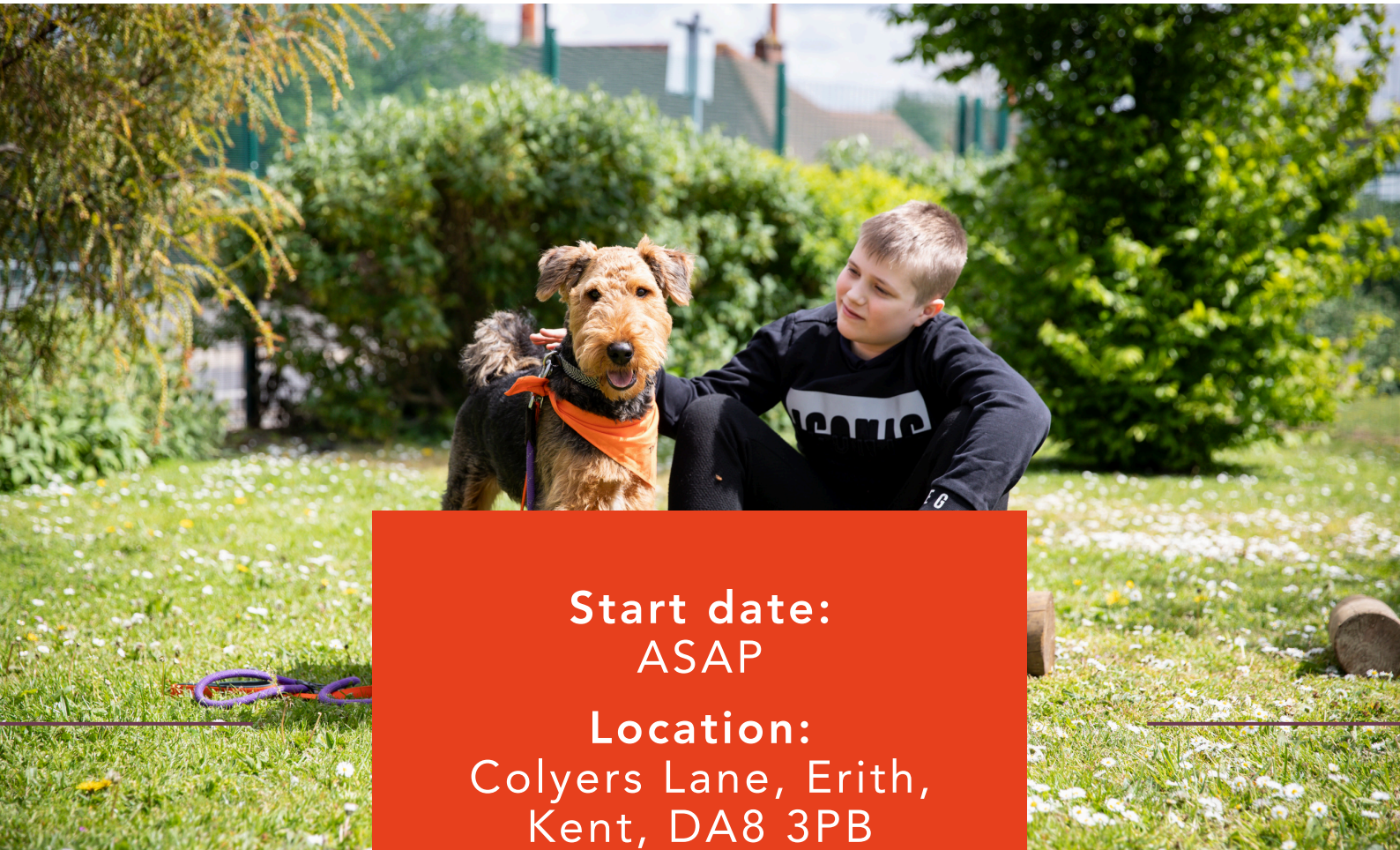




CANDIDATE PACK

Lunchtime Interactive Play Leader



Start date:
ASAP

Location:
Colyers Lane, Erith,
Kent, DA8 3PB



About Us

Woodside Academy is an all-age special school, (EYFS-Post 16) for pupils with a primary diagnosis of autism. The school is a flourishing and vibrant learning community located in the London Borough of Bexley.

The school's moto is "All together better" and we are committed to achieving our shared goal of individual and collective excellence for all.

Visitors to the school frequently comment on the welcome they receive, the calm and positive ethos as well as how much pupils and staff enjoy being at school. Parents and Carers tell us how much difference Woodside makes.

Hear this for yourself in our [virtual tours](#) and read more on the school website [here](#).

WOODSIDE
ACADEMY



WOODSIDE
ACADEMY



About the Trust

Our school is part of London South East Academies Trust - a multi-academy trust sponsored by London South East Colleges. In 2024 the Trust was formally recognised and awarded as the TES Small Trust of the Year.

Our vision is to create a future where every child, in every school, can flourish every day.

- Give all children an inspirational school offer
- Ensure the educational achievement of every child and young person entrusted to us.
- Have a relentless focus on accelerating learning
- Reward ambition and high aspirations through all of our schools

Read more on the trust website:
LSEAT.co.uk

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TRUST

Our Values

At Woodside Academy, we value trust, honesty and kindness from all.

We respect ourselves and each other in all that we do.

We strive for independence in our learning and in our leisure time to live safe and happy lives.

We face challenges by being positive and believing that we can overcome them.

All together better; all together we will achieve great things.

Respect

Kindness

Achievement

Trust

Independence

Positivity

Honesty

WOODSIDE
ACADEMY



Job Description

WOODSIDE
ACADEMY



Job title: Lunchtime Interactive Play Leader

Salary: £14.64 per hour plus £1.76 per hour holiday pay

Contractual Hours: 0 Hours

Contractual Weeks: 39 weeks per year

Position Status: Permanent

About our vacancy

We are seeking to appoint a suitably experienced Interactive Play Leader to complete our team, to work on a relief basis. You would be responsible for the safety and welfare of the children during the school lunchtime break. The ideal candidate should possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Experience of working with children with special needs, including those with autism, is essential. The successful candidates will join a friendly, supportive team with opportunities for further training. This is an ideal opportunity for those seeking experience in schools and hoping to progress into a teaching assistant role.

We offer a comprehensive and bespoke CPD programme throughout the year and have a good record of upskilling staff at all levels. As all children have an EHCP and are working significantly below age-related expectations, the role is more likely to suit those who are trained/experienced within Early Years, Primary or Special settings. ECTs and those with SEN/autism experience are also welcome to apply. We operate an EYFS/Primary model of teaching up to and including Year 13 with some specialist teaching in Y10-13.

These are opportunities for teachers who actively collaborate in an ambitious team. We are particularly keen to hear from you if you have experience of delivering tailored and personalised learning programmes for children with SEND.





Job Description

Main purpose of the job

To be responsible for playing and interacting with pupils during the school lunchtime period. To be responsible for the supervision of the health, safety and wellbeing of pupils during the school lunch time period.

Major duties and responsibilities

- Undertaking supervision of and positively interacting with pupils across a range of settings including the dining hall, the outdoor and indoor play and leisure areas and across the school premises
- To be proactive in promoting and engaging in positive interactions with pupils during the lunchtime supervision period which supports the development of pupil's social interaction
- To manage behaviours positively upholding the school rules and using distraction and de-escalation strategies so that pupils can start their afternoon in a positive mood.
- To ensure that communication with pupils is at their level and that appropriate resources are used to promote effective communication such as cards, symbols, signing, timers, 1 – 5 system.
- Using the schools reporting methods to ensure that negative incidents are recorded and consequences followed through reporting to the senior mid-day supervisor and teachers as required.
- Ensuring pupils are taught good manners and supporting the development of good eating skills.
- Ensuring that safety is a priority and this may include some cleaning and clearing up e.g. spillages and tables.
- Cleaning (if required) and putting away of dining room tables.
- Ensuring that any equipment used with pupils is safe and suitable.
- Undertaking training specific to the post.



Resources

Outside play equipment/indoor play equipment.



Job Activities

- Builds good relationships with pupils in order to promote pupils wellbeing
- Using knowledge and understanding of pupils with learning difficulties when dealing with conflict Is creative in promoting play and social activities
- Uses initiative and common sense when undertaking activities across a range of settings and in all weathers
- Is a role model for pupils, communicating effectively, dressing appropriately and being respectful towards pupils at all times
- Is assertive and consistent in upholding the school rules especially in relation to health and safety
- Exercises judgement in reporting both verbally and in written form any concerns about behaviour or possible safety or security risks
- Is able to adhere to school policy and procedures in any contact with pupils and particularly with regard to rewards and sanctions for pupils, being familiar with the Schools staff Handbook, the schools Health and Safety policy and the Behaviour Management Policy





General Requirements

- Take on any additional responsibilities which might, from time to time, be determined.
- Safeguarding: Demonstrate a clear commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, adhering to all policies and statutory guidance, and reporting concerns promptly in line with our procedures.
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: Promote an inclusive culture that values diversity, ensures equality of opportunity, and challenges discrimination in all its forms.
- Health and Safety: Take reasonable care for your own health and safety and that of others, complying with all relevant policies, procedures and risk assessments.
- STARS Values: Consistently model and promote the our STARS values, contributing positively to our culture and reputation.
- Sustainability: Support our commitment to environmental sustainability through responsible use of resources and sustainable working practices. This job description may be amended at any time following discussion between the Head Teacher, Senior Leader and member of staff, and will be reviewed annually.

The scope of this profile reflects the needs of Woodside Academy at the present time; it is not intended to be a fully inclusive or exhaustive list. The post holder may therefore be expected to work flexibly and perform such other duties other than those given in the job description.

The particular duties and responsibilities attached to the post may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed. The profile will be subject to continuous review as the needs and requirements of the Woodside Academy change over time.



What we offer

- Friendly, enthusiastic, delightful pupils and students who teach us something new every day
- A committed and caring staff team who support and develop each other A proactive and supportive SLT who are actively mindful of workload
- A collaborative approach to planning and problem-solving
- A comprehensive induction and an ongoing extensive CPD programme
- Opportunities to develop your skills and talents
- Small class sizes with high staff/pupil ratio
- Free parking on site
- Advantages of belonging to a multi-academy trust, e.g. discounts on gym and wellbeing services, access to free and confidential Occupational Health and Employee Assistance Programmes
- Excellent Pension Schemes - Including employer contributions to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, Local Government Pension Scheme, or Nest.
- Professional Development - Access to high-quality training, leadership development, and career progression opportunities
- Employee Assistance Programme - Providing free, confidential support.
- Travel Support - annual season ticket loan and cycle-to-work scheme.
- Well-being and Lifestyle Benefits - including access to gym discounts, discounts in our in-house college restaurant, and reduced-price hair and beauty treatments.
- Free mortgage and financial advice - Get 15% off wills with Radnew and Mortgages.





Person specification

Experience, knowledge and skills	Essential	Desirable
Working with or caring for children of relevant age.	X	
Basic understanding of child development and learning	X	
Ability to self-evaluate learning needs and actively seek learning activities	x	
Ability to relate well to children and adults	X	
Work constructively as part of a team	X	
Ability to speak with confidence and accuracy, using accurate sentence structures and vocabulary	X	
Ability to choose the right kind of vocabulary for the situation in hand without a great deal of hesitation	X	
Ability to listen to customers and understand their needs	X	
Ability to tailor your approach to each conversation to be appropriate to the customer, responding clearly with fine shades of meaning, even in complex situations.	X	
Understands how to build good relationships with pupils who have under-developed social skills.	X	
Can communicate clearly and simply with children and young people	X	
Has the ability to distract and de-escalate at times of conflict.	X	
Knows how to keep pupils safe.	X	



How to apply

If you wish to discover more about this exciting opportunity, request a copy of this candidate pack or an application form, please view our vacancies page [here](#).

