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Job Application Pack

Teaching Assistant

School: Comberton Village College

Salary: **Scale TA1b – Scale Range 3-4**

FTE salary: £22,737 - £23,114 (52 weeks)

Actual starting salary: £14,664.69 pa (based on 25 hours worked, 38 weeks per year and includes holiday pay)

Contract: Fixed Term 1 year, Part Time

Start date: As soon as possible.

Application closing date: 9am on Friday 17th May 2024

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About our Trust

The Cam Academy Trust, originally The Comberton Academy Trust, was formed in 2011 to oversee the conversion of Comberton Village College to academy status in the first instance. With growing emphasis on academies working together in formal partnerships, the Trust quickly changed to become a multi-academy trust so that more schools could join and work closely with us.

As this partnership developed it was only right that the name changed with it as further schools/academies joined, including from the primary as well as secondary phase of education. The Comberton Academy Trust was renamed 'The Cam Academy Trust' – a clear statement that the Trust is greater than the sum of its parts.

The Trust currently comprises seven primary phase schools and four secondary schools, two with Sixth Forms. We are excited that a third Sixth Form is due to open at Cambourne Village College in 2023.

Our Primary phase schools are: Everton Heath Primary School (just inside Bedfordshire), Gamlingay Village Primary, Jeavons Wood Primary School, Cambourne, Offord Primary School, Offord D'Arcy, Hartford Infant and Pre-School, Hartford Junior School and Thongsley Fields Primary and Nursery School, Huntingdon. Bourn Primary Academy joined as the first Associate Member in 2021.

Our Secondary schools are: Comberton Village College (and Comberton Sixth Form), Cambourne Village College, Melbourn Village College and St Peter's School (and Sixth Form), Huntingdon.

The Trust strives for 'Excellence for All' and at the heart of this are six core principles which drive everything it does.

These are:

The Excellence Principle – Education must be of the very highest standard

The Comprehensive Principle – Education must be for all kinds and abilities

The Broad Education Principle – Education must incorporate a broad range of subject areas and personal development

The Community Principle – Every Academy must be at the heart of its local community and serve it well

The Partnership Principle – Each Academy must seek to work positively in partnership with others for mutual benefit

The International Principle – The curriculum inside and outside the classroom must have a clear international dimension.

Benefits

We offer the following benefits, designed to promote your wellbeing and make your time with The Cam Academy Trust satisfying and rewarding.

Core benefits

- Holiday – Up to 30 days' paid holiday a year plus bank holidays for full time non-teaching staff (statutory leave for teaching staff)
- Paid leave – enhanced sick pay, maternity pay and adoption leave pay (linked to service) and paid leave for unforeseen personal situations
- Pension – a generous defined benefit pension with the Local Government Pension Scheme or Teachers' Pension Scheme
- Death in service payment – lump sum payment and an ongoing pension for your partner & children (subject to conditions & membership of our pension scheme)

Health and wellbeing

- Employee counselling and support – free, independent 24/7 help and advice for work-related issues, as well as problems affecting your home life
- Wellbeing groups – arrangements may differ from school to school (secondary school staff)
- Environment – good working environment with excellent facilities (facilities may differ from school to school)

Professional development

- Professional development – full and part-funded training courses and a wide range of learning opportunities available to all staff

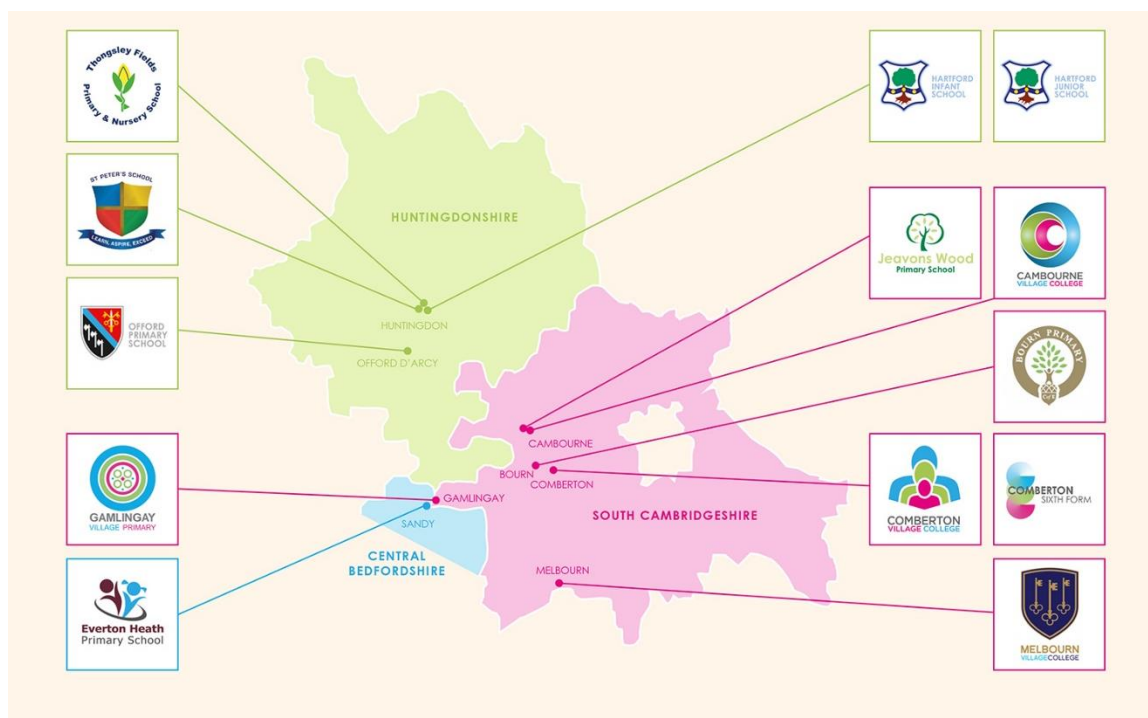
Employee discounts

- Car parking – free and on-site
- Hot drinks – tea & coffee making facilities provided for all staff
- Cycle-to-work scheme – save £££ on a new bike and accessories
- Subsidised membership to the [Chartered College of Teaching](#) (teaching staff)

Work-life balance

- Flexible working – all staff can make a request to work flexibly
- Teacher cover - We have Cover Supervisors reducing the amount of cover required by teachers and PPA periods are on timetables and not used for cover purposes (school teaching staff)

Our Schools



Comberton Village College & Comberton Sixth Form



Comberton Village College is a thriving community of approximately 1800 students, including 500 in the Sixth Form which was added to the school in 2011.

It was established in 1960 as part of Henry Morris' vision for schools being village colleges at the heart of their community and not just places for children to learn. It has a vibrant Adult Education department as well as an on-site Sports and Arts Centre, including a full-size artificial football pitch and spacious performance hall. Current improvements to the much-extended site include the installation of a £multi-million ground-source heat pump to move away from the use of oil.

Cambourne Village College

Cambourne Village College opened as a Free School in 2013 as the first new village college in Cambridgeshire for 30 years. It serves the community of Cambourne, a group of villages located between Cambridge and St Neots.

It has been repeatedly grown since its inception and now has plans for further expansion to include a sixth form from 2023 and further capacity to match growing demand for families moving into Cambourne West, the fourth of the villages it serves. It, too, offers extensive arts and sports facilities for community use.

It was the first school in the Trust to equip its students with iPads, an initiative now being rolled out across the Trust.



Melbourn Village College



MELBOURN
VILLAGE COLLEGE

Melbourn Village College is the smallest and oldest of the village colleges in the CAT community. With around 600 students in Years 7-11, it still offers an innovative curriculum with Mandarin taught to all from Year 7 with the option to take the language at GCSE level and, recently, at A Level in conjunction with Comberton Sixth Form.

Melbourn is undergoing considerable investment and improvement with a new artificial pitch that opened in late 2021 and work due to start on upgrading classrooms in summer 2022.

St Peter's School, Huntingdon

St Peter's School is located in the heart of Huntingdon and offers a nurturing and supportive environment for around 1200 students from a diverse multi-cultural catchment.

The school joined the Trust in 2016 and has undergone significant change with Ofsted now rating it as a 'Good' school. There has also been major investment in its buildings and infrastructure with a complete refurbishment of the Sixth Form and more work scheduled for Summer 2022.



Everton Heath Primary School



Everton Heath
Primary School

Located just over the Bedfordshire border, Everton Heath is the smallest school in the Trust with just over 70 students. However, the installation of two new classrooms in 2021 has given it capacity to grow.

It has joined forces with larger neighbours, Gamlingay Village Primary (less than two miles away) and the second smallest Trust school, Offord Primary, in a new collaborative West Village Partnership. It is a catchment school for Comberton Village College.

Everton Heath Primary School is part of the newly formed West Village Partnership.

Gamlingay Village Primary

Established as a full primary school by the Trust in 2018 from Gamlingay First School, it was relocated to the former middle school site following a major upgrade to the existing buildings.

It is now a thriving school for more than 380 pupils and includes specialist primary provision for students on the autistic spectrum, many of whom go on to Comberton Village College's similar secondary offering as Comberton is the school's designated 11-16 provider.

Gamlingay Village Primary School is part of the newly formed West Village Partnership.



Hartford Infant and Preschool

Renamed in early 2022 to reflect the addition of a bespoke preschool, the team are proud of their caring, secure and purposeful environment to nurture youngsters at the start of their educational journey.



HARTFORD
INFANT AND PRESCHOOL

The school shares a site with the Junior School in a suburb of Huntingdon and most pupils make the natural transition across the playground before going on to St Peter's, allowing them the full educational experience within the Trust.

Hartford Junior School

Hartford Junior School has two-form entry at the start of Key Stage 2 with the majority switching from the Infant School next door.

Rated 'Good' at their first inspection since joining the Trust in 2017, they are proud of their progress in recent years, based on their ethos of 'effort, encouragement and excellence'.



HARTFORD
JUNIOR SCHOOL

Jeavons Wood Primary School, Cambourne



Jeavons Wood is one of four primary schools located in the growing South Cambridgeshire community of Cambourne and is a feeder school for Cambourne Village College.

It has more than 400 pupils in a modern, airy building constructed 10 years ago and works unswervingly to support all their pupils both socially and academically.

Offord Primary School

The newest full members of the Trust, Offord joined in 2019 and undergone significant changes with a new headteacher and the recent collaborative partnership with Gamlingay and Everton Heath.

They are the first primary school in the Trust to obtain enough iPads for every pupil after securing a generous donation from a local charity which supports education in Offord D'Arcy and Offord Cluny.

Offord Primary School is part of the newly formed West Village Partnership.



OFFORD
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Thongsley Fields Primary & Nursery School, Huntingdon



Thongsley Fields Primary & Nursery School was created in 2003 from separate junior and infant schools built to serve families on the Oxmoor estate in Huntingdon. They joined the Trust in 2018 and with a new headteacher are developing grand plans for their curriculum., their grounds and the provision and support for pupils and their families.

Like Hartford Junior School, they are a partner primary for St Peter's School with whom they share a Governing Body.

Bourn Primary Academy

Bourn Primary Academy, a single form entry Church of England school, became the Trust's first associate members in September 2021, cementing an already close relationship with both Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges, which it lies between.

All the Trust's services are available to Bourn, which is in the Comberton catchment, and they now work closely with all the other schools and staff across the Trust, sharing experiences and best practice.



Safeguarding Children and Young People

The Cam Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check, barred list check and other relevant pre-employment checks.

The Vacancy

Teaching Assistant
Fixed term – 1 year (with the potential to become permanent)
To start as soon as possible
 Term time only

Salary: Scale TA1b – Scale Range 3-4
 FTE salary: £22,737 - £23,114 (52 weeks)

Working hours: 08:50 - 14:50 (with an unpaid mid-morning and lunch break)

Depending upon the department, there is also some requirement to attend paid professional days and/or a paid fortnightly training meeting

Actual starting salary: £14,664.69 pa (based on 25 hours worked, 38 weeks per year and includes holiday pay)

We are seeking skilled and enthusiastic individuals to join our hard-working team of professionals who dedicate themselves to enabling our students to cope in a mainstream setting and feel safe to prosper academically and socially both now and in the future.

The successful candidate will:

- Have an approachable and patient nature;
- be positive, proactive and professional;
- have excellent interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence;
- be able to liaise confidently with staff and students;
- have a minimum of 5 GCSE grade 4/C including English and Maths;
- be energetic and have an interest in working with SEN children / young pupils; and
- for sixth form roles must have at least A levels or an equivalent level qualification.

The position could provide valuable experience for those wishing to enter the teaching profession. It would also be ideal for a school leaver before University or for a parent who is wishing to return to work.

How to apply:

Please complete and return the Support Staff Application form located on our website www.combertonvc.org/contact-us/current-vacancies. Your application should be supported by a letter of application (consisting of no more than 2 sides of A4 printed) which explains the reason for your interest on the position and your relevant track record that confirms you could fulfil the expectations of the role.

Applications should be submitted to: Wendy Jones HR Manager on personnel@combertonvc.org as soon as possible but no later than 9.00am on **Friday 17th May 2024**.

Please note that we do not accept applications by CV.

Interviews to be held soon after.

The Cam Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check, prohibition from teaching check, section 128 check (as required) and a medical questionnaire.

We recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is as important as safeguarding against any other vulnerability. As such, all staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We believe that everyone should be treated with respect whatever their race, gender, sexuality, religious belief, special need, or disability. As part of our commitment to safeguarding and child protection we fully support the Government's Prevent Strategy.

Information about Comberton Village College & Comberton Sixth Form



We are delighted that you are interested in our Village College. Since opening as a secondary Village College in 1960, we have been true to our roots. We still seek to serve our community and to be at the heart of that

community. The school has developed a very great deal, but our community ethos remains.

‘Excellence for All’ is our over-arching aim and it is the driving force behind all that we do at Comberton Village College. A long-standing national reputation for academic excellence and outstanding opportunities for all of our pupils does not mean that we rest on what has happened here. We always want every single one of our pupils to do his or her best and always seek to strengthen our work to enable this. Ofsted inspections consistently grade the overall effectiveness of our school (including the most recent inspection in February 2013) as ‘outstanding’. However, we continue to look for ways that we can improve and do more and do it better for the sake of all pupils and our local community. Our very high-quality and committed staff are at the heart of this and of all that we do.

We seek to ensure that all our pupils receive a broad and rounded education that enables each of them to become capable, caring and confident. The many opportunities available outside of the formal curriculum enable a whole range of talents and attributes to be developed in all of our pupils. These include exciting opportunities overseas in line with our aim to provide education with an international outlook.

The addition of a Sixth Form in September 2011 has enabled us to offer the same excellent standard of education now also to 16-19 year-olds. It was very gratifying that all aspects of our Sixth Form were also graded as ‘outstanding’ at the first time of asking in February 2013. Understandably, very many students are now making the Comberton Sixth Form their first choice for their Sixth Form years.

As a village college, we remain committed to Henry Morris’ vision of the college at the heart of the local community. Our community provision is a central part of our role. We see ourselves very much as an “extended school”.

Comberton Village College is at a significant and exciting stage in its development as part of a multi-academy trust. When we set up the Comberton Academy Trust early in 2011, we were determined to have a Trust based on fundamental core values in keeping with the very best of Village College and community-based education in order to deliver excellence for all pupils across each of the Trust’s academies. As part of this focus on the future, we took the decision in September 2016 to rename the Trust to become The Cam Academy Trust.

The Cam Academy Trust now comprises 11 academies and we work closely with them to ensure mutual support and challenge for all of the pupils they serve.

In all cases, we see all of them as part of our over-arching remit to provide excellent educational opportunities and outcomes for all pupils in a comprehensive, community context. These core values are articulated in the values of our Academy trust. These values represent our unchanging guide through these very significant and exciting developments.

We are absolutely committed to provide the very best education possible for all of our pupils and for our local community. We trust that this website helps to give you a helpful insight into that.

Job Description

Teaching Assistant, Comberton Village College

Salary: TA1b – Scale Range 3-4 £22,737 - £23,114 FTE

Hours of work: From 25 hours per week

Line of Responsibility The Teaching Assistant is directly responsible to the Head of Department.

Purpose

To work in one of the Comberton Village College SEN departments with students who may have Educational Health and Care Plans. These cover a wide range of special educational needs including Autism, physical disabilities, sensory impairment, learning difficulties, speech and language communication needs and Down's Syndrome. To help them engage with a mainstream education by adapting and differentiating as required to raise their standard of achievement.

Accountabilities

Supporting students – under the direction of the Head of Department

- To support students in mainstream lessons across all areas of the curriculum.
- To help students reflect on their development.
- To support students on out of school trips.
- To be a listening board for students to express their worries and concerns to.
- To pass relevant data and information to students' CSS (Communication Support Specialist) for each lesson, and to be aware of and act on relevant information from CSS's.
- Communicate information about lesson arrangements-cover lessons, assessments or tests, items needed for practical lessons.
- To complete and record data kept on One Drive for student attendance and performance in lessons.

Support for the curriculum - working under the direction of the teacher

- Pass on information regarding students' successes and difficulties and inform CSS's of where work needs adapting or student responses to curriculum areas.
- Record homework tasks in planner and pass information to Cabin, assist in ensuring homework handed in at appropriate times.
- To support mainstream students including those with SEND alongside students with EHCPs

Support for ASC students

- Undertake specialist training to underpin knowledge of Autism and appropriate support strategies. Depending upon the department, attending training and meetings after school once every fortnight.

- Play an active role in sharing knowledge and skills with mainstream staff and students.

Conditions of Employment

- The above responsibilities are subject to the general duties and responsibilities contained in the written statement of conditions of employment (the Contract of Employment).
- The postholder is required to support and encourage the school's ethos and its objectives, policies and procedures as agreed by the governing body.
- To uphold the school's policy in respect of child protection matters.
- The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check will be carried out for the successful candidate.
- S/he shall be subject to all relevant statutory and institutional requirements.
- The postholder may be required to perform any other reasonable tasks after consultation.
- This job description allocates duties and responsibilities but does not direct the particular amount of time to be spent on carrying them out and no part of it may be so constructed.
- This job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post. It will be reviewed at least once a year and it may be subject to modification at any time after consultation with the postholder.
- All staff participate in the school's performance management scheme.

Person Specification

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Qualifications

Essential	Desirable
5 GCSE's including English and Maths to Grade C	Experience in supervising and/or directing pupil/student activity.
	Able to support GCSE level subjects
For sixth form roles: At least relevant A Levels or equivalent qualifications	Further education qualifications. A qualification related to supervising and/or directing pupil/student activity.
	Good writing skills and the ability to pass these on to students

Experience

Essential	Desirable
Working with children or young people	Working in a school or similar public/educational establishment
	Working with students with SEND in a school environment
	Liaising with other professional colleagues

Knowledge/Skills (ability to)

Essential	Desirable
Support individual children or small groups of children with Special Educational Needs in the academic and social activities of the school.	
Establish and maintain supportive relationships with individual pupils or small groups to ensure they understand and can achieve tasks.	
Under the direction of the class teacher, carry out predetermined tasks to support pupil learning.	
Provide learning support as required for children with special needs, or where English is not their first language.	

Help with the care and support for pupils, including attending to their emotional and/or physical care needs	
Support inclusion in the classroom, ensuring all pupils feel involved with tasks and activities	

Personal Attributes

Essential	Desirable
Commitment to the highest standards of child protection.	
Desire to enhance and develop skills and knowledge through CPD	
Able to work flexibly in responding to supporting others on the team in the event of absence	
Able to work positively within a team	
A personal manner in keeping with the school ethos towards parents, children the community and wider world.	
Work autonomously in completing core job functions.	

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An Enhanced DBS check will be carried out for the successful candidate.