

Children, Young People and Learners

**Teaching Assistant (Special School) –
Level 1**

Role Profile and Person Specification

CROYDON COUNCIL

Role Profile

Job Title:	Teaching Assistant – Special School (Level 1)
Department:	Children, Young People and Learners
Division:	Education
Grade Range:	Grade 3 – Scp 15-17
Hours:	9.00am to 3.30pm (9.00am to 4.40pm on Wednesdays)
Location:	Red Gates School
Reports to:	Head of Department
Responsible for:	Supporting teaching & learning through teacher direction
Role Purpose and Role Dimensions:	<p>To work under the direct instruction of teaching/senior staff, usually in the classroom with the teacher, to support access to learning for pupils and provide general support to the teacher in the management of pupils and the classroom.</p> <p>Duties and responsibilities of the post may change over time as requirements and circumstances change. The person in the post may also be required to carry out such other duties as may be necessary from time to time.</p>
Commitment to Diversity:	<p>As a member of the School Team to take individual and collective professional responsibility for championing the council's diversity agenda and proactively implementing initiatives which secure equality of access and outcomes. Also to commit to continually developing personal understanding of diversity.</p>
Key External Contacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Parents / carers
Key Internal Contacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ More experienced teaching assistants▪ Class teacher▪ Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher
Financial Dimensions:	
Key Areas for Decision Making:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ When to share/report concerns regarding pupil's physical or emotional needs
Other Considerations:	<p>Whilst there are some Statemented pupils in mainstream schools, the environment in a special school is far more intense and continuously presents a variety of challenging situations for staff at all levels.</p>

Key Accountabilities and Result Areas:

Support for Pupils

Key Elements:

This will involve:

Core Duties

- Supervising and supporting pupils, ensuring their safety and access to learning.
- Establishing good relationships with pupils, acting as a role model and being aware of and responding appropriately to individual needs.
- Encouraging pupils to interact with others and engage in activities led by the teacher.

Additional Duties (special schools)

- Participating in students' behaviour programmes including risk assessment process
- Being aware of students' Individual Education Plan (IEP) and termly forecasts/learning programmes

Depending on the specialism(s) of the school, the following will also apply:-

- Dealing with unexpected situations which are not clear-cut, involving assessment, care and evaluation in the care and management of an individual pupil.
- Attending to the pupils' personal needs and implementing related personal programmes, including social, health, physical, hygiene, first aid and welfare matters. (This may involve use of specialist equipment such as standing frames, hoists. etc).
- Promoting the inclusion and acceptance of all pupils.
- Encouraging pupils to act independently as appropriate.
- Being responsible for all aspects of feeding, toileting, changing & student hygiene, (including gastrostomy & suction) and administering medication including nebulising.
- Following school procedures (including those for manual handling, positive handling, eating and drinking)

Support for the Teacher

This will involve:

Core Duties

- Being aware of pupil problems/progress/achievements and report to the teacher as agreed.
- Supporting the teacher in managing pupil behaviour, reporting difficulties as appropriate.

Additional Duties

- Being responsible for maintaining knowledge of students' behaviour programmes.
- Preparing classroom as directed for lessons and clearing afterwards and assisting with the display of pupils work.
- Undertaking pupil record keeping as requested
- Gathering/reporting information from/to parents/carers as directed.
- Providing clerical/administrative support, e.g. photocopying, typing, filing, collecting money etc.

Support for the Curriculum

This will involve:

Core Duties

- Supporting pupils in respect of local and national learning strategies e.g. literacy, numeracy, KS3, early years, as directed by the teacher.
- Supporting pupils in using basic ICT as directed

Additional Duties

- Making themselves familiar with the lesson objectives.
- Supporting pupils to understand instructions.
- Preparing and maintaining equipment/resources as directed by the teacher and assisting pupils in their use.
- Having an awareness of the effect that pupils' medical conditions can have on learning.

Key Accountabilities and Result Areas:

Support for the School

Key Elements:

This will involve:

Core Duties

- Being aware of and complying with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
- Being aware of and supporting difference and ensuring all pupils have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop.

Additional Duties

- Contributing to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school.
- Appreciating and supporting the role of other professionals.
- Attending relevant multi-disciplinary staff meetings as required.
- Participating in training and other learning activities and performance development as required.
- Assisting with the supervision of pupils out of lesson times, including before and after school and at lunchtimes.
- Accompanying teaching staff and pupils on visits, trips and out of school activities as required.

Green Statement

This will involve:

- Seeking opportunities for contributing to sustainable development of the borough, in accordance with the Council's Green Commitment. In particular, demonstrating good environmental practice (such as energy efficiency, use of sustainable materials, sustainable transport, recycling and waste reduction) in management of the service provision.

Data Protection

This will involve:

- Being aware of the Council's responsibilities under the Data Protection Act 1984 for the security, accuracy and relevance of personal data held on such systems and ensure that all administrative and financial processes comply with this.
- Maintaining client records and archive systems, in accordance with departmental procedure, policy and statutory requirements.

Confidentiality

This will involve:

- Being expected to treat all information acquired through your employment, both formally and informally, in strict confidence. There are strict rules and protocols defining employees' access to and use of the council's databases. Any breach of these rules and protocols will be regarded as subject to disciplinary investigation. There are internal procedures in place for employees to raise matters of concern regarding such issues as bad practice or mismanagement.

Key Accountabilities and Result Areas:

Equalities

Key Elements:

- The Council has a strong commitment to achieving equality of opportunity in its services to the community and in the employment of people. It expects all employees to understand, comply with and to promote its policies in their own work, to undertake any appropriate training and to challenge racism, prejudice and discrimination.

Customer Care

This will involve:

- Ability to demonstrate a commitment to the Council's Customer Care Policy.

Health and Safety

- Every employee is responsible for their own Health & Safety, as well as that of colleagues, service users and the public. Employees should co-operate with management, follow established systems of work, use protective equipment where necessary and report defectives and hazards to management.

To contribute as an effective and collaborative member of the School Team

This will involve:

- Participating in training to be able to demonstrate competence.
- Participating in first aid training as required.
- Participating in the ongoing development, implementation and monitoring of the service plans.
- Championing the professional integrity of the School Service
- Supporting Customer Focus, Best Value and electronic management of processes.
- Actively sharing feedback on School policies and interventions

Person Specification

- Job Title:** Teaching Assistants – Special School (Level 1)
- Essential knowledge:**
- An interest in child development
- Essential skills and abilities:**
- Good numeracy/literacy skills.
 - Appropriate knowledge of first aid.
 - Use basic technology – computer, video, and photocopier.
 - Ability to relate well to children and adults.
 - Work constructively as part of a team, understanding classroom roles and responsibilities and your own position within these.
 - Participate in development and training opportunities.
- Essential experience:**
- Working with or caring for children and/or young people of relevant age.
- Special conditions:**
- Enhanced CRB Check
 - May be exposed to pupils with traumatic, degenerative, terminal conditions or who have difficult and demanding behavioural problems. This will mean that the postholder may need to cope with above average levels of emotional stress. Particularly in schools that have pupils with behavioural difficulties, postholder can be at risk of physical injury and needs to remain vigilant and observe risk assessment protocols.
 - Close contact with pupils may result in some exposure to bodily fluids.
 - Advised to obtain Hepatitis B vaccination.