



Aragon Primary School



**Application Pack for the position of
Teaching Assistant
Aragon Primary School
<https://www.aragon.merton.sch.uk/>**



Aragon Primary School



PACK CONTENTS

Welcome from the Headteacher	3
Job Description	4 & 5
Person Specification	6
Guidance to applicants	7 & 8
Key Benefits	9
Dates for your diary	10



WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in this exciting opportunity to teach in our exceptional school.

Aragon Primary School is a three-form entry school, with an excellent reputation set in lovely grounds. We pride ourselves on our welcoming and friendly children and staff. We care passionately that every child at Aragon has the best education possible whilst learning the values of kindness, tolerance and respect.

You can see a little of what we offer on our website:

<https://www.aragon.merton.sch.uk/>

The school is recruiting for a class teacher to start either in April 2023 or September 2023. The successful candidate will be responsible for the standards and progress of pupils and will be enthusiastic and motivated to help our children to ignite their spark and 'be the best they can be'.

The successful candidate will have a good understanding of teaching and learning, pedagogy and experience of using educational research such as Rosenshine's Principles and Metacognition. We are seeking to appoint staff who can work collaboratively with colleagues and who are passionate about providing all children with the very best learning experiences possible.

As a school, we work hard to reduce teacher workload, support our staff and their own wellbeing as well as offering all staff professional development and coaching. ECTs are welcome to apply.

The Local Governing Body and I are looking forward to working closely with the successful candidate to develop their skill set and support the SLT in delivering their vision of a happy and successful school which offers an enriched curriculum to all children.

Included within this pack are the instructions on how to apply, together with the dates for the various stages of the selection process.

Thank you for your inquiry and I look forward to receiving your application.

Kindest regards,

Clare Ryder
Headteacher



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job purpose

- Work with class teachers to raise the learning and attainment of pupils
- Promote pupils' independence, self-esteem and social inclusion
- Give support to pupils, individually or in groups, so they can access the curriculum, take part in learning and experience a sense of achievement

Key Duties and responsibilities

Teaching and learning

- Demonstrate an informed and efficient approach to teaching and learning by adopting relevant strategies to support the work of the teacher and increase achievement of all pupils including, where appropriate, those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- Promote, support and facilitate inclusion by encouraging participation of all pupils in learning and extracurricular activities
- Use effective behaviour management strategies consistently in line with the school's policy and procedures to ensure a productive and safe learning environment
- Organise and manage teaching space and resources to help maintain a stimulating and safe learning environment
- Observe pupil performance and pass observations on to the class teacher
- Supervise a class if the teacher is temporarily unavailable
- Undertake any other relevant duties given by the class teacher

Planning

- Contribute to effective assessment and planning by supporting the monitoring, recording and reporting of pupil performance and progress as appropriate
- Read and understand lesson plans shared prior to lessons, if available • Prepare the classroom for lessons

Working with colleagues and other relevant professionals

- Communicate effectively with Other staff members and pupils, and with parents and carers under the direction of the class teacher
- Communicate their knowledge and understanding of pupils to other school staff and education, health and social care professionals, so that informed decision making can take place on intervention and provision • With the class teacher, keep other professionals accurately informed of performance and progress or concerns they may have about the pupils they work with
- Understand their role in order to be able to work collaboratively with classroom teachers and other colleagues, including specialist advisory teachers
- Collaborate and work with colleagues and other relevant professionals within and beyond the school • Develop effective professional relationships with colleagues

Whole-school organisation, strategy and development

- Contribute to the development, implementation and evaluation of the school's policies, practices and procedures, so as to support the school's values and vision
- Make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school



Aragon Primary School



Health and safety

- Promote the safety and wellbeing of pupils, and help to safeguard pupils' well-being by following the requirements of Keeping Children Safe in Education and our school's child protection policy
- Look after children who are upset or have had accidents

Professional development

- Help keep their own knowledge and understanding relevant and up-to-date by reflecting on their own practice, liaising with school leaders, and identifying relevant professional development to improve personal effectiveness
- Take opportunities to build the appropriate skills, qualifications, and/or experience needed for the role, with support from the school
- Take part in the school's appraisal procedures

Personal and professional conduct

- Uphold public trust in the education profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour within and outside school
- Have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school, and maintain high standards of attendance and punctuality
- Demonstrate positive attitudes, values and behaviours to develop and sustain effective relationships with the school community
- Respect individual differences and cultural diversity

You will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and follow school policies and the staff code of conduct.

Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the postholder will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the headteacher or line manager.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

The person specification shows the abilities and skills you will need to carry out the duties in the job description. Short listing is carried out based on how well you meet the requirements of the person specification.

CRITERIA	QUALITIES
Qualifications and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE or equivalent level, including at least a Grade 4 (previously Grade C) in English and maths
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience working in a school environment or other educational setting Experience working with children / young people with special educational needs (SEN) Experience planning and delivering learning activities
Skills and knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good literacy and numeracy skills Good organisational skills Ability to build effective working relationships with pupils and adults Skills and expertise in understanding the needs of all pupils Knowledge of how to help adapt and deliver support to meet individual needs Subject and curriculum knowledge relevant to the role, and ability to apply this effectively in supporting teachers and pupils Excellent verbal communication skills Ability to work as part of a team and to be flexible in their approach to daily routines Active listening skills The ability to remain calm in stressful situations Knowledge of guidance and requirements around safeguarding children Good ICT skills, particularly in using ICT to support learning
Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoyment of working with children Sensitivity and understanding, to help build good relationships with pupils A commitment to getting the best outcomes for all pupils and promoting the ethos and values of the school Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times Commitment to safeguarding pupil wellbeing and equality Resilient, positive, forward looking and enthusiastic about making a difference Capacity to inspire, motivate and challenge children and young people



GUIDANCE TO APPLICANTS

Please read these carefully before making your application.

THE APPLICATION FORM

Please complete in **black** pen or type. Additional sheets may be used.

The application form will play a key part in whether you are called for an interview, so it is important that you take your time and complete it as fully and accurately as possible.

When selecting candidates for interview we have to base our decisions on the information you give us. The Person Specification is enclosed with this application form. This is a list of the skills, knowledge, qualifications, experience, aptitudes and abilities that are required to perform the job. When we read your application form we will be looking for evidence of examples which demonstrate how you meet the criteria in the person specification. You must include sufficient evidence and examples to show that you meet the requirements.

PERSONAL DETAILS

For monitoring purposes we would ask that you provide the information requested on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form at the back of the application form. This form is removed before shortlisting and will be destroyed after monitoring.

CAREER HISTORY

This is the record of your work history. It may include periods of unpaid or voluntary work as well as paid employment e.g. you may include time spent as a carer for one of your family or a voluntary helper in a school. Please account for any gaps in your employment history.

If the title of the position does not make it clear what work you did e.g. twilight crew, canvasser, please briefly describe the main duties.

You may continue on another sheet if you need extra space.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, TRAINING

The Person Specification may ask for specific qualifications or training. You should list the relevant qualifications or courses undertaken. Where you have additional qualifications or training, mention these if they relate to your knowledge or skills. Proof of qualifications will be required at interview.

STATEMENT OF SUITABILITY

This section is your opportunity to show us that you meet the Person Specification. Take each criterion of the Person Specification and tell us the details of your knowledge and experiences. Give specific examples of things you have done which demonstrate your ability.

When reading your application, we cannot assume that because you have experience you also have the ability to carry out a task and vice versa. You may have experience of managing staff, but we need to know how you motivated your staff. We don't expect you to have formal experience, but if you can show that you have the ability to do the component tasks, that will be equally acceptable e.g. to organise a meeting you need to be able to: liaise with others, book accommodation, organise refreshments, and compile agendas.

You may already have prepared a CV and want to send that instead of answering the Statement of Suitability. You may send it, but you must also complete the Statement of Suitability. CVs often list the jobs you have had and their responsibilities, but they often do not properly describe your skills and abilities. It is unlikely that we will be able to find enough evidence in a CV alone.

You may use examples and evidence from outside paid employment. You may use examples from voluntary work or your hobbies or interests.



Aragon Primary School



PRE-EMPLOYMENT CHECKS

If you are offered the post, the offer will be made subject to receipt of satisfactory references, pre-employment medical clearance, an enhanced DBS disclosure and, for teaching staff, a check on your teaching qualification status. If your referees do not confirm what you have told us, we may want to discuss this with you.

We will ask you to complete an online Medical Questionnaire which will be sent to our Occupational Health Department. It is their job to make sure that you are fit to do the job we have offered you. In some instances, you may be asked to go for a medical examination.

You will also be asked to supply evidence of any qualifications that are required.

All employees are required to have DBS clearance. Unless you have a clearance issued within three months of being appointed, and have had no break in employment, we will require a new check to be carried out.

RELATIONSHIPS

We do not have a policy of excluding people who are related to school staff, Trustees or Governors, but if you are related to someone we will make sure that they are not involved in the selection process for this post. If we find out after you have been appointed that you are related to someone who interviewed you, we may dismiss you. 'Related' includes co-habiting with someone.

INTERVIEWS

Aragon has a policy of using a wide range of selection methods to assess whether people meet the criteria. All teaching staff will be asked to take a lesson but you may also be asked to take an ability test, do a presentation or other work related exercise. You will be advised of any method being used for the post when called for interview.

Prior to interview you will be asked to complete a Criminal Records Self Declaration, any issues of concern arising from a reference and/or Self Declaration will be explored during the interview process. At interview you will also be asked questions related to your Personal Statement, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

COMPLAINTS

The school is keen to ensure equality of opportunity in its recruitment and selection process. If you think that you have been discriminated against during the selection process on the grounds of your race, age, gender, marital status, caring responsibilities, gender re-assignment, sexual orientation, social class, religion, belief or disability you may make a complaint and we will investigate. If you feel you have been unfairly treated you must contact the CEO, in writing, within 3 working days of being rejected after an interview. You should explain the reason for your complaint to the Headteacher, or his/her representative. The CEO, or his/her representative, may want to talk to you before confirming the outcome of the investigation.





The Willow LEARNING TRUST KEY BENEFITS



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Comprehensive programme of professional development for teaching and non-teaching staff
- A long and successful track record of supporting teachers from ITT, through ECT and into leadership roles
- Bespoke ECT programme
- Collaborative opportunities to work on innovation and in partnerships across the Trust
- Apprenticeships opportunities to support the development of staff new to role

WELLBEING

- 24/7 Employee assistance programme
- 50% discount on Benenden healthcare
- Opportunities for flexible working
- Hybrid working available for suitable posts
- PPA time that can be worked from home (Primary Schools only)
- Protected 'gained time' for planning (Secondary School)
- Wellbeing activities and initiatives suggested by staff



FINANCIAL

- National pay and conditions for teachers and support staff
- Golden Hello available for some teaching posts
- Recruitment and retention allowances
- Generous pension schemes
- Salary sacrifice schemes including: Cycle to work and Electric vehicles, legacy childcare vouchers
- Christmas payment for all staff
- Long service awards



Aragon Primary School



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Closing date : Monday 25th November 2024