**SEMH Support Assistant**

**Job Description**

**Purpose:**

To work under the guidance of the Headteacher and Inclusion Leader to develop the academy’s ability to support the inclusion, progress and achievement of more vulnerable children, primarily those with SEMH needs. This will be through developing specialist provision for individuals, small groups and within the whole classroom environment along with providing advice and support to colleagues and families.

**Supporting children**

* To set out and prepare suitable environments according to the needs of the children;
* Support children’s Social, Emotional and Mental Health development and promote independence in a safe, secure and challenging environment, recognising and rewarding achievements as appropriate;
* Use a nurturing approach to promote and reinforce child self-esteem through praise and encouragement;
* Ensure needs are met and be sensitive to the welfare and care of the children both physically and emotionally;
* Support children to apply learnt strategies in the classroom environment;
* Work with individuals and groups of children to succeed with targets as outlined by the Inclusion Leader and class teacher;
* Develop children’ self-regulation strategies;
* Develop communication and social skills;
* Encourage children to interact and work cooperatively with others;
* Provide creative, enriching activities and opportunities for children;
* Participate in children’ play;
* Set up and maintain a positive learning environment with the individuals and groups of children you are supporting;
* Promote the inclusion of all children within the school so that they are able to participate in all aspects of school life;
* Support positive play at lunchtimes;
* Maintain high expectations;
* Support individual children with specific programmes as identified by the Inclusion Leader.

**Supporting the Leadership Team**

* Work alongside class teachers and the Inclusion Leader to plan learning for identified children;
* Be prepared to liaise with teachers, the Inclusion Leader and families;
* Attend appropriate CPD to develop and fulfil the role;
* Prepare materials and activities to support the teaching and learning of identified children;
* Support teachers to create a supportive working environment where children feel happy and secure;
* To follow up and address behaviour incidents as required, using a restorative justice approach as appropriate;
* To be responsible for keeping records as required;
* To promote the academy’s behaviour policy to support positive behaviour constructively, promote self-regulation, self-reflection and independence;
* To plan, prepare and manage appropriate well-being activities.

**Supporting the academy**

* Foster positive links between home and school;
* To promote the policies and ethos of the academy;
* To promote positive values, attitudes and behaviour, dealing promptly with conflict and encouraging children to take responsibility for their behaviour;
* Maintain appropriate confidentiality;
* Follow school policies as set by the Governing Body;
* Follow safety procedures;
* To attend meetings and training as required;
* In time, support for colleagues across the Trust as required.