

Higher Level Teaching Assistant



Aim High. Be Proud. Love Life.



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Welcome from our Headteacher

A very warm welcome to Walker Riverside Academy; a fantastic school of which I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher.

Thank you for your interest in the position of Higher Level Teaching Assistant at Walker Riverside Academy. The Academy is an exciting and thriving 11-19 secondary school at the heart of its community in Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Walker Riverside Academy serves the community of Walker in Newcastle upon Tyne and is an oversubscribed 11-19 secondary school with 1100 students on roll with that number predicted to increase in coming years.

We help our students to **aim high, be proud** and **love life**, in both their academic and career aspirations, supporting them at every step and guiding them upon options available. It is the daily embodiment of this ethos that makes Walker a truly special school community, with unique opportunities for involvement in the Combined Cadet Force, the TCAT Football Academy, and a growing post 16 partnership to deliver A-Levels at a local Trust partner school North East Futures UTC. The Academy has a curriculum with many unique aspects and a vision that students should be **Globally Aware, Culturally Aware, Self Aware** and **Life Ready with Ambition**. The four 'awares' are the cornerstones of the well considered curriculum intent. We want our students to be proud of both themselves and the school community they attend, whilst developing a love of Academy life. The investment in passionate pastoral and academic support for our young people ensures that we create an atmosphere in which we laugh and learn together. With all students being attached upon entry in Year 7 to one of three schools: Dobson, Grainger, or Stephenson, a sense of belonging and community is created from the outset.

At the heart of Walker Riverside Academy is its talented and dedicated staff. They are its most valuable asset, and they uphold ambitious educational standards which prepare all students for the next phase in their education and life and provide care, guidance, and support in a learning environment characterised by high standards of behaviour and mutual respect. Our Academy is always striving for brilliance and now is a fantastic time to become part of our Walker community, and our wider Tyne Coast Academy Trust.

Academy Life

For more information on Walker Riverside Academy please visit:

Website: www.wra.tynecoast.academy

Facebook: [@walkeracademy](https://www.facebook.com/walkeracademy)

Instagram: [@walkeracademy](https://www.instagram.com/walkeracademy)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Smith', written in a cursive style.

Mr G Smith
Head Teacher

Tyne Coast Academy Trust

Tyne Coast Academy Trust is an outward facing Trust with strong links to other successful Trusts in the region. We are currently made up of five schools, two primary schools, two secondary schools and a UTC. The Trust also benefits from being in the unique position of being sponsored by Tyne Coast College (comprising of South Tyneside College and TyneMet College), a world class college with a reputation for excellence.

Our Vision

To be an outstanding MAT, providing world-class education and training.

Our Mission

To provide the highest quality education and training, preparing young people for the future.

Our Values

As an employer and a learning organisation, we will:

- Aim to be excellent in all that we do;
- Celebrate diversity and the rights of others;
- Act with integrity - fairly, openly and transparently; and
- Be welcoming and approachable to all.

Strategic Aims

We aim to:

- Provide high-quality teaching and learning;
- Create a high-quality learning environment;
- Be financially sound, modernise and grow, providing outstanding value for money;
- Provide a curriculum that meets the needs of all stakeholders in an ever-changing world; and
- Work in partnership with the communities we serve, agencies and employers.

Core Values

Tyne Coast Academy Trust:

- Believes every pupil should achieve their potential;
- Believes in developing strong relationships with our students, and never giving up on them;
- Believes in being a strong community presence, embedding everything we do in the local community;
- Values and respects the professionalism, commitment, and excellence in our staff;
- Believes the needs of employers should shape our curriculum;
- Will make a significant positive impact on the local, regional and national economy; and
- Welcomes and includes everyone in our community, and value individuality and diversity.

Employee Benefits

Across our trust our staff benefit from:

- A commitment to professional development for all staff;
- A focus on staff wellbeing with designated weeks;
- Access to the Local Government Pension Scheme;
- TCAT continues to follow the Green Book along with national conditions of service for non-teaching staff;
- An opportunity for cross-site working and career development opportunities, including within our Trust schools and our sponsor colleges;
- Access to free gym facilities.

The Application Process

Thank you for your interest in joining Walker Riverside Academy.

The job advert, job description and personal specification have been provided to decide whether you wish to apply for the position. Please take the time to match your skills, experience and career aspirations against this information when applying for the post.

The Application Form

It is important that you complete **all sections** of the application form and that you provide full and accurate information. Please note, CVs will not be accepted.

All applications must be returned by the closing date. Late applications will not be considered.

After the closing date all applications will be examined and shortlisting will take place. You will be notified by email if your application has been successful and you will be invited to attend an interview. Details of the interview, and any required tasks that you will need to prepare for, will also be sent to you. At this point references will be sought if permission has been given.

On the day of the interview you will be asked to bring various forms of identification and original certification as declared on your application.

Post Interview

You will be contacted to advise if you have been successful or unsuccessful. If you are the successful candidate you will be made a verbal offer of employment, which will be followed up with a conditional offer of employment.

Once all clearances are in place a start date will be confirmed and followed up with a final offer letter and statement of particulars.

Further Information

Application packs and further information can be found on the Tyne Coast Academy Trust website <https://www.tynecoast.academy/join-our-mat/recruitment>

Walker Riverside Academy and Tyne Coast Academy Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff to share this commitment and to undergo appropriate pre-employment checks including an enhanced DBS with barred list check. The Trust will also undertake an online search of publicly available information on all candidates who are shortlisted for an interview.

Job Advert

Higher Level Teaching Assistant (to start as soon as possible)

Grade N6 £32,597 - £35,412 per annum actual salary is pro-rata to weeks worked

Working 37 hours per week term time only plus 5 training days and 5 additional days

Permanent Contract

Walker Riverside Academy is an exciting and thriving secondary school at the heart of its community in Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne. Walker is an oversubscribed secondary school with 1100 students on roll and this number is predicted to increase over coming years. We help our students to aim high, be proud and love life, in both their academic and career aspirations, supporting them at every step and guiding them upon options available. It is the daily embodiment of this ethos that makes Walker a truly special school community. We want our students to be proud of both themselves and the school community they attend, whilst developing a love of academy life.

We are seeking to appoint a Higher Level Teaching Assistant to work within the SEND team providing support to students with SEND including those with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). You will provide support both in and out of lessons, develop and implement support plans for students and promote inclusive education. You may also be required to cover lessons when teachers are not available across the school.

You will be supportive of the school's values and have the ability to encourage and motivate our students to be the best they can be.

We are committed to investing in our staff and you will receive a supportive induction programme and have access to high quality CPD. Opportunities are also available for Trust wide working and career development opportunities. You will also receive consistent support from a dedicated Headteacher, SLT, CEO, Trust Central Team, Local Governing Body and Trust Board.

The deadline for applications is 12 noon on Thursday, 19 March 2026. Please return completed applications to applications@wra.tynecoast.academy

Walker Riverside Academy and Tyne Coast Academy Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff to share this commitment and to undergo appropriate checks including an enhanced DBS with barred list check.

In accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025, an online search will be completed on all shortlisted applicants prior to interview. Any relevant information will be discussed further with the applicant during the interview process.

We are proud to be a Disability Confident employer and guarantee an interview to anyone who discloses a disability where their application meets the minimum criteria for the post.

Application packs and further information can be found on the Walker Riverside Academy website www.wra.tynecoast.academy and also the Academy Trust website <https://www.tynecoast.academy/join-our-mat/recruitment>

Closing date for applications: Thursday, 19 March 2026, 12.00 noon

Job Description

Job Title: Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Salary: Grade N6, with a pro-rata salary to work term time only plus 10 days

Accountable To: SENDCo

JOB PURPOSE

The Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) will assist the SENDCo in the delivery of the SEND Code of Practice within the school, including planning, development, deployment and monitoring of students with SEND.

The HLTA will also provide support both in and out of lessons to students with SEND including those students with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)

KEY RESULT AREAS

- Plan, prepare and deliver learning to individuals, small groups and/or classes modifying and adapting activities to advance students' learning as necessary within agreed systems of supervision.
- Assess, record and report on development, progress and attainment and use this knowledge and understanding to extend and challenge student's learning.
- Work collaboratively with staff and other relevant professionals and provide information about students as appropriate.
- Use teaching materials to plan, evaluate and differentiate lessons/work as appropriate within an agreed system of supervision.
- Plan and implement strategies to support students in their social development and their emotional well-being, dealing with and following relevant policies and procedures.
- Provide support to students as required both in lessons and on a one-to-one or small groups basis.
- Provide specialist support to students with SEND including students with an EHCP ensuring the support requirements identified in the plan are met.
- Establish and maintain relationships with parents/carers and other professionals.
- Develop and implement support plans for students including EHCPs and IEPs, including attendance, and contribute to review meetings.
- Support the role of parents/carers in students' learning and contribute to meetings to provide feedback and specialist advice/knowledge e.g., student progress.
- Assist with the supervision of students outside of lesson times including undertaking a lunch duty.
- Take responsibility for students on educational visits and out of school activities as required.
- Provide short-term cover of classes both in planned and in unexpected non-timetabled situations.
- Manage the work and development of Learning Support Assistants where appropriate.
- Contribute to the arrangements to Examination Access liaising with all relevant staff, students, parents and external agencies.
- Undertake any other duties commensurate with the grade and nature of the role.

VARIATION IN THE ROLE

Given the dynamic nature of the role and structure of TCAT and Walker Riverside Academy, it must be accepted that, as TCAT and Walker Riverside Academy's work develops and changes, there will be a need for adjustments to the role and responsibilities of the post. The duties specified above are, therefore, not to be regarded as either exclusive or exhaustive. They may change from time to time commensurate with the grading level of the post and following consultation with the member of staff.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

TCAT is committed to equality and diversity for all members of society. TCAT will take action to discharge this responsibility but many of the actions will rely on individual staff members at TCAT embracing their responsibilities with such a commitment and ensuring a positive and collaborative approach to Equality and Diversity. This will require staff to support TCAT's initiatives on Equality and Diversity which will include embracing development and training designed to enhance practices and the experiences of staff, students and visitors to TCAT with an all inclusive approach that celebrates differences. Failure to embrace these commitments may lead to formal action.

If you as a member of staff identify how you or TCAT can improve its practice on Equality and Diversity, please contact the Chief Operating Officer.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

All members of staff have a duty to maintain safe and clean conditions in their work area and co-operate with TCAT on matters of Health and Safety. This will include assisting with undertaking risk assessments and carrying out appropriate actions as required. Staff are required to refer to TCAT Health and Safety Policies in respect to their specific duties and responsibilities.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

All staff are required to participate fully in TCAT Staff Development programmes and have a responsibility to identify their own professional development needs in conjunction with their line manager.

COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE GROUPS

TCAT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, as well as vulnerable adults, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Person Specification

PERSON SPECIFICATION - HIGHER LEVEL TEACHING ASSISTANT

	CRITERIA	Essential/ Desirable	Where assessed
	Qualifications and Education		
1	Maths and English GCSE Grade 4 or equivalent	E	A/C
2	HLTA Status	D	A/C
3	Further relevant training/development	D	A/C
	Experience and Knowledge		
4	Successful experience of working with students in a school environment	E	A, I, R
5	Understanding of relevant policies/codes of practice and awareness of relevant legislation	E	A, I, R
6	Understanding of the National Curriculum at secondary level	E	A, I, R
7	Experience of whole class teaching	D	A, I, R
8	Experience of working with external agencies	D	A, I, R
9	Ability to motivate and engage students	E	A, I, R
	Skills		
10	Excellent communication skills and the ability to develop strong professional relationships with students, colleagues, parents/carers and external organisations	E	A, I, R
11	Ability to organise work, prioritise tasks, make decisions and manage time effectively	E	A, I, R
	Personal Attributes		
17	A commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people	E	A, I, R
18	Flexible and able to use own initiative	E	A, I, R
19	A willingness to be involved in extra-curricular activities	E	A, I, R

Key: Where Assessed

A - Application Form

C - Certificates

I - Interview

R - References

Please set out how you meet the essential and if appropriate desirable criteria in your application form. The person specification will be used to shortlist candidates for interview.



Waverdale Avenue, Walker, NE6 4AW



0191 295 8660



enquiry@wra.tynecoast.academy



walker.academy