of activities that permeates all aspects of the school' and they described 'the quality of education provided at SHSB as **world-class and second to none**'.

We are immensely proud of our exceptional academic outcomes, which routinely place our students amongst the top performers nationally. However, through our 2020 vision, we are also committed to developing our students as future leaders who are morally, socially and emotionally equipped to take an active role in society.

Pupils spend seven years at Southend High School for Boys: the influence of the school throughout those years can be significant in determining the life trajectory for every student. Our vision is to set them on the path towards young adulthood with the highest aspirations and equipped to make a positive and worthwhile contribution to society – often in the role of leaders. Pupils learn what we teach, but more significantly they learn by how we teach.

Talent is nurtured, learning is valued, challenge is welcomed, participation is expected, and achievement is prized. The school is recognised as a welcoming institution, with an open and friendly approach, where outstanding behaviour is elicited through fostering mature relationships. It is this that makes Southend High School for Boys such a unique, supportive and remarkable place.

Our passionate and hard-working staff deliver the highest standards of teaching and learning, being highly motivated subject matter experts; a fact endorsed by Ofsted. Our staff provide unwavering support and guidance to all students, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to excel.

Our students are ambitious for themselves and for others. They embrace challenge and aim for the highest standards in everything they do. From enriching extra-curricular activities to embracing leadership opportunities, our students develop into confident and capable young men and women who go on to make strong and effective contributions to society.

We successfully blend progressive initiatives with our treasured traditions including our thriving house system which was established in 1908 and remains a very important part of life at SHSB today. People enjoy being part of our community because it is a place where the traditional values, mutual respect, integrity and care are placed at the heart of all we do. Being a part of this school means being part of something truly exceptional, and our students are proud to wear the green blazer.



.....our School, our Ethos

SHSB is a creative and pioneering teaching community. In 2006 we became a Leading Edge school. This accolade recognised our programmes for improving learning and for encouraging innovation. Our philosophy is to share good practice, encourage creativity and nurture innovation so pupils benefit from a stimulating learning experience and staff benefit from collaboration and professional development with like-minded enthusiastic individuals.

The school is strongly committed to supporting staff in their educational research and gives time allowances and subsidies for this. Over a third of our staff have achieved higher degrees during their time with us. We regularly support other colleagues in other schools, having been designated as a regional research hub in 2019, and have a wide-ranging professional development programme.

We were the first secondary school in the Eastern counties to receive the Challenge Award and the first in the world to secure a fifth accreditation, in recognition of our provision for the highly able learners.

Assessors in the report commented: "Southend High School lives up to its aim of 'Nurturing and Supporting Young Talents' through offering exciting and stretching opportunities for learning well beyond those offered in many other schools. Pupils make full use of these opportunities, share responsibility with staff for setting and achieving challenging targets for themselves and are proud of their achievements. Challenge is firmly embedded in all aspects of school life."

Our values are reflected in various accolades including being recipients of the Gold Equalities Award for our pioneering work in this field, as well as being a Fairtrade institution and a Pupil Premium Awards winner.

The school offers an extensive range of extra-curricular activities and has an excellent reputation locally for its sport, music, science and drama. We are proud of the fact that our most able athletes have competed in international competitions, have represented England at World Schools Championships in cross country and athletics and have won over 20 national titles in the last 10 years.

Success isn't only achieved through exceptional performance. It's about consistency, and consistent hard work leads to success.



Job Overview

- **Job Title:** Learning Support Assistant
- **Reports to:** Assistant SENDCo/ARB Specialist Teacher/Lead LSA
- **Job overview:** Work in partnership with class teachers to support learning in line with the national curriculum, codes of practice and school policies and procedures. Provide support to pupils in a particular curriculum area or with Special Educational Needs.

Main Duties

- Promote the inclusion of children with Special Educational Needs within the classroom, ensuring access to lessons and their content through the provision of appropriate adjustment, explanation and resources
- Work with individuals or small groups of children under the direction of teaching staff
- Understand specific learning needs and provide differentiated support to pupils individually and within a group
- Implement planned learning activities/teaching programmes as agreed with the teacher, adjusting activities as appropriate
- Establish positive relationships with pupils, through a compassionate and empathetic approach to the role
- Provide feedback to pupils in relation to attainment and progress under the guidance of the teacher
- Promote positive pupil behaviour in line with school policies
- Participate in planning and evaluation of learning activities with the teacher
- attend to pupils' personal needs including help with social, welfare, physical and health matters
- Liaise with staff and other relevant professionals and provide information about pupils as appropriate
- Assist with escorting pupils on educational visits
- Understand and apply school policies in relation to health, safety and welfare
- Liaise with parents in supporting pupils
- Assist with the preparation of relevant documentation eg EHC and support plan, under the guidance of the SENDCO
- Attend relevant school meetings as required
- Respect confidentiality at all times



Person Specification

Qualifications & Experience

- Good literacy and numeracy skills
- Good general standard of education – GCSE or equivalent
- Working effectively as part of a team
- Experience of record keeping and assessment
- Successful completion of training in learning support/Special Educational Needs area (desirable)
- Successful recent experience working with secondary age children (desirable)

Skills, Knowledge and Abilities

- Understanding of the importance of child protection policies and procedures
- Working knowledge of ICT to support learning
- Particular knowledge of specific curriculum area (desirable)

Personal Attributes

- Able to work effectively as part of a team and contribute to group thinking, planning etc.
- Effective time management
- Able to build rapport with adults and children
- Flexible and patient
- Able to follow instructions accurately
- Use own initiative and work independently
- Excellent communication skills with adults and children, verbally and in writing
- Motivate, inspire and have high expectations of pupils
- Creative approach to problem solving
- Ability to adapt quickly and effectively to changing circumstances/situations
- Work calmly under pressure
- Committed to personal and professional development
- Ability to critically evaluate own performance
- Awareness of, and commitment to, equalities issues
- Ability to record and assess pupil progress/performance



The benefits

Benefits:

- Auto-enrolment into a contributory pension scheme (LGPS for support staff, employer contribution 25%)
- Free on-site parking and cycle to work scheme
- CPD through internal and external providers (including a subscription to National College)
- Employee Support Programme offering retail discounts and vouchers, a 24/7 confidential advice line, and counselling.
- Specsavers Eye care vouchers
- Free use of the sports facilities

Key terms:

- Hours: We have a number of full time or part time opportunities available, so exact working hours would be discussed with the appointed candidate(s). Full time posts are typically 08.15 – 15.30.
- Term time (39 weeks per year including non pupil days)
- Duration: Permanent
- Remuneration: The Essex Schools' Local Government Scale 4, Point 8 which is £26,824 FTE gross per annum. This is within a range of Points 8-9. For illustration purposes, a post with 31.25 hours per week would be a pro rata salary of £19,422 gross per annum which includes an element of holiday pay.

To Apply:

Please apply via the school's mynewterm recruitment page.

Applications Deadline: 5th June 2026
Start date: 1st September 2026
Interviews: w/c 8th June 2026

The need to appoint quickly means we reserve the right to appoint at any time.

Contact: Applicants who require further information should contact the HR Manager at recruitment@shsb.org.uk or telephone 01702 606 200.

If you feel you might need any adjustments to help support you during the recruitment process please contact us; we want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to evidence themselves at their best.

.....how to apply



Southend High School for Boys is situated in the heart of the city of Southend On Sea, a resort city on the north side of the Thames Estuary in Essex, southeast England.

Southend originally consisted of a few fishermen's huts and farms at the southern end of the village of Prittlewell. In the 1790s the first building, around what was to become the high street, were completed. In the 19th century Southend's status of a seaside resort grew after a visit from Princess Caroline of Brunswick and Southend Pier was constructed - the longest leisure pier in the world which it is serviced by a small train and has a museum at its shore end. The Cliff Lift, a century-old funicular, clings to the hillside and offers coastal views.

Southend is now the 52nd city in England and the second in Essex having been granted granted city status in 2022 by Queen Elizabeth II in memory of Sir David Amess, the Conservative MP for Southend West.

The school is thirty miles from London and is close to main road and rail links from London, and to Chelmsford and Cambridge.



Data Protection and Privacy Notice:

Under data protection legislation, you have the right to request access to information we hold about you. To make a request, contact enquiries@shsb.org.uk. You also have the right to:

- object to the processing of personal data if it is likely to cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- prevent processing for the purpose of direct marketing
- object to decisions being taken by automated means
- in certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data rectified, blocked, erased or destroyed.

We will always seek to comply with your request. However, we may be required to hold or use your information to comply with legal duties. If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you can raise your concern in the first instance either with the HR Manager (HR@SHSB.org.uk) or our Data Protection Officer (dpo@shsb.org.uk). Alternatively, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Recruitment & Selection Policy:

The Trustees recognise the value of achieving a diverse workforce including people from different backgrounds, with different skills and abilities. We are committed to ensuring our recruitment and selection processes are conducted in a systematic, efficient, and effective manner, and promotes equality of opportunity. Please refer to our website for full details of our Recruitment & Selection policy.

Safeguarding:

SHSB is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. To assess suitability to work with children, the School is permitted to ask applicants to declare all convictions and cautions in advance of attending an interview (including "spent" convictions unless they are "protected" under the DBS filtering rules)

