

Rothwell Schools

# TEACHING ASSISTANT

CANDIDATE PACK  
2024





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“

No matter what happens the teachers are always here to help

”



# ABOUT US

The Rothwell Schools are comprised of a partnership between the Rothwell Victoria Infant School Nursery & Infant School and Rothwell Junior School.

The Rothwell Schools are located in the historic Northamptonshire market town of Rothwell, easily reached from Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Bedfordshire.

Northamptonshire was recently placed as third in the country in the Halifax Quality of Life Survey and is one of the greenest counties in in England; with 161 parks covering 1,600 acres.

The Rothwell Schools are part of Pathfinder Schools Multi-Academy Trust and collaborates closely with the Trust Central Team and it's other schools.

We are extremely proud of our school community, our ethos, tradition and the outstanding educational provision we provide.

We are fortunate to support the learning of nearly 700 pupils from our vibrant local community.

We employ close to 100 staff, including Teachers, Leaders and Support Staff who enable our school communities and pupils to thrive.

“

It's like learning is a power-up that helps you be stronger

”

“

The kindness in the adults and children

We all care about each other.

”

# OUR AIMS

At Rothwell Schools we are concerned with the **care** and **growth** of **every child**. Our work is aimed directly at **fostering** the **development** of each child **emotionally, intellectually, morally, physically, socially** and **spiritually**, providing the appropriate **learning** situations to achieve this. We **share** an agreed code of **values**, based on a firm belief that we are all **significant individuals**, with **major contributions** to make towards the life of our school.

Everyone at Rothwell Schools has their own aspirations and abilities, and through the provision of an ordered, caring and happy community, we strive to help everyone reach their full potential.



## Our aims are:-

- To encourage the children to value themselves and others within the school.
- To provide a caring community in which all individuals can interact with each other recognising and accepting individual differences with tolerance, and ensuring equality of opportunity for all.
- To create a meaningful, stimulating and safe environment, which provides security and stability for everyone within the school community.
- To provide within the framework of National Curriculum requirements, a broad, balanced and creative curriculum, which will develop learning skills and promote understanding and enquiry, so enabling each child to achieve their full potential. Wherever possible we would try to achieve this through first hand experiences.
- To promote opportunities for children to express themselves creatively and imaginatively with confidence.
- To encourage and motivate children to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and to make informed choices through self-discipline and co-operation.
- To promote in our children, a positive and responsible attitude towards wider community and environmental issues and their own role in society.

# WHAT OUR STAFF APPRECIATE MOST



## Colleagues

The children who work hard all the time and give everything.

I feel able to approach Senior leaders about any concerns

The opportunity to grow and ask questions to professionally develop.

The colleagues I work with, the children in my class.

Support of my peers

I love my job - making a difference to the children - and it has the added bonus of fitting around my family life

Compassion & openness

People are helpful, good work-life balance encouraged

Supportive SLT

Amazing support staff



# Being part of Pathfinder Schools

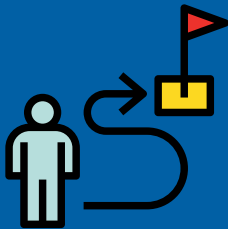


Pathfinder Schools is a cross-phase, multi-academy Trust of 10 schools in the north of Northamptonshire. Our Trust includes both church and community academies and we work closely together, connected by the vision we share for our pupils. Each school has its own unique character but we are unified by our unshakeable belief in the power of education to change lives. We believe that staff and pupils can flourish when they are happy and well-supported. We are inspired by the challenge of providing children with a rich tapestry of experiences that allow them to explore the world and their place in it.

We are passionate about our values of **Aspiration, Responsibility and Courage**, we believe that when people feel respected and included they can be more creative, innovative, and successful.

## One Trust, transforming lives and communities, inspiring greatness

### Our purpose



Our Trust is a growing family of schools, built on a commitment to the development of the children and young people in the communities we serve.

We exist to deliver the very best educational outcomes for every learner.

Based upon a foundation of independence, we empower young people to broaden their horizons and open their minds to new opportunities.

### Our vision



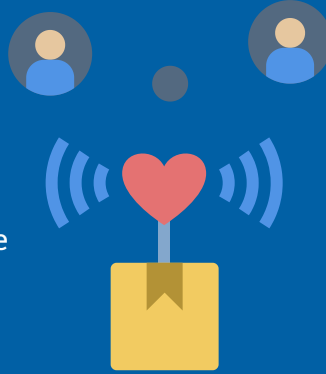
Together we want to develop inspirational schools which instil **Aspiration, Responsibility and Courage** in every learner, enabling them to find the greatness within them.





## Our strategic objectives

- Every school a great school
- Every school an inspiring place to work and learn
- Every school a school of choice in the community
- Every school expertly supported by a strong central team



## Our Values

Our values stand at the very core of everything. They are the centre from which all we do and say radiates, guiding the way that we work together.

## Our Values

### Aspiration



### We aim high

Everyday we aim to be the best we can be. We are all striving to reach our own personal greatness. We recognise that we do not all start from the same place and we work to enable all to overcome barriers and achieve their full potential.

### Responsibility



### We play our part

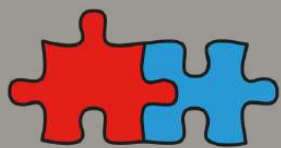
We believe that we are all responsible for making Pathfinder Schools an inspiring place to work and learn. We hold ourselves accountable for our own actions, admit when we have failed against our own standards, feel comfortable asking for support and always strive to be our best selves.



### Courage – We are brave

We are a Trust that faces challenges directly, we are honest about the decisions we make and the reasons for them. We support each other through difficult times in our learning and in our lives. We have the strength to persevere in the face of difficulty, uncertainty and challenge.

# Teaching Assistant



**Rothwell Schools**

## Contract type

- Permanent
- Part Time
- 21.25 hours per week
- 38 weeks per year

## Salary

- Grade D Points 3-4
- £24,027-£24,424 per annum pro-rata

## Interviews

- TBC

## Start date

- As soon as possible

## Closing date

- 9th December 2024 9am

## How to apply

To apply, please complete a Pathfinder Schools support staff application form, which can be downloaded from the vacancies page of the website

[www.pathfinderschools.org.uk/join-us/vacancies](http://www.pathfinderschools.org.uk/join-us/vacancies)

Completed application forms should be accompanied by a letter of application and should be sent to

[recruitment@pfschools.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@pfschools.org.uk)

# Advert

Are you looking for an exciting new opportunity? This could be the role for you! We are looking for a Teaching Assistant to join our team.

We are looking for a Teaching Assistant who can:

- Put the child at the heart of their learning and development
- Build great relationships with their parents and families
- Work to ensure excellent progress for the children you support
- Bring new ideas to enhance our provision further
- Be a team player that can work alongside our existing staff

We can offer you:

- Well motivated children and supportive families
- An enthusiastic, friendly and dedicated staff
- A driven and determined SLT
- Loyal Governors
- A chance to work as part of our self-created Multi Academy Trust: Pathfinder Schools

Both Rothwell Junior School and Rothwell Victoria Infant School are good schools (OFSTED January 2019 and July 2021) and Rothwell Victoria Infant School and part of the Pathfinder Schools Academy Trust. We are based in the north of the county in the market town of Rothwell, which has seen significant growth over the last few years.

The Governing Body of Rothwell Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All appointments are subject to satisfactory references, medical and enhanced DBS checks. All shortlisted candidates will now be required to complete a staff disqualification declaration as part of our safeguarding checks.

For any queries or to discuss the post in more detail, please email Michelle Johnston School Business Manager at [bursar@rothwell.pfschools.org.uk](mailto:bursar@rothwell.pfschools.org.uk)

Being part of Pathfinder Schools offers a fantastic opportunity to develop yourself, as a Trust we actively encourage collaboration and the sharing of good practice; we believe that by developing a love of learning and having the highest expectations, all members of the Pathfinder Schools community can achieve and inspire greatness.



# Advert cont.

We occasionally close vacancies early in the event that we receive a high volume of applications. Interviews may begin soon after receipt of applications for shortlisted candidates, therefore we recommend that you apply early.

Pathfinder Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. DBS, Reference, Identity, Criminal Record and Medical Checks are mandatory for all posts within Pathfinder Schools.

The workplace will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition (as defined in the Equality Act 2010).

Rothwell Safeguarding Policies and Procedures are available on their website, which can be accessed at the following web address :

<https://rothwellschools.org.uk/about/school-policies>

Pathfinder Schools and our academies are committed to ensuring the highest levels of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and we expect all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All offers of employment are subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, references, medical, an online search, and where applicable, a prohibition from teaching check will be completed. Before applying, please review our Recruitment and Selection Policy which includes further information on pre-employment checks and our statement on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders <https://pathfinderschools.org.uk/join-us/vacancies>

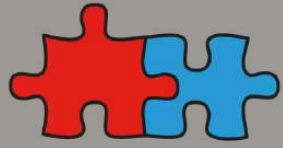
## Online searches

As part of our rigorous Safer Recruitment process Pathfinder Schools has adopted the practice of online searches for external shortlisted candidates. The purpose of the search is to enable us to fulfil our duty under Keeping Children Safe in Education and is part of our due diligence to identify any incidents or issues that have happened, and are publicly available online, which we may need to discuss with you during interview.

Therefore, if you are shortlisted for a role an appropriate online search will be undertaken on your name(s). Consent to an online search is included in the Pathfinder Schools application form. Searches are based on publicly available information, therefore where your profiles are private or are locked, no further search will be required on these pages. Any information given will be treated as confidential and will only be used in relation to the post for which you have applied.

Pathfinder Schools is committed to creating a diverse workforce. We consider all qualified applicants for employment without regard to sex, race, religion, belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity, age, disability, marriage or civil partnership.

# Teaching Assistant



Rothwell Schools

## Job Description

**Responsible to:** Year Leader  
**Overall purpose of the post:**

To work under the direct instruction and guidance of teaching/senior staff to undertake work/care/support programmes; to enable access to learning for pupils and to assist the teacher in the management of pupils and the classroom. Work may be carried out in the classroom or outside the main teaching area.

### Principal Responsibilities

#### Working in the environment

- Assist with the planning, development and implementation of pupil education/behaviour plans and personal care programmes including toileting, hygiene and feeding/meal times; to help with development of social skills and to ensure that the school's health, safety and behaviour policies are maintained.
- Carry out medical procedures (e.g. catheterisation and gastrostomy feeding) in accordance with NCC/NHS protocols and generally support the social development and welfare needs of individual pupils including the administration of medicines in accordance with school practices and policies; deal with conflict using different communication techniques to encourage all pupils to take responsibility for their own behaviour and promote independence.
- Care for a sick or injured child, accompanying them to hospital and remaining with them until the parent arrives to ensure continuity of care.
- Be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health and safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.

#### Supporting pupils in the learning environment

- Supervise and support pupils in the learning environment to promote independence, inclusion, acceptance and equality of access to learning opportunities for all pupils.
- Assist pupils within the class, individually or in small groups (and sometimes outside the main classroom) in the completion and adjustment of a wider range of pre-defined learning, care and support activities to meet the requirements of pupils and the curriculum (for example literacy, numeracy, ICT).
- Assist with the supervision of pupils and planning of activities out of lesson times (for example at lunchtimes, before and after school) to encourage structured and positive play.
- May assist pupils with mobility equipment such as using wheelchairs and/or hoists to support pupils in their learning environment.
- Set challenging and demanding expectations for pupils and promote self-esteem and independence under the direction/guidance of class teacher.

- Establish constructive relationships with pupils and interact with them according to individual needs.
- Cover for the class teacher at an enhanced rate (cover supervision rate) during planning, preparation and assessment

### **Providing clerical and other support to service users**

- Provide clerical support, for example photocopying, laminating, and displays.
- Support teaching staff and pupils on visits, trips and out of school activities as required and take responsibility for a group of pupils under the supervision of the teacher.
- Administer routine tests and undertake routine marking of pupils' work to meet requirements of pupils and the curriculum.

### **Preparing and maintaining the classroom environment and resources**

- Create and maintain a purposeful, orderly and supportive environment in accordance with lesson plans and assist with the display of pupils' work under the direction of teaching staff to meet the needs of pupils and the curriculum.
- Maintain shared areas so that they are tidy and organised, e.g. science and cookery room, 'break-out' work spaces, shared cupboards.
- Prepare, maintain and use equipment and resources required to support lesson plans/learning activities to meet the needs of pupils and the curriculum.

### **Developing the team**

- Participate in meetings, training/development activities and assist less experienced colleagues when appropriate, to support the achievement of individual and team performance and development objectives

### **Building professional relationships**

- Build and maintain positive working relationships with pupils, parents, carers and colleagues to maximise pupils' development and maintain the overall ethos of the school. Communicate with parents/carers only under the direction of teaching staff.

### **Dealing with Behaviour Issues**

- Use knowledge of different behaviour management and communication strategies and adapt existing strategies/methods as necessary to deal with disruption by pupils in class, following the agreed behaviour policy.
- Where required and suitably trained, use appropriate physical restraint techniques in accordance with relevant policies and procedures.

### **Monitoring levels and ordering of resources**

- Monitor resource levels and contribute to the resource ordering process under the direction of teaching staff to ensure the timely availability of resources to meet the requirements of the curriculum.
- Maintain an awareness of the importance of the appropriate use of resources to minimise waste and maximise the effectiveness of financial resources.

### **General**

- Work within the academy's Equal Opportunities policies to promote equality of opportunity for all students and staff, both current and prospective.
- Maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, conduct and positive, courteous relations with students, parents, and colleagues.
- Engage actively in the performance review process.
- Adhere to academy policies, procedures and core values as set out in the documentation available to all staff.

## **Other responsibilities as reasonably requested and commensurate with the grading of the post**

- Any such duties that may from time to time be reasonably assigned by the Executive Headteacher

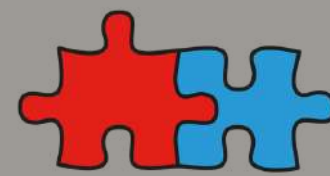
Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified. Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

The academy will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition.

This job description is current at the date shown, but following consultation with you, may be changed by the SLT to reflect or anticipate changes in the job which are commensurate with the salary and job title.

Pathfinder Schools and all our academies are committed to ensuring the highest levels of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and we expect all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All offers of employment are subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, references, an online search, and where applicable, a prohibition from teaching check will be completed. Before applying, please review our Recruitment and Selection Policy which includes our statement on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders [Pathfinder Schools - Pathfinder Schools Vacancies](#)

# Teaching Assistant Person Specification

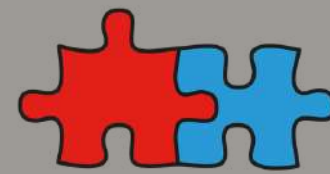


**Rothwell Schools**

The essential and desirable criteria outlined in the table below will be used as part of the shortlisting process. Candidates should meet all essential criteria to be considered for the post, desirable criteria will be referred to where further shortlisting activities are required beyond the consideration of essential criteria. This is usually the case in respect of a high volume of applications meeting all shortlisting criteria.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
<b>Education and Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NVQ level 2 or equivalent in relevant subject or significant experience of working with or caring for children of relevant age and;</li> <li>at least a pass in English and Maths at GCSE or equivalent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GCSE grade C or higher in English, Maths and Science</li> <li>Further CPD training undertaken.</li> <li>NVQ level 3 or equivalent in relevant subject</li> <li>Commitment to professional development to improve English and Maths skills</li> </ul>
<b>Experience and Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of National Curriculum/EYFS curriculum</li> <li>Appropriate IT and keyboard skills</li> <li>Appropriate level of data protection, security and confidentiality awareness</li> <li>Willingness to participate in CPD</li> <li>Recent experience of working with children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recent experience of working in a school setting</li> <li>Working knowledge of national curriculum/EYFS curriculum and other relevant learning programmes</li> <li>Experience of CPD</li> <li>Experience and knowledge of SEN code of practice</li> <li>Experience of running intervention programmes</li> <li>Following guidance from IEPs</li> </ul>
<b>Safeguarding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A commitment to safeguarding children and report concerns.</li> <li>Subjected to a full Disclosure and Barrier check, satisfactory references and disqualification by association form completed.</li> <li>Able to form and maintain appropriate professional relationships and boundaries with children and young people.</li> <li>Ability to deal with sensitive information in a confidential manner.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recent evidence of Safeguarding training and working knowledge of school child protection practices.</li> <li>Recent first aid training</li> </ul>

# Teaching Assistant Person Specification



**Rothwell Schools**

The essential and desirable criteria outlined in the table below will be used as part of the shortlisting process. Candidates should meet all essential criteria to be considered for the post, desirable criteria will be referred to where further shortlisting activities are required beyond the consideration of essential criteria. This is usually the case in respect of a high volume of applications meeting all shortlisting criteria.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
<b>Ability and Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to work constructively as part of a team</li> <li>• Effective oral and written communication skills</li> <li>• Ability to manage difficult behaviour in a calm and patient manner</li> <li>• Ability to use own initiative but also follow direction</li> <li>• Good organisation and time management skills.</li> <li>• Confident with the use of IT equipment to support learning.</li> <li>• Able to act as good role model to children.</li> <li>• Ability to communicate effectively with parents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to run small groups independently</li> </ul>
<b>Equal Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A commitment to helping pupils achieve through learning</li> <li>• Ability to demonstrate awareness/understanding of Equal opportunities.</li> <li>• Able to support and understand the needs of SEND pupils</li> </ul>	



# Contact us

<https://www.rothwellschools.org.uk/>

## **Rothwell Junior School:**

Gladstone St,

Rothwell,

Northamptonshire,

NN14 6ER

Phone 01536 906699

Email-[parents.rjs@rothwell.pfschools.org.uk](mailto:parents.rjs@rothwell.pfschools.org.uk)

## **Rothwell Victoria Infant School & Nursery:**

School Lane,

Rothwell,

Northamptonshire,

NN14 6HZ

Phone 01536 906699

Email [parents.rvis@rothwell.pfschools.org.uk](mailto:parents.rvis@rothwell.pfschools.org.uk)