**Teaching Assistant Person Specification**

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| **ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS** | **DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS** |
| **EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING** | |
| GCSE or Equivalent in Maths and English | Child Care Qualification  Signing Qualification  Relevant NVQ at level 2 or 3 eg Health and Social Care |
| **EXPERIENCE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING** | |
| Some understanding of the stages of child development | Experience of supporting pupils with SLD, PMLD, ASC or in an Early Years setting |
| Evidence of being part of a successful team | Knowledge of behaviour management strategies |
| ICT literate | Experience of using alternative means of communication e.g. signing, PECs, communication aids etc. |
|  | Experience of supporting children and young people with personal care |
|  | Experience of supporting children and young people with medical needs |
|  | Experience of working in a special school |
| **SKILLS AND ABILITIES** | |
| Able to use own initiative as well as follow detailed instructions | Has the ability to support parents and carers to improve the outcome for their children |
| Flexible and creative approach towards motivating children to learn and having high expectations of them | Knows how signs, symbols and technology can support communication  Has received training in Makaton or another sign-based form of communication |
| Empathy and a caring approach | Be physically fit to provide support for pupils |
| Good verbal communication skills | Being confident to support pupils in the swimming pool |
| Can communicate effectively with pupils and their families | Willing to drive minibus (relevant training will be provided) |
| Able to carry out manual handling programmes under the guidance of the Physiotherapist/Occupational Therapists |  |
| Physically support the pupils in the swimming pool |  |
| **SAFEGUARDING** | |
| Awareness of Safeguarding procedures | Secure knowledge and understanding of best practice and procedures for safeguarding children and young  People |
| Knows of and how to implement the recommendations of ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges | Has received training in Safeguarding and Child Protection |