**SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Hours of work:** 15 hours per week term time only

**Salary:** Scale H8

**Reports to:** Associate SENDCo

**Main duties and responsibilities:**

As a speech and language therapist (SALT), you will work with students who have:

* difficulties making themselves understood through speech
* problems understanding language
* problems using language
* a stammer; and/or difficulties with feeding, chewing or swallowing. These challenges may be a result of injury, stroke, cancer, Parkinson’s disease, a mental health problem or learning difficulty.
* Challenges with social communication

You will work with students to maximise their ability to communicate, which may be in one-to-one or group sessions.

Your duties will involve:

* talking with students and their families, observing them and using tests to assess their specific difficulties
* planning and developing individual therapy programmes
* supporting students through treatment and adapting their programme where necessary
* developing and promoting an effective Communication Strategy in partnership with the SENCO and Assistant Headteacher, Achievement and Inclusion
* working closely with colleagues in school to get the best results for the student
* advising and coaching teachers and teaching assistants
* delivering INSET
* advising and coaching families to continue the therapy at home
* keeping detailed records of a student’s progress.

**General Duties:**

The speech and language therapist will be required to:

* Safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.
* Plan, execute and monitor communication therapy programmes for individuals and small groups of students with special educational needs.
* Contribute to learning activities and teaching programmes for students with special educational needs.
* Work in class developing teachers and promoting our Communication Strategy.
* Deliver these activities and programmes to individuals and groups in accordance with local and national learning strategies and Nower Hill School’s curriculum and policies.
* Monitor, assess, record and report on the impact of speech and language therapy programmes.
* Liaise with teachers and teaching assistants.
* Undertake other reasonable duties as directed by the Headteacher or senior staff.

**Specific Duties:**

**Support for students**

* Ensure student safety.
* Promote the inclusion, independence and self-esteem of all students.
* Establish positive relationships with students, acting as a good role model.
* Undertake supervision of communication therapy students on placement

and liaise with parents/carers.

* Liaise with other professionals/professional bodies outside the school.
* Contribute towards the choice of follow-on placements and preparation of students for school transfers.
* Represent the school to visitors or on visits elsewhere.
* Contribute to the assessment procedure.
* Write reports.
* Develop and promote the school's Communication Policy.
* Take responsibility for meetings specific to communication therapy.
* Attend relevant courses.
* Take responsibility for the organisation and positive educational impact of speech therapy.

**Support for the curriculum**

The speech and language therapist will contribute to the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum and will be required to:

* Contribute to teaching programmes and adjust activities according to students’ responses.
* Organise small group and individual Wave 2 interventions.
* Follow programmes linked to local and national learning strategies and syllabi.
* Prepare, maintain and use equipment and resources and assist students in their use.
* Advise staff on appropriate deployment and use of specialist aids and resources.

**Support for staff**

* Contribute towards inset days and on-going CPD for other staff.
* Work in class to support staff in developing inclusive practice.
* Disseminate best practice for groups and individuals.

**SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST**

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

You will want to help us set up a bespoke in-house speech and language therapy service for our students.  In your role as Speech and Language Therapist you will be keen to develop all our staff to meet the needs of the students in classrooms.  With your expertise as a qualified Speech and Language Therapist you will be able to contribute to whole school CPD that will enable the very best learning environment for all of our students. You will enjoy working with students with speech and language difficulties.  You will be effective at maintaining good relationships with staff and students.

The post would suit a qualified speech and language therapist.

**Qualifications**

* A good level of English and Maths
* RCSLT recognised degree/diploma  or MSc (Hons) in Speech and language therapy or equivalent qualification.
* Recent relevant Professional Development & willingness to develop own expertise
* Registered and current membership with HCPC and RCSLT

**Experience/Knowledge**

* Successful experience of working with young people; ideally within an educational or therapy based setting
* Understanding of and commitment to develop the ethos of  Nower Hill High School
* Have an understanding of the importance of good communication and sharing information about students with relevant adults
* Ability to organise and deliver classroom activities

**Skills and Abilities**

* Commitment to Inclusion
* Highly professional
* Good at working with adults and young people
* Willing to drive forward change, in line with the school’s ethos and values
* Enthusiasm and commitment for working with students in a co-educational, multicultural comprehensive school
* Ability to work as part of a team
* A positive and caring disposition
* Adaptable and flexible
* A fundamental belief that all children can succeed
* Calm under pressure
* Ability to communicate clearly orally and in writing
* Well organised and practical
* Ability to work on own initiative
* Willingness to maintain an up to date knowledge of speech therapy
* Ability to find creative solutions to problems
* Excellent attendance & punctuality