

## **Deputy SENDCo**

Grade LP1 to LP5. Salary range - £47,416 to £52,338

Preferred start date : Summer Term but will consider a September 2024 start

Whickham School is a high-performing and over-subscribed 11-18 school in Gateshead. Staff and students enjoy working and learning at our school and have created a culture that facilitates high levels of attainment and progress. Student progress is significantly above regional and national averages. The school has built an excellent reputation for the quality of provision provided to students. The school has made significant progress in becoming a place where students fulfil their potential. We want to recruit a colleague who demonstrates the ambition, drive and commitment to play a significant role in continuing this journey.

We are seeking to appoint a dynamic and solution focused Deputy SENDCo to join the excellent SEND Team at Whickham. You should have experience of working and making a difference with children with additional educational needs and want the opportunity to train to become a SENDCo. This exciting opportunity will see the successful candidate play a vital role in developing and implementing our SEND strategy.

### **Core Purpose**

The Deputy SENDCo, under the direction of the SENDCo, will:

- Be responsible for the strategic and day to day operational leadership of our SEND SEMH provision, ensuring that individual pupils are well supported, and make good progress.
- Be the nominated SEND lead for SEMH pupils, identifying needs, taking part in termly and annual reviews, the writing of, and overseeing the effective implementation of, pupil centred plans.
- Lead on the writing of EHCPs and responding to school placement consults for pupils with SEMH.
- Work to reduce barriers to the success of SEMH pupils, co-ordinating and, where appropriate, leading on SEMH interventions.
- Provide professional guidance, and CPDL to colleagues within the SEND team and wider school.
- Support the SENDCo in leading our wider SEND provision, undertaking quality assurance activities and line management of some staff.
- Deputise for the SENDCo where required.

In addition the post holder will be required to work towards completion of the NPQ for SENCOs.

Our school has an excellent reputation for support children with additional educational needs and the successful candidate will work in an exciting, dynamic, fast-paced supportive environment. We are committed to maintaining the highest standards for behaviour, engagement and academic outcomes. We value all of our students and ensure that they are seen as individuals with differing interests, knowledge, skills and needs. We have an

inclusive ethos and strive to increase the learning and participation of all pupils, ensuring access to an appropriate curriculum.

Every teacher is a teacher of every young person, including those with SEND or any other additional need. We work closely with our children, families and a wide range of professionals to ensure each young person fulfils their potential. If this reflects your own beliefs and values and you have the energy, determination and skill to make a positive difference for our students, we look forward to your application.

This role is aimed at colleagues who are passionate about making a difference for young people and feel they can do this through leading a cohort of students. This role is pivotal to the success of the young people at Whickham School as we believe that if we can positively influence pupils regarding their behaviour and expectations of themselves, we can help them secure better outcomes for their future.

Our aim is to ensure every young person is the best they can be and, whilst we have already achieved much in achieving our goal, we recognise that there is so much more we can do. We are proud of our good reputation within the region and the positive feedback we receive from students, parents, staff and external organisations such as Ofsted.

Specific details regarding the role, skills and qualities that the successful candidate will need to demonstrate, are in the attached job description and person specification.

We welcome visits by prospective applicants to the school. Please contact Maxine Dickson via email: [mdickson@whickhamschool.org](mailto:mdickson@whickhamschool.org) if you wish to arrange a time to see the school.

- Whickham School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
- We have a robust Safeguarding Policy and all staff will receive training relevant to their role at induction and throughout employment with the school.

This post is subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records check for work with children.