



Alsager School

An Achieving School - A Caring Community

TEACHING ASSISTANT
19.5 – 31 hours (hours to be arranged)
Temporary till 20th July 2023
Grade 5; scp 7 - 11
39 weeks (Term-time + 5 days)

Line Manager: SENDCo

Thank you for your enquiry about the above temporary 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 full-time Teaching Assistant Co-ordinator together with a further fifteen part-time Teaching Assistants.

The vacancy has arisen due to pupil need and we are looking to appoint an additional member of 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 would be an advantage. A sense of humour is a definite prerequisite!

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.

Appropriate induction and in-service training will be provided.

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 Multi Academy Trust is a charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 8597784 and having its registered office at Hassall Road, Alsager, Cheshire ST7 2HR

About the School:

Alsager School is a large 11-18 mixed Multi Academy Trust with 1587 pupils on roll, including approximately 313 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 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.

Principal Responsibilities:

To work collaboratively with teaching staff and work with other support staff to enhance the development and education of children in accordance with the aims and policies of the school.

The following duties and responsibilities will be carried out after consultation with the SENDCo and the relevant class teacher. Whenever possible the Teaching Assistant will be involved in the planning of the lessons.

- 1 Using acquired skills, support and deliver learning activities and contribute to the development of work programmes to facilitate effective teaching and learning.
- 2 Provide input into the planning and evaluation of learning activities for individuals and groups of pupils to enable the teaching staff to make informed decisions when developing their plans.
- 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 Monitor individual pupil's progress, achievements and development and report these to the teaching staff/line manager to inform decisions taken regarding the Individual Education Plan, Behaviour Plans and Personal Care Programmes for a pupil.
- 5 Liaise with parents and carers in conjunction with the teaching staff to ensure effective communication concerning the pupils' well-being.
- 6 Record pupil information as specified by the teaching staff/line manager to ensure that schools' information systems are maintained.
- 7 Attend to the personal and physical needs of pupils so that their well-being is maintained.
- 8 Prepare and maintain learning resources and ensure that the Student Work Room/classroom is kept tidy so that the needs of the lesson plans are met in a safe learning environment, which complies with relevant health and safety requirements.

- 9 Display and present the pupils' work under the direction of teaching staff, so that it enhances the classroom environment and celebrates achievement.
- 10 Attend staff and other meetings and participate in staff training development work and staff reviews as required

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 Tuesday, 13th September 2022**. Interviews are likely to be held the following 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/September 2022

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

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: Teaching Assistant

Grade: 5; scp 7 - 11

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



APPOINTMENT OF: Teaching Assistant

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

Successful candidates will be asked to complete a medical health questionnaire via Occupational Health, this is purely used to inform us of any health issues that may require reasonable adjustments to assist in their role.

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/ukxi/2013/1198/pdfs/ukxi_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.