



**The Howard
School**

Candidate Briefing Pack

Higher Level Teaching Assistant





Welcome to The Howard Academy Trust

As a Trust, we currently comprise of Medway secondary and primary schools. We have future growth plans as a Multi Academy Trust with major projects taking place across the organisation.

Our overarching aim and vision is for our member schools to deliver an outstanding education for children and young people. We endeavour to ensure that all our students have access to the highest standards of teaching, resources and opportunities. The Trust's role is to oversee the leadership and vision of member schools and to develop effective and supportive partnerships between them. We have a firm belief within the Trust that every child should have access to at least a good education.

We are proud that every academy inspected since joining our Trust has remained as a Good school. Temple Mill Primary School joined the Trust as a sponsored academy in December 2015 and has moved from Special Measures to a Good school. Our schools serve their own community and each has a unique identity. Being part of this Multi Academy Trust has already provided member schools with practical benefits. We want communities to be proud of their local THAT school and we are determined to make it the first choice for all families.

As Chief Executive, I am enormously proud of our schools and of the leaders, governors, teachers and support staff who every day ensure our pupils enjoy and make good progress in their learning.

Owen McColgan
Chief Executive
The Howard Academy Trust





Working together to build a community of successful learners

Vision and Values

Learning and growth are at the heart of The Howard Academy Trust ethos. We strongly advocate that all members of our community have the opportunity to become the very best that they can be. We recognise and value the unique talents and expertise within our community and aim to create a culture of dignity, inclusivity, respect and ambition, where all can thrive.

This is achieved through:

Excellent teaching and learning that promotes inclusivity;

Regular opportunities for collaborative CPD to ensure best practice across academies;

A proactive network for joint working across academies, for staff at various career stages;

The highest standards of behaviour and conduct achieved through clear expectations and positive relationships;

The unique character of each academy is valued and contributes to the THAT whole Trust ethos;

Shared whole Trust values of dignity, respect and ambition;

High aspirations for all involved with the Trust and a solutions led approach;

Each academy is a hub for its local community and families;

Facing outwards and working in collaboration with other organisations and stakeholders;

A centralised team that allows academies leaders to focus on their core purpose of education.



Strategic Priorities

Continuously improving the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance pupil outcomes across the Trust.

Provide excellent teaching and learning that promotes inclusivity.

Continue to build the profile of THAT to support further growth within the Southeast.

Champion our THAT People Strategy to retain, recruit, develop and reward an excellent workforce.

Ensuring a financially viable and sustainable MAT with a strong business infrastructure.

Ensuring effective leadership and governance at all levels.



Our Family of Schools



The Howard School
1,500 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent



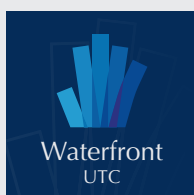
Temple Mill Primary School
240 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Strood, Kent



Deanwood Primary School
230 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent



Thames View Primary School
468 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent



Waterfront UTC
250 Pupils on Roll
Located in Gillingham, Kent



Miers Court Primary School
400 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent

Further information about our academies can be found at www.thatrust.org.uk



Working for The Howard Academy Trust

The Howard Academy Trust is very pleased to offer our staff a vast range of benefits, both professional and personal, as we believe that our excellent teaching and support staff should be supported at work and rewarded for the great work they do. Since 2018, The Howard Academy Trust has received the Gold Kent & Medway Workplace Wellbeing Award and we continue to make advances in emotional, physical and professional wellbeing.



Financial

- A competitive salary for both teaching and support staff, with annual pay progression and a robust performance development scheme underway.
- All staff are automatically enrolled into the Teacher and Local Government pension scheme with attractive employer contribution rates.
- We have introduced Access EarlyPay through our payroll system as a mobile app that lets users draw down a proportion of their salary. You can withdraw at any point, 24/7 with just a few taps on your mobile phone. This money will then appear in your bank account within minutes.

Professional Development

- Early finish for teaching staff every Friday afternoon to allow for whole school CPD, PPA, departmental training, and wellbeing afternoons.
- Trust-wide training events and Trust Day events to bring all staff across the Trust together to network and share experiences.
- Assessment Only routes and Schools Direct opportunities to take your first step into Teaching.
- Access to 30 Level 2 qualifications through The Skills Network, free of charge to all staff.
- Career Progression and upskilling opportunities across the Trust.
- Access in-house training in to Middle & Senior Leadership courses for future leaders.

Wellbeing

- Full Time support staff receive 23 days annual leave as standard plus bank holidays, to increase after 5 years of service.
- Each of our academies have received the Gold Kent & Medway Workplace Wellbeing Award in 2021.
- Employee Assistance Programme, 24/7 access to a free counselling service for our employees and their families, for confidential advice and guidance.
- Access to Senior Mental Health First Aiders and a team of established Mental Health First Aiders based at all of our academies.
- Hosts of Medway Council's wellbeing afternoons consisting of use of a health check machine, blood pressure checks, alcohol awareness speakers.
- Flu jabs available for free every autumn for all staff, at their own academy for ease of access.
- Discounted gym membership at Avenue Tennis, Gillingham, on a range of different packages.
- Mindfulness taster sessions.

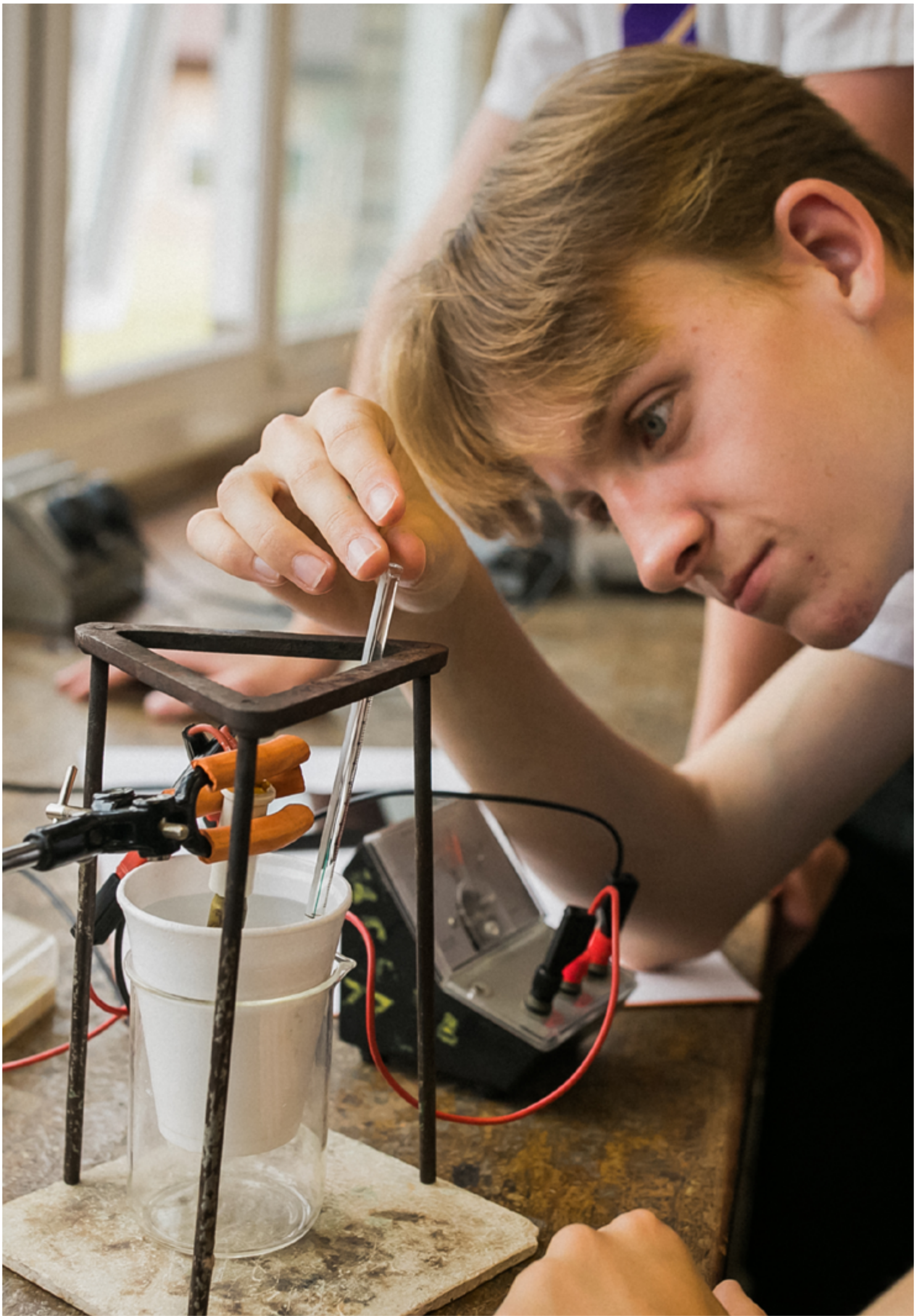
Facilities

- Discounted hire of the school facilities, halls, fields, and gyms, for all members of staff up to 20%.
- On site catering at our school canteens for breakfast items and a full lunch menu.
- Free car parking at each Trust site.



Hear from staff across the Trust





Welcome to The Howard School

Thank you for your interest in working with The Howard School. I am determined to recruit a talented individual who shares our vision of providing a first-class education to all our students. You will show the drive, tenacity and ability to realise this ambition and demonstrate a commitment to your own education and yours and others' professional development.

Our local and national reputation as a school where results challenge the stereotypical view of underachievement in young men continues to grow, as does the perception that we hold to traditional values in standards of behaviour and uniform. We are an innovative and creative school, responding to the ever-changing needs of our students and the demands from higher education and employers. To further this, a number of exciting changes are planned for the near future to support our drive towards excellence.

I am determined to ensure The Howard is the best school in Medway and beyond in which to teach, work and develop. Our success has been built on the commitment, professionalism and aspirations of our staff. It is a place where people want to work as there are opportunities for progression. I hope my resolve to take the school to the next level is evident and, while I recognise that this is by no means easy, that this is the very least we should be doing for our community. The successful candidate will be someone who is genuinely up for the challenge. In return, we can promise an investment in you and your future, offering a competitive remuneration package, providing first class professional development and career opportunities.

I look forward to receiving your application.



Mr J Johal
Head of School



The Howard School was established in 1975 by amalgamating Rainham Boys Secondary School and Gillingham Boys Grammar School to form a bi-lateral school. A bi-lateral school is one where admission to the grammar school section can be by 11 plus selection and admission to the high school section is non-selective.

The school was named after Dorothy Howard who played a major part in the local community.

Since opening there have been seven Principals:

- John Hicks: 1975 to 1987
- Alan Jarrett: 1987 to 1997
- Maurice Barry: 1997 to 2001
- David Smith: 2002 to 2007
- The Honourable Paul Morris: 2007 to 2015
- Terry Millar: 2016 to 2019
- Cathy Reid: 2019 to 2021
- Jasbinder Johal: 2021 - Present



Hear from our current staff

The Howard School became a Grant Maintained School in 1994 when we left the control of Kent County Council. Following a change of Central Government, we became a Foundation School in 1998. Although a Foundation School we worked very closely with the local authority. The school became a Specialist Sports College with ICT as the second strand in 2007. In October 2014, the school became an Academy and the core of The Howard Academy Trust.

We are a high achieving successful 11 to 18 school. Since 2008, The Howard School has been and remains one of the highest achieving non-selective schools in Medway, Kent and the South-East of England. We believe The Howard School is one of the highest achieving boys' non-selective schools in the country

Job Description

Post: Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Location: The Howard School
Responsible to: Inclusions Manager

Core Purpose and Scope

The holder of this post is expected to carry out the professional duties of a Higher Level Teaching Assistant as described below, as circumstances may require and in accordance with the Trust's policies under the direction of the Head of School. The post-holder is required to fully support the vision, ethos and policies of the Trust.

THAT Vision & Values

As a Trust, our Vision and Values are achieved through:

- Excellent teaching and learning that promotes inclusivity;
- Regular opportunities for collaborative CPD to ensure best practice across academies;
- A proactive network for joint working across academies, for staff at various career stages;
- The highest standards of behaviour and conduct achieved through clear expectations and positive relationships;
- The unique character of each academy is valued and contributes to the THAT whole Trust ethos;
- Shared whole trust values of dignity, respect and ambition.
- High aspirations for all involved with the Trust;
- Each academy is a hub for its local community and families;
- Facing outwards and working in collaboration with other organisations and stakeholders;
- A centralised team that allows academies leaders to focus on their core purpose of education.

Values and Behaviour

Support Staff play a vital role in assisting teaching staff to make the education of their students their first concern, and are accountable for achieving the highest possible standards in work and conduct. All members of staff must act with honesty and integrity; have strong knowledge within their field, keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date and are self-critical; forge positive professional relationships; and work with parents in the best interests of the students in the school.

Personal and Professional Conduct

The Higher Level Teaching Assistant is expected to demonstrate good standards of personal and professional conduct. The following statements define the behaviour and attitudes which set the required standard for conduct throughout your career.

It is important to maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by:

- treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to the position;

- having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions;
- showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others and not undermining fundamental British values, including:
 - democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and
 - tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs;
- ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law.

Key responsibilities:

To complement the professional work of teachers by taking responsibility of Inclusion programmes under an agreed system of supervision. This may involve planning, preparing and delivering learning activities for individuals/groups and monitoring students and assessing, recording and reporting on students' achievement, progress and development.

Support for Students

- Assess the needs of students and use detailed knowledge and specialist skills to support students' learning
- Establish productive working relationships with students, acting as a role model and setting high expectations
- Promote the inclusion and acceptance of all students within the setting
- Encourage students to interact and work co-operatively with others and engage all students in activities
- Promote independence and employ strategies to recognise and reward achievement of self-reliance
- Provide feedback to students in relation to progress and achievement
- Contribute to, develop and implement Support Plans
- Support students consistently whilst recognising and responding to their individual needs

Support for the Teacher

- Organise and manage appropriate learning environment and resources
- Provide objective and accurate feedback and reports as required on student achievement, progress and other matters, ensuring the availability of appropriate evidence
- Record progress and achievement in lessons/activities systematically and providing evidence of range and level of progress and attainment
- Work within an established discipline policy to anticipate and manage behaviour constructively, promoting self-control and independence
- Support the role of parents in students' learning and contribute to/lead meetings with parents to provide constructive feedback on student progress/achievement etc.
- Produce lesson plans, worksheet, plans etc.
- Monitor and evaluate student responses to learning activities through a range of assessment and monitoring strategies against pre-determined learning objectives
- Within an agreed system of supervision, plan challenging teaching and learning objectives to evaluate and adjust lessons/work plans as appropriate
- Administer and assess/mark tests and invigilate exams/tests.

Support for the Curriculum

- Deliver learning activities to students within agreed system of supervision, adjusting activities according to student responses/needs
- Deliver local and national learning strategies for Inclusion and make effective use of opportunities provided by other learning activities to support the development of students' skills
- Use ICT effectively to support learning activities and develop students' competence and independence in its use
- Advise on appropriate deployment and use of specialist aid/resources/equipment
- Select and prepare resources necessary to lead learning activities, taking account of students' interests and language and cultural backgrounds.

Support for the Howard School

- Comply with and assist with the development of policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting concerns to an appropriate person
- Be aware of and support difference and ensure all students have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop
- Contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of The Howard School
- Establish constructive relationships and communicate with other agencies/professionals, in liaison with the teacher, to support achievement and progress of students
- Attend and participate in regular meetings
- Participate in training and other learning activities as required.
- Contribute to the identification and execution of appropriate Howard School out of learning activities which consolidate and extend work carried out in class.
- Deliver learning activities within guidelines established by the Howard School.
- To support, uphold and contribute to the development of the Equal Rights policies and practices in respect of both employment issues and the delivery of services to the community
- Recognise own strengths and areas of specialist expertise and use these to lead, advise and support others
- Take the initiative as appropriate to develop multi-agency approaches to supporting students.

Administration

- Take register every session using school system
- Prepare and produce resources for sessions
- Write reports on progress to be shared with parents & staff termly

Resources

- Operate relevant equipment/ICT packages (e.g. MS Office, internet, intranet, Email, Arbor)
- Be comfortable and capable of operating equipment in line with health and safety policies and procedures
- Determine the need for, prepare and maintain general and specialist equipment and resources
- Help students access specialist learning resources as required

- Keep up-to-date knowledge of the range of external agencies and opportunities that can be used to provide extra support for students.

Management

- This post does not have any management responsibilities.

Additional Duties:

- All staff, with the support, of the academy's designated DSL, have a responsibility for providing and safeguarding the welfare of the children and young people.
- To be familiar with and support any health and safety procedures and ensure all duties and responsibilities are discharged in accordance with the academy's health and safety at work policy.

This job description does not form part of the Contract of Employment and is not necessarily a comprehensive description of the duties required but outlines the main responsibilities of the post. It will be reviewed regularly and may be subject to modification or amendment at any time after consultation with the holder of the post. The duties may be varied to meet the changing demands of the Academy at the reasonable discretion of the line manager.

An enhanced DBS check will be required for this post. The job description is current at the date shown, but, in consultation with you, may be changed by your Line Manager to reflect or anticipate changes in the job commensurate with the grade and job title. The successful candidate must have a commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Person Specification

Post: Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Please refer to these requirements when completing the application. The person specification is related to the requirements of the post as determined by the job description.

Essential	Desirable
Education and Qualifications	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maths & English GCSE or equivalent Grade C and above Certified HTLA course of training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of ongoing Professional Development First Aid Training
Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of establishing successful learning relationships with a variety of pupils at the relevant age Experience of the role of a TA or HLTA and the confidence and ability to deliver whole class lessons Evidence of planning and supporting students with their work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working within the academy or education sector
Knowledge and Understanding	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiar with the school's teaching strategies and school curriculum Ability to manage time effectively to complete tasks to a high level Ability to work both alone and within a team to achieve specified standards Be flexible to changing demands of the post To undertake any training relevant to the role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of Child Development and learning processes Knowledge of child protection and safeguarding policies Sound understanding of equal opportunity issues within the workplace and the importance of culture and ethos and how this impacts on morale, high expectation and high standards
Characteristics and Competencies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent communication including verbal and written skills Competent with IT and other software packages Good organisational skills Ability to create a happy, challenging and effective learning environment 	

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A solution-focused mindset and determined “no-excuses” approach to raising standards• A personable nature to build effective relationships• Ability and keenness to promote the Trust’s positive culture and ethos• A high level of integrity, confidentiality and discretion.• Ability to develop good personal relationships within a team, making an effective contribution to high morale | |
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Application Process

Application Process

We will review applications as they are received and contact those shortlisted for interview. Early applications are encouraged as we will close the recruitment process once a suitable candidate is appointed.

Applicants should send their completed application packs to hr@thatrust.org.uk.

Important Information for Applications

Closing Date: Friday 8th July 2022

Interviews: TBC

Person Specification

This specification sets out the criteria which will be used to shortlist candidates for interview and during the interview process. After the closing date for this post a panel will conduct the shortlisting process. You will be selected for interview based entirely on the contents of your application form, it is therefore important that you fully read the Job Description and Person Specification prior to completing your form. After the shortlisting process has been completed candidates who have been selected for interview will be informed, and provided with full details of the interview programme. If you have not heard from us within 10 working days of the closing date for this post, you have, on this occasion, unfortunately been unsuccessful.

We hope you find the information in this pack useful. Should you have any further queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Sharon Teachen, HR Manager, on 01634 265771 or email hr@thatrust.org.uk.