

English Teacher for The Link Secondary School

The Link Secondary School is a vibrant, diverse, Special School for children with a primary need of Speech, Language and Communication or with a diagnosis on the Autistic Spectrum. Many of our students have associated learning difficulties including Dyslexia, Dyspraxia and often present with high levels of anxiety.

We are committed to providing our students with an outstanding education. Improving opportunities and outcomes for our students is at the heart of all that we do. We believe that all young people deserve to leave education confident that they have developed the skills they need to achieve their ambitions, with meaningful education, work and life experiences to draw on.

The school's vision of Independence, Communication, Well-being and Achievement for all is integral to our work. We work in partnership with parents and carers, and with the wider community, to prepare our students for their future lives.

The ideal candidate

To be considered a real asset to the school, you must demonstrate:

- An understanding/knowledge and experience of working with children with special needs.
- Excellent communication, time management and organisational skills.
- An energetic and enthusiastic 'can do' attitude.
- A friendly and professional manner.
- Hold a recognised full teaching qualification such as QTS or be willing to undergo teacher training in line with current regulations.
- An understanding of alternative and therapeutic interventions for student progression.
- Innovative and competent in utilising all available resources to provide a stimulating learning environment.
- Demonstrable commitment to achieving the highest possible standards for all learners with a proven record of enabling learners to fulfil their potential

Key objective of the role:

To fulfil the professional standards expected of all teachers and thereby create effective and stimulating opportunities for learning that enables the development and progression of all learners.

Key responsibilities

Please note that it is expected that teaching duties, as outlined in this section of the job description, will be undertaken in accordance with the Professional Standards for Teachers and Trainers in Education and Training – England as published by The Education & Training Foundation. The job description is subject to periodic review.

- To effectively plan lessons that are stimulating, relevant and well-structured to a wide range of abilities, social, emotional and communication needs to ensure all students are able to participate and reach their full potential.
- To ensure that all learning equipment is in good order and available for the delivery of lessons.
- To organise a person-centred learning environment allowing students to take ownership of their learning and ambitions.
- Liaise with members of the support and therapeutic team and, as appropriate, with parents/carers in the support of learners. Attend parents' evenings.
- Direct and utilise SSA for class support.
- Promote good student behaviour, dealing promptly with conflict and incidents in line with established policy.

Teaching and learning

- Implement assessment procedures in accordance with Orchard Hill College & Academy Trust (OHC&AT) policies and the requirements of awarding bodies and prepare and participate in internal and external verification and moderation procedures including attendance at associated meetings.
- In accordance with OHC&AT policies and guidelines, maintain course and learner records; carry out tracking and monitoring of learner performance and provide information, data and statistical returns as required, using student record information systems as required.
- Contribute to the preparation of course materials.
- To ensure that individual behaviour strategies are incorporated into all planning for teaching and learning, are rigorously monitored and evaluated and appropriately changed when required.
- To participate in all aspects of assessment, ensuring any assessment reflects the learning needs of our students.

- Work collaboratively with the school's therapy teams in setting up joint targets and implementing therapy programmes.

Leading and developing

- Develop an holistic approach to meeting special educational needs, enabling learners to make good progress by working with other teachers, support staff, families and external agencies.
- Promote equality of opportunity and diversity in all aspects of the job and challenge inequality and discrimination and/or report concerns as appropriate.
- Work as a member of the team, planning cooperatively, sharing information, ideas and expertise.
- Establish good relationships with families to promote students' learning and development.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of Individual Education/Behaviour Plans, Risk Assessments, Personal Care and Therapy Care programmes for students.
- Establish therapeutic relationships with students and interact with them according to individual needs.
- To provide support in the delivery of specialist interventions, taking a lead where appropriate.

Additional duties

- To develop and enhance expertise in supporting students with special educational needs by attending training and working alongside relevant internal and external professionals such as therapists.
- Provide outreach to those students unable to access the curriculum within school.
- Cover classes for absent colleagues in accordance with OHC&AT guidelines, which may be reviewed from time to time.
- Carry out administrative tasks related to courses and attend meetings as required by Senior Leadership Team.
- Be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
- Support the Senior Leadership Team in all health and safety matters and take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions at work.

- Support attendance at events. This will involve flexible working (i.e. occasional evenings).
- Undertake all duties and responsibilities in accordance with OHC&AT policies and relevant legislation, inclusive of Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, Data Protection, Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection, Financial regulations and Quality frameworks. Report any concerns to the appropriate person.
- Lead extra-curricular activities (lunchtimes, before and after school as appropriate).
- If required, act as a personal tutor for groups of learners.
- Undertake any other duties consistent with the objectives and level of responsibility of the post as may be required by the Senior Leadership Team and/or OHC&AT.

This post is classed as having a high degree of contact with children or vulnerable adults and is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. An enhanced disclosure will be sought through the Data and Barring Service (DBS) as part Orchard Hill College & Academy Trust's pre-employment checks