



Alsager School

An Achieving School - A Caring Community

TEACHING ASSISTANT LEADER (Literacy)

39 weeks (Term-time + 5 days)

Grade 7; scp 18 – 23

Actual salary: £22,395 to £25,428

[FTE equivalent £25,419 to £28,226]

Line Manager: SENDCo

Thank you for your enquiry about the above permanent post, working during the term-time and for up to 5 days/evenings, for staff training.

This post is based in our modern, experienced Learning Support area. The team is managed by the Curriculum Leader for Learning Support (SENDCo), 2 full-time Teaching Assistant Leaders, and a part-time administrator together with a further twenty-two part-time Teaching Assistants.

The vacancy has arisen due to a retirement and we are looking to appoint a replacement to the team who has a genuine interest in helping SEN pupils to learn. Formal qualifications are not essential, however good literacy and numeracy skills and experience in supporting SEN is essential.

Our Teaching Assistants work collaboratively with teaching and other support staff, within a framework prescribed by the school and in accordance with our policies, to enhance the development and education of the children.

We are looking to appoint a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant to join our management team. The post will involve leading TA support for literacy including the screening of all students to identify literacy difficulties and overseeing the literacy provision map, monitoring the provision and progress of students with literacy difficulties and also managing exam access arrangements.

Appropriate induction and in-service training will be provided.

About the School:

Alsager School is a large 11-18 mixed Multi Academy Trust with 1544 pupils on roll, including approximately 307 students in the Sixth Form and is the only secondary school in the town. We currently employ in excess of 100 teaching and 75 support staff. The MAT has recently expanded when Weston Village Primary School, located near to Crewe, joined in April 2018 and Alsager Highfields Community Primary School joined in September 2020.

Alsager School, Hassall Road, Alsager, Cheshire ST7 2HR

Tel: 01270 871 100 • Email: admin@alsagerschool.org • Web: www.alsagerschool.org

Executive Headteacher: Richard Middlebrook • Head of School: Andrea O'Neill

Alsager School is a fantastic place to work with motivated and well-behaved students, a committed and experienced governing body, dedicated staff and supportive parents. Children of all abilities make impressive progress throughout the key stages. We are one of the highest performing schools in Cheshire East, and our last Ofsted in February 2016 graded the school as Outstanding in all areas.

Approximately 75% of our students are drawn from the town itself and its adjacent villages. The remainder come from towns in neighbouring Staffordshire and Cheshire, sent to us by parental choice.

[AAAE 5172] Principal Responsibilities:

Within a framework prescribed by the school and in accordance with the aims and policies of the school, undertake a specialist role working collaboratively with teaching staff and other support staff to enhance the development and education of children. Provide supervision for whole classes of pupils, ~~including cover supervision~~, to maintain continuity of pupil's learning

- 1 Undertake a specialist role using appropriate multi-sensory learning strategies, resources and specialist equipment to meet the learning objectives of lessons, differentiating tasks as appropriate for individuals or groups of children with varied abilities and special needs.
 - 2 Within a framework prescribed by the school, prepare, plan and implement individual, group and some whole class learning activities and intervention programmes across the whole school, working alongside and in conjunction with professional teaching staff to a small nurture group.
 - 3 Supervise the activities of individuals or groups of pupils both in and out of the classroom (including educational visits) to ensure their safety and facilitate their physical and emotional development in accordance with the school's behaviour management policy.
 - 4 Evaluate pupils' responses throughout learning activities, determine what each child can achieve unaided and the point of intervention for the provision of appropriate learning scaffolding.
 - 5 Analyse, monitor and track individual pupil progress through a range of assessment and monitoring techniques; deliver pupil learning boost sessions for identified and specific areas of weakness; provide accurate assessments and reports on development to inform the class teacher's decisions regarding Individual Education and Behaviour Plans for pupils and to update Pupil's SEN support plans.
 - 6 Access, maintain and update a range of pupil and school records to facilitate assessment of pupils' progress.
 - 7 Ensure that pupil's health and safety is maintained in, around and for out of school educational visits including supervised use of subject specific tools, equipment and learning materials.
 - 8 Supervise attendance to the pupil's personal, social and physical needs by other school staff so that pupil's wellbeing is maintained.
 - 9 Prepare and maintain classroom resources (including control of stock within the classroom) so that they are readily available for use.
 - 10 Liaise with other professional staff, parents and outside agencies to ensure effective communication concerning the maintenance of pupils' wellbeing
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Notwithstanding the detail in this job description, in accordance with AMAT's Flexibility Policy the job holder will undertake such work as may be determined by the Headteacher/Governing Body from time to time, up to or at a level consistent with the Main Responsibilities of the job.

In conclusion:

In order to ensure the future successful development of our school, we are keen to appoint only staff of the highest ability or with the greatest promise. Working at Alsager School is demanding but the rewards are commensurate in a school with strong leadership, dedicated staff, supportive parents and pleasant, friendly and highly motivated pupils. The School is proud of its supportive ethos and the person appointed can expect much help, guidance and support from colleagues.

Alsager School is an equal opportunities employer and we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

How do I apply?

If having read this information, you find the post and Alsager School appealing, we would like to hear from you. Application is by completion of the School's two part Application Form. CV's will not be accepted. Please also remember to complete the Rehabilitation of Offenders Statement and Equal Opportunities Questionnaire.

It is important that your supporting statement should give comprehensive information about your skills and it should emphasise your qualities which are relevant to the post. This is your opportunity to introduce yourself and to describe why you believe you are capable of carrying out the duties described.

The closing date is **noon on Monday, 27th June 2022**. Interviews are likely to be held the same week. In the interests of economy, those applicants who have not received an invitation for interview or any further communication within two weeks of the above date are asked to consider their application unsuccessful on this occasion.

Completed application forms should be returned to: Mrs Ashley Owen



H.R. Manager
Alsager School
Alsager ST7 2HR

If you complete an application electronically, you can return your application via email to Mrs Owen at jobs@alsagerschool.org All electronically submitted applications will be acknowledged.

Please note that you will be required to sign a paper copy of your application if you are invited to interview.

It is the School's practice to take up references for all shortlisted candidates. One referee should be from your current or most recent employer. Where you are not presently working with children but have done so in the past, you should provide a referee from that employer.

References will not be accepted from relatives or from people writing solely in the capacity of a friend.

If you require any further information or wish to discuss any issues, please do feel free to contact me. In the meantime, good luck with your application. I look forward to reading your response and to possibly meeting you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Ashley Owen
H.R. Manager

bpi/ Teaching Assistant Leader/June 2022

Further details about the School are available from our website: www.alsagerschool.org

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: Teaching Assistant Lead (Literacy)
Grade: 7; scp 18 - 23

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Experience	<p>Enjoy working with and have an understanding of how children learn.</p> <p>Previous experience in the educational field.</p> <p>Previous working with SEN students.</p>	
Qualifications/ Knowledge	<p>Good standard of general education.</p> <p>Good standard of written and verbal English.</p> <p>Excellent ICT skills.</p>	<p>Relevant certification.</p> <p>NVQ in Learning Support.</p>
Personality	<p>Evident personal authority - ability to command respect from students.</p> <p>A positive outlook.</p> <p>Energetic & adaptable.</p> <p>Reliable.</p> <p>Enjoy a challenge.</p> <p>A resilience to absorb and cope with pressure.</p> <p>Able to show and use discretion.</p>	<p>Self-confidence.</p>
Special Aptitudes	<p>Excellent interpersonal skills.</p> <p>Self-motivated with an ability to use own initiative.</p> <p>Excellent organisational and time management skills.</p> <p>Effective oral and written communication skills.</p> <p>Willingness to work hours flexibly.</p> <p>Ability to work as an effective team member.</p> <p>Commitment to safeguard & promote the welfare of children.</p>	<p>Have high expectations of themselves.</p> <p>Desire to be involved in further training.</p>
Physical Attribute	<p>Pleasant manner.</p>	



APPOINTMENT OF: Teaching Assistant Lead (Literacy)

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SERVICE (NJC)

Negotiating Body

The appointment is subject to the Scheme of Conditions of Service of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

Hours of Work

The standard working week for full time employees is 37 hours worked over five days.

Salary

For employees newly appointed to the school, progression through the salary scale will be by annual increment on the anniversary of your appointment each year until the maximum point of the scale is reached.

Salary is paid in 12 equal monthly payments on the 15th day of each month, or the previous day if the 15th falls on a Saturday or Sunday or public holiday. Payment will be directly into a Bank/Building Society account.

Leave Entitlement

The entitlement for full-time, full-year employees is 25 working days, with an extra 5 days being granted after 5 years' continuous service. Additionally, 8 Bank Holidays are currently granted each year. NB: Pro rata entitlements are applicable for staff working less than full-time hours or part-year.

Probationary period

New entrants to the School are subject to a probationary period of 25 weeks during which you are expected to establish your suitability to the post.

Medical approval

An offer of appointment is subject to the successful candidate submitting an acceptable statement of medical history and present state of health, and, if required by the Medical Adviser, undergoing a medical examination.

Notice to Terminate

This appointment is subject to one month's notice by the employee. The school's notice varies according to the employee's length of service.

Pension Arrangements

The person appointed will have the choice to:

- become a member of the Local Government Pensions Scheme; or
- be a member of a personal pension scheme; or
- rely on the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (SERPS).

Sickness Leave & Pay

The post is subject to the provisions of the School's occupational sickness scheme which entitles employees to one month's full pay and (after 4 months' employment) 2 months' half pay during their first year of employment, rising to 6 months' full pay and 6 months' half pay after 5 years' employment.

No Smoking

Governors have approved a “No Smoking” policy for the School. Employees joining the School do so in the knowledge that they will be required to comply with these arrangements. They will be entitled to avail themselves of medical advice on cessation planning from the Occupational Health Unit.

Relatives within the School/Council

Applicants must disclose on their application form details of any relative who is a School employee. If applicants do not give details of a relationship they are liable to be disqualified for the job or if appointed, liable to be dismissed. This will also be the case if the applicant or someone else uses improper influence to attempt to get them the job (but this does not prevent a School employee giving a written reference about the applicant).

Equal Opportunities Policy

The School is committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination; all applicants should note that they will be considered on the basis of suitability regardless of disability, gender, race, religion, age, sexual orientation and marital status or any other discrimination which is unfair or unreasonable.

Asylum and Immigration Act

All successful applicants will be asked to confirm, in advance of taking up the appointment, that they are eligible to work in the United Kingdom. In order to establish this the successful applicant will be asked to provide documentation showing their National Insurance Number or provide copies of Tax Forms P45 or P60, or if this is not possible, other evidence of your entitlement to work.

Standards of Conduct

The School’s Code of Conduct, and associated guidance, sets out the standards which are expected of employees.

Any attempt by a candidate to influence the selection process improperly will result in disqualification and, if appointed, may render the employee liable to dismissal without notice.

Safeguarding Children

Alsager School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Employing people with a criminal record

The School aims, as part of its approach to Valuing Diversity, to promote equality of opportunity for all and has an open-minded recruitment policy in relation to employing people with past convictions. At the same time children must be protected and a safe working environment provided for all employees.

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act allows for a person who has been convicted of a criminal offence involving a sentence of not more than 2½ years imprisonment and who has since lived trouble free for a specified period of time (related to the severity of the offence) to be treated as if the offence, conviction or sentence had never occurred. This is known as a spent conviction.*

However, this job is one of those to which the provisions of the above Act in relation to spent convictions*, **do not apply**. Applicants **must therefore disclose** whether they have any previous convictions*, whether or not they are spent.

Should an applicant have a criminal conviction*, this will be discussed in confidence at interview. However only convictions* that are relevant to the job in question will be taken into account. Failure to disclose any conviction could lead to an application being rejected, or, if appointed, may lead later to dismissal.

Certain spent convictions* are ‘protected’ and are not subject to disclosure to employers, and cannot be taken into account by a recruitment manager. Guidance and criteria on the filtering of these convictions* can be found at the following link:

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1198/pdfs/uksi_20131198_en.pdf

*including cautions, reprimands or warnings.

People who have convictions will be treated fairly and given every opportunity to establish their suitability for the job; all applicants will be considered on merit and ability.

Any information that you give will be kept in strict confidence and will be used only in respect of your application for the job.

Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)

Successful applicants will be asked to apply for an Enhanced Criminal Record Check (Disclosure) from the Disclosure and Barring service.

A copy of the Disclosure and Barring Service Code of Practice is available on request.

Further information about the Disclosure scheme can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>

References

The appointment will be offered subject to our receiving satisfactory references.

One referee should be the applicant's current or most recent employer. Where an applicant is not currently working with children but has done so in the past, they should provide a referee from that employer.

NB: References will not be accepted from relatives or from people writing solely in the capacity of friends.