

SUPPORT STAFF
JOB DESCRIPTION

ROLE TITLE	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
LOCATION	The Bridge Special School
GRADE / SCALE POINT – SALARY	Grade 4
REPORTING TO	The Headteacher

INTRODUCTION

All Unity Schools Partnership schools embrace a strong set of values which ensure that pupils learn how to take their place in modern Britain. Every member of staff is required to uphold and promote the values of the Trust in every aspect of their work performance.

JOB PURPOSE

To work under the direction of the teacher, whether with the whole class, a small group or an individual pupil using some expertise and/or specialism. All duties will be carried out within recognised procedures or guidelines. The work will involve responding independently to some problems and situations although the post holder has access to a teacher for advice and guidance on unusual or difficult problems. This post does not carry a requirement to supervise others but the post holder may demonstrate tasks to new colleagues or give advice and guidance to others.

KEY TASKS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Support for Pupils

- Undertake a range of specialized tasks to support learning e.g. planning, leading and assessing intervention groups
- Work with pupils, either one-to-one or in small groups, making full use of specialist skills as appropriate
- Mark pupils' work, as appropriate, maintaining basic records
- Look after sick/upset pupils and attend to physical needs. This may include support with feeding and toileting, according to the needs of each pupil
- Help pupils with their mobility
- Support learning and development by accompanying and working with pupils outside the classroom on trips, visits and other activities under the direction of the class teachers;
- Undertake basic first aid and administer medication in accordance with the relevant school policy and procedure

Support for the Teacher

- Provide support for the teacher during lessons, e.g. through directed work on the Literacy or Numeracy strategy and other curriculum areas, or supervising groups of pupils whilst the teacher is carrying out other activities

- Liaise with the class teachers, to ensure clear understanding of tasks and responsibilities and how these will be operated in practice to promote the best outcomes for pupils
- Maintain record of pupil needs and achievements
- Support and assist the class teacher in maintaining good order and discipline in the classroom and around the school, by actively engaging with pupils to positively promote and enforce the school's behavior policy
- Liaise with appropriate agencies about specific pupils, as required by the teacher
- Assist teaching staff to ensure that the aims and objectives of the school are achieved
- Teach whole class sessions to provide PPA / short term absence cover as appropriate, as directed by line manager
- Support the monitoring of the work of other Teaching Assistants including timetabling, duty rotas and absence cover as appropriate
- Supervise pupils on the playground and elsewhere on the school site and premises as required as part of the school's agreed duty rota

Team Working and Personal Professional Development

- Demonstrate tasks to new colleagues and assist in the induction process
- Attend and participate in curriculum planning meetings (after school as required)
- Attend and contribute to appropriate SEN and other review meetings, if required by the Class Teacher, SENCo and/or Headteacher and where appropriate, disseminate information to other Teaching Assistants
- Keep up-to-date with school policies and procedures
- Liaise, advise and consult with other members of the staff team, supporting children when asked to do so
- Attend relevant in-service training
- Undertake tasks to support the curriculum and assist with events organized as part of the curriculum
- Support implementation of Government initiatives under the direction of line manager

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

- Follow Health and Safety procedures at all times, particularly with regard to pupil safety and that of staff colleagues
- Refer pupils to a school paediatric first aider or the Headteacher ensuring that the class teacher is aware
- Be aware of and maintain full understanding of procedures to follow in the event of an emergency
- Keep up-to-date with and follow, Safeguarding / Child Protection procedures

SAFEGUARDING

Unity Schools Partnership is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young persons at all times.

The post holder, under the guidance of the Headteacher, will be responsible for promoting and

safeguarding the welfare of all children with whom he/she comes into contact, in accordance with the Trust's and the school's safeguarding policies. The post holder is required to obtain a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

GENERAL

1. Actively contribute to and promote the overall ethos and values of the School and the wider Trust.
2. Participate in training and other learning activities and performance development as required.
3. Maintain consistent high standards of professional conduct, tact and diplomacy at all times in dealings with pupils, parents, staff colleagues, external agencies and any other visitors to the school or wider Trust.
4. Maintain absolute confidentiality and exercise discretion with regard to staff / pupil information and the Trust's business at all times.
5. Act as an ambassador for the School and the wider Trust within the local community and beyond, ensuring that the ethos and values of the Trust are promoted and upheld at all times.
6. Undertake any other reasonable tasks and responsibilities as requested by the line manager or a member of the Senior Leadership or Trust Executive Leadership Teams which fall within the scope of the post.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
KNOWLEDGE		
Technical or Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HLTA status • Knowledge of school curriculum, the age-related expectations of pupils, the main teaching methods and the testing/examination frameworks in the subjects and age ranges in which they are involved • Understanding of the aims, content, teaching strategies and intended outcomes for the lessons in which they are involved, and understanding of the place of these in the related teaching programme • Knowledge of how to use ICT to advance pupils' learning, and ability to use common ICT tools for own and pupils' benefits • Knowledge of the key factors that can affect the way pupils learn • Awareness of the statutory frameworks relevant to their role • Knowledge of the legal definition of Special Education Needs and familiarity with the guidance about meeting SEN given in the SEN Code of Practice • Knowledge of a range of strategies to establish a purposeful learning environment and to promote good behaviour • Experience of working with/supervising pupils including knowledge of behavioural and learning difficulties • Knowledge and use of a range of equipment • Basic knowledge of first aid • Recognised competence in literacy and/or numeracy • Experience of contributing to lesson planning, in conjunction with the teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad awareness and understanding of medical conditions such as asthma, epilepsy etc • Awareness of health and safety procedures • Experience of one to one support, where appropriate • NVQ3 or equivalent in related area
Literacy and Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to support teachers in evaluating pupils' progress through a range of assessment activities • Contribute to maintaining and analysing records of pupils' progress 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to read and understand school policies and procedures relevant to area of work • Ability to complete reports such as incident report form, behaviour diary, progress report etc 	
Organisational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of school policies and procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness and understanding of relevant government initiatives • Good knowledge and understanding of the school's structure
MENTAL SKILLS		
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist teacher with information gathering and resources as appropriate 	
Problem Solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to recognise and resolve more complex problems, referring unusual or difficult problems to classroom teacher or other appropriate person 	
Creative Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to contribute effectively to teachers' planning and preparation of lessons. This includes both short- and medium-term planning • Assist teacher in creating a positive learning environment • Creative ways of learning / making learning interesting 	
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working within a framework set by the teacher, planning their role in lessons including how they will provide feedback to pupils and colleagues on pupil's learning and behaviour • Contribute effectively to the selection and preparation of teaching materials that meet the diversity of pupils' needs and interests • Contribute to the planning of opportunities for pupils to learn in out-of-school contexts in accordance with school policies and procedures 	
OTHER ATTRIBUTES		
Interpersonal and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When supervising or working with small groups of pupils, the post holder must be able to adapt 	

	<p>support given to pupils depending on age and/or ability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitivity to pupils' needs • Ability to promote and support the inclusion of all pupils in the learning activities in which they are involved • Ability to recognise and respond effectively to equal opportunities issues as they arise, including by challenging stereotyped views, and by challenging bullying or harassment, following relevant policies and procedures • Ability to support teachers in evaluating pupils' progress through a range of assessment activities • Monitoring pupils' responses to learning tasks and modify their approach accordingly • Monitor pupils' participation and progress, providing feedback to teachers, and giving constructive support to pupils as they learn • Using clearly structured teaching and learning activities to interest and motivate pupils, and advance their learning • Ability to advance pupils' learning in a range of classroom settings, including working with individuals, small groups and whole classes where the assigned teacher is not present • Ability, where relevant, to guide the work of other adults supporting teaching and learning in the classroom • Organise and manage safely the learning activities, the physical teaching space and resources for which they are given responsibility • Advising and guiding pupils on the best way to handle situations, under the teacher's direction • Encouraging pupils to participate in or complete tasks • Providing advice and guidance to Teaching Assistants on procedures and policies • Ability to conciliate between pupils in relationship / friendship disputes 	
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Keyboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to use ICT to advance pupils' learning and ability to use ICT tools for own benefit 	
Manual Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of craft knives, glue guns etc when displaying work or assisting pupils in practical lessons Help pupils to use tools and equipment as required to support learning 	
Level of Autonomy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although the majority of the work is covered by set policies and procedures, Teaching Assistants at this level must be able to manage own work Able to work with small groups of pupils when carrying out specific tasks or on field trips etc Able to supervise larger numbers of pupils when on duty break / lunchtime Able to make decisions on when to refer queries / problems to teaching staff or line manager There are set procedures to follow in a medical emergency 	