



VERULAM  
SCHOOL

Headteacher: Julie Richardson

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Higher Level Teaching Assistant  
Grade: H4  
Reports to: Assistant Head

### Purpose of the job:

- Work with class teachers to raise the learning and attainment of pupils
- Promote pupils' independence, self-esteem and social inclusion
- Give support to pupils, individually or in groups, so they can access the curriculum, take part in learning and experience a sense of achievement

### Duties and Responsibilities

#### Teaching and learning

- Demonstrate an informed and efficient approach to teaching and learning by adopting relevant strategies to support the work of the teacher and increase achievement of all pupils including, where appropriate, those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Promote, support and facilitate inclusion by encouraging participation of all pupils in learning and extracurricular activities
- Use effective behaviour management strategies consistently in line with the school's policy and procedures
- Support class teachers with maintaining good order and discipline among pupils, managing behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment
- Organise and manage teaching space and resources to help maintain a stimulating and safe learning environment
- Observe pupil performance and pass observations on to the class teacher
- Supervise a class if the teacher is temporarily unavailable
- Use ICT skills to advance pupils' learning
- Undertake any other relevant duties given by the class teacher
- To cover and lead class teaching (under supervision) as and when appropriate
- Direct the work, where relevant, of other adults in supporting learning

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- Supervise the Inclusion Hub on a rota along with other SEND staff

### **Planning**

- Contribute to effective assessment and planning by supporting the monitoring, recording and reporting of pupil performance and progress as appropriate to the level of the role
- Read and understand lesson plans shared prior to lessons, if available
- Prepare the classroom for lessons
- Use their area(s) of expertise to contribute to the planning and preparation of learning activities, and to plan their role in learning activities
- Use allocated time to devise clearly structured activities that interest and motivate learners and advance their learning
- Plan how they will support the inclusion of pupils in the learning activities

### **Working with colleagues and other relevant professionals**

- Communicate effectively with other staff members and pupils, and with parents and carers under the direction of the class teacher
- Communicate their knowledge and understanding of pupils to other school staff and education, health and social care professionals, so that informed decision making can take place on intervention and provision
- With the class teacher, keep other professionals accurately informed of performance and progress or concerns they may have about the pupils they work with
- Understand their role in order to be able to work collaboratively with classroom teachers and other colleagues, including specialist advisory teachers
- Collaborate and work with colleagues and other relevant professionals within and beyond the school
- Develop effective professional relationships with colleagues

Every member of staff at Verulam has a vital part to play in the success of the School. The School Handbook clearly explains our policies and procedures but the list below outlines in a summary form the main duties and responsibilities of all staff.

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## Person Specification

CRITERIA	QUALITIES You may wish to classify these as “essential” or “desirable” depending on your expectations for the role
<b>Qualifications and experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 2 or 3 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools, Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education, or other relevant qualification in nursery work or childcare (or willingness to work towards a qualification if not already held)</li> <li>• GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) including English and maths</li> <li>• Experience of working with children</li> <li>• Experience of planning and leading teaching and learning activities (under supervision)</li> </ul>
<b>Skills and knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good literacy and numeracy skills</li> <li>• Good organisational skills</li> <li>• Ability to build effective working relationships with pupils and adults</li> <li>• Skills and expertise in understanding the needs of all pupils</li> <li>• Knowledge of how to help adapt and deliver support to meet individual needs</li> <li>• Subject and curriculum knowledge relevant to the role, and ability to apply this effectively in supporting teachers and pupils</li> <li>• Excellent verbal communication skills</li> <li>• Active listening skills</li> <li>• The ability to remain calm in stressful situations</li> <li>• Knowledge of guidance and requirements around safeguarding children</li> <li>• Good ICT skills, particularly using ICT to support learning</li> <li>• Understanding of roles and responsibilities within the classroom and whole school context</li> <li>• Understanding of effective teaching methods</li> <li>• Knowledge of how to successfully lead learning activities for a group or class of children</li> <li>• Knowledge of how statutory and non-statutory frameworks for the school curriculum relate to the age and ability ranges of the learners they support</li> <li>• Knowledge of how to support learners in accessing the curriculum in accordance with the SEND code of practice</li> </ul>

<b>Personal qualities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoyment of working with children</li> <li>• Sensitivity and understanding, to help build good relationships with pupils</li> <li>• A commitment to getting the best outcomes for all pupils and promoting the ethos and values of the school</li> <li>• Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times</li> <li>• Commitment to safeguarding pupils' wellbeing and equality</li> <li>• Kindness</li> <li>• A team player</li> </ul>
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In addition to candidates' ability to perform the duties of the post, the interview will also explore issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children including:

- motivation to work with children and young people;
- ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people;
- emotional resilience in working with challenging behaviours; and
- attitudes to use of authority and maintaining discipline
- Experience of working within schools or an educational setting.
- Knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures.

**Review arrangements:**

The details contained in this job description reflect the content of the job at the date it was prepared. It should be remembered, however, that over time the nature of individual jobs will change, existing duties may be gained without changing the general nature of the duties or the level of the responsibility entailed. Consequently, the school will expect to revise the job description from time to time and will consult with the post holder at the appropriate time.

**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)
- The post holder 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 and safeguarding matters
- Will be subject to the National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service, supplemented by local conditions as appropriate and all relevant statutory and institutional requirements
- The post holder 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 may be subject to modification at any time after consultation with the post holder.
- Staff will be expected to participate in the school's staff appraisal scheme.

If you are shortlisted, any relevant issues arising from your references will be taken up at interview. ***The selection panel will be looking for evidence in your application form and supporting letter of your strengths and abilities in relation to the criteria set out in this person specification.***