



The Shared Learning Trust

THE VALE
ACADEMY

EYFS Teacher

The Vale Academy have a fantastic opportunity for a passionate Early Years Foundation Stage Teacher to join our lovely Academy. Here at The Vale Academy, you will find a genuinely friendly, warm and welcoming work environment where every team member supports each other. We are looking for an EYFS who can inspire and nurture our children during this crucial stage of their development.

Due to increasing pupil numbers in our Reception class we are looking for an EYFS Teacher to work over four days per week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday) on a 1 year fixed term contract. The successful candidate will be qualified with either Early Year Teacher Status or Qualified Teacher Status, however, we are open to receiving applications from candidates with experience who have not completed their teacher training. We are looking to appoint an individual who will provide a purposeful, stimulating environment that is rich in learning opportunities, which allow all our children to play, develop and learn. It is very important to us that we provide a high level of physical, emotional, social and intellectual care for all our children ensuring positive development and growth.

The successful candidate will:

- Take responsibility for standards of learning, teaching curriculum provision and pastoral care in a Foundation Stage class.
- Be able to plan and deliver stimulating teaching experiences in line with Early Years Foundation Stage Framework including phonics.
- Have experience with working with children aged 4 – 5 years old
- Have experience with involving parents / carers with their child's development
- Have a sound understanding of EYFS assessment

Job Specifics:

- **Start Date:** January 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter
- **Salary:** UQT – MPS: £17,208 – £35,008 FTE
- **Job Role:** 1 Year Fixed Term Contract, Term Time Only (39 weeks + 5 Inset Days)
- **Contract:** 0.8 Contract: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Why work for The Vale Academy:

- You'll be working in an Ofsted rated 'Good' school that takes pride in cultivating a positive working environment
- You'll work alongside fantastic colleagues who work together, get along and regularly organise social events
- You'll be working under a caring, supportive and innovative leadership team that are here to support you in the best way possible so you make the most of your teaching career
- We have extensive specialist facilities and curriculum in the Arts, Sport and Design and Technology
- We are a forest school and have a fully integrated outdoor learning curriculum
- Great support for NQT's including your own dedicated mentor, reduced teaching timetable and 'Outstanding' teacher programmes available
- All teaching staff receive a laptop to use whilst in employment
- Local subsidised gym memberships and many other staff benefits
- Brilliant CPD opportunities so you can constantly improve and develop with fantastic partnership links within The Shared Learning Trust, so plenty of opportunities to progress your career!

Here's what Ofsted have to say: *"The strong leadership of the academy trust has established a community of dedicated and enthusiastic staff who work closely together to improve standards. Parents hold highly positive views about the school and report how keen their children are to attend each day".*

HOW TO APPLY

Closing Date: Monday 17th December at 12pm Interviews: 19 December 2018

Please read the information in this pack. If you are interested in this job opportunity, please do apply online today via our career site on <https://www.mynewterm.com/trust/The-Shared-Learning-Trust/135337>

We look forward to hearing from you!

If you have any questions about the role or would like to visit the Academy, please email academyrecruitment@thesharedlearningtrust.org.uk.

If you decide to apply you should include a letter with your application form on no more than two sides of A4, giving your reasons for applying for the post, addressing information you have read in the pack and particularly the person specification, and outline any relevant experience and personal qualities you would bring to the Trust. Please do not send a general letter; we really are looking for someone who is prepared to respond to us as an individual Trust. You can be sure we will take time and care in reading your letter; we appreciate how much energy goes into it.

RECRUITMENT TIMELINE

6 December 2018	Position is advertised
17 December 2018	Closing date for applications (12pm) <i>References will be requested at this stage</i>
17 – 18 December 2018	Final shortlisting and contact with candidates
19 December 2018	Interviews

SAFEGUARDING

'We believe in the safeguarding and welfare of children and expect all staff to share this view'.

The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. We are an equal opportunities employer. The Trust reserves the right to interview and appoint a suitable candidate before the deadline date.

The Department for Education (DfE)'s has set out statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' for schools and colleges on safeguarding.

Safeguarding is defined in paragraph 4 as:

... protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

The definition of 'children' includes everyone under the age of 18.



The Shared Learning Trust

VALE
ACADEMY

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS:

EYFS Teacher



WELCOME TO THE SHARED LEARNING TRUST



Cathy Barr

Firstly, let me start by thanking you for taking the time to read our information pack and allowing us the opportunity to tell you more about The Shared Learning Trust.

I first began working for The Shared Learning Trust, as Principal of The Stockwood Park Academy or South Academy as previously known in 2009. Since then, the trust has grown from strength to strength employing some 500 fantastic staff members who serve over 3,500 children within our communities. It is my privilege to be CEO of our family of schools and work with each Principal or Head of School to ensure the best possible education in their own Academy.

Our ethos is simple, to build a collaborative partnership of academies and schools that will provide exceptional educational provision, both in and outside the classroom for all our children. Our academies ensure students are supported, monitored and encouraged to pursue their aspirations through a wide range of enrichment activities and initiatives. The experience will be challenging, rewarding and memorable. Students enjoy their time at our academies and also give back to the wider local community. They are role models and young leaders, who contribute to the collegiate ethos with maturity.

- 'We recruit people for attitude and train for skills'

We aim to recruit outstanding people who have the right attitude. If you have a love for teaching and are passionate about seeing children succeed, we would love to hear from you!

Recruiting the right teachers and staff help us to achieve the goals we set for our children. We are always keen to hear from educators who are passionate about working for the schools and communities we serve. We would rather make no appointment than appoint someone who does not share the same positive ethos that runs through our Academies. For this reason, we try to articulate clearly our vision, values and expectations when putting together information for applicants.

We aim to recruit staff who:

- are excited by their role and by the prospect of working with young people, even those who are less well motivated;
- love the processes of learning and teaching and are keen to continually develop their own skills;
- recognise that teaching can be a demanding job but react positively to those demands rather than complaining;
- will subscribe to the ethos of the Trust and 'go the extra mile' in terms of time and commitment to get the very best from our young people;
- see break duty as an opportunity to talk to children;
- are quick to praise and slow to criticise; and are not afraid to admit to seeing themselves as potential leaders of the future.

I am conscious that this may be your first contact with our Academy Trust and first impressions are very important. I hope what you read; coupled with anything else you discover about us, inspires you to apply for this post.

With best wishes,

Cathy

WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL



Rebekah Howe

'Mrs Howe' by Evie, Year 1

As a team, we pride ourselves on providing good quality support and education. The Academy is going through an exciting period of development to accommodate our ever increasing new community.

Teachers are well supported through performance management and external and internal CPD. Aspiring leaders, middle and senior, have access to nationally accredited qualifications such as NAML and Senior Leader programmes. We work closely in partnership with the Luton Authority to provide opportunities for individuals to be recognised as Subject Leaders in Education and Local Leaders in Education.

The Vale Academy works in close partnership with its sister primary Academy, The Linden Academy, and this partnership provides a wealth of opportunity for moderation, joint CPD and professional working.

In joining The Vale Academy, you would be joining a supportive staff team who place the children's needs at the center of everything they do.

I look forward to meeting with you,

Bex

WELCOME FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



Kate Hooft

Thank you for your interest in becoming part of The Vale Academy's learning community.

I am really proud of our academy and the staff work extremely hard to make learning fun and exciting. We work as a very close team and strive to involve parents as much as possible in the learning of their children. I am extremely honoured to be the Headteacher of The Vale Academy and I believe that when children move on from our academy at the end of Year 6 they will leave with the following idea:

'I believe and I have the confidence to succeed.'

At The Vale Academy we aim to provide a broad and balanced education for all the children within a happy, stimulating and healthy environment and we want each child to achieve the best he or she can. We have excellent teachers, learning support assistants, office staff and site managers who all work collaboratively to ensure the best outcomes for all children. There is a real warmth and friendliness among the staff here that you will experience for yourself when visiting the academy.

Our Governing Body plays an essential role in the development and success of the academy. Children belong to four different communities: Valour, Achievement, Learning and Excellence. The communities compete for House points through various sporting and non-sporting events. Children have a strong sense of belonging to a community and enjoy the competitive side of being involved in a house team.

By the time children leave us at the end of Year 6, they are responsible, independent young people and we are very proud of them.

Kate Hooft

ABOUT THE SHARED LEARNING TRUST

The Shared Learning Trust is a stand-alone multi-academy trust, which runs a family of four schools based in Bedfordshire:

- The Vale Academy, Dunstable, ages 2-11
- The Linden Academy, Luton, ages 4-11
- The Chalk Hills Academy, Luton, ages 11-18
- The Stockwood Park Academy, Luton, ages 11-18
- The Sixth Form, Luton, ages 16-19, (A part of both Chalk Hills and Stockwood)

Our Academies are supported in their work by our Teaching School, based at The Chalk Hills Academy. The structure of our family of schools means that we can be with a child every step of the way, from teaching them to tie their shoe laces right through to congratulating them on their university place or their first job.

Our Trust is vibrant and friendly, supported by 3 state-of-the-art buildings. It is a learning environment where all students have the opportunity to be high achievers, make good friends, contribute to their community and take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

VISION & VALUES – *‘Strive, Achieve, Believe’*

At The Shared Learning Trust, we provide opportunities for all our students and adults to be aspirational and develop a passion and excitement for learning. Working with our communities, we ensure all students are able to achieve beyond their targets to reach the success they deserve. Our students develop a strong self-belief so that they flourish and develop into well-rounded, self-respecting young people.

Our commitment to our vision can be seen through:

- Our academies working together to provide more opportunities for all students and staff
- A focus on the development of our staff with opportunities for clear and dynamic career progression and high quality recruitment and retention.
- Strong Trust approaches to our key issues, for example; teaching, assessment, attendance and curriculum development.
- Partnerships with schools outside of our Trust to maximise opportunities for all.
- Close working and communication with our families and local community.
- Care for our families beyond the school day.
- Excellent lessons and learning incorporating effective use of new technologies.
- An interesting yet challenging curriculum.
- 16-19 provision, which ensures progression, routes for all.
- A Cross-Trust focus on high achievement and high standards.
- Ensuring that every child in our Trust reaches their full potential by providing exciting opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom.
- Exemplary behaviour and conduct at all times.
- A can-do attitude across the Trust that fosters belief and high expectation.
- Ensuring no opportunities are missed.

OFSTED AT THE VALE ACADEMY CPD AND TRAINING- *We invest in you!*



Leadership and Management: 'GOOD'

- The school's Headteacher has worked quickly with senior leaders, supported by the work of the academy trust, to maintain the strong sense of community among staff, pupils, parents and trustees. Leaders are well regarded by all staff. Consequently, staff morale is high.

Behaviour and Safety of Students: 'OUTSTANDING'

- The behaviour of pupils is outstanding. Pupils have exceptionally positive attitudes to learning and act responsibly in managing both their own behaviour and helping others in the academy. This contributes to the friendly, social atmosphere in the academy. Pupils are proud of the academy. The buildings and grounds are neat and tidy and pupils have plenty of room to play and places where they can sit quietly and reflect. Pupils all speak positively about how much they enjoy and value being a part of the academy, and this is evident in their very smart appearance and their impeccable manners.

Quality of Teaching: 'GOOD'

- The strong, positive relationships between adults and pupils support the outstanding attitudes to learning that pupils show in lessons and around the school. All staff have high expectations of pupils' behaviour. Classrooms are well organised, bright and welcoming. They have been thoughtfully set up for the new age ranges of pupils on the academy's roll. Teachers have high expectations, assess pupils' progress accurately in lessons and provide work that children enjoy.

Achievement of Pupils: 'GOOD'

- Children start school with skills and knowledge below those which are typical for their age. Pupils reach standards, in both English and mathematics, that are higher than those expected for their age. Pupils' positive attitudes to their learning, together with careful assessment and planning by teachers to challenge pupils to do their best work, contribute strongly to the achievement being made.

TEACHER TESTIMONIALS

All four Academies at The Shared Learning Trust are a part of our Teaching Trust, which is held at The Chalk Hills Academy. We aim to offer exceptional teacher training and high quality professional development programmes to new and experienced staff to support them in excelling in their career.

Our programmes are facilitated by experienced school leaders, who have exemplary records in leadership and improving outcomes for their students. We are able to cater for specific requests and can offer custom-made support packages that focus on the quality of teaching and learning, curriculum development and aspects of Leadership and Management.

We currently offer:

- The National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership
- The National Award for Middle Leaders
- The Outstanding Teacher Programme
- The Improving Teacher Programme
- The Recently Qualified Teacher Programme

As The Vale Academy is part of a Multi-Academy Trust, there are fantastic opportunities to climb the career ladder. The Shared Learning Trust are a firm believer in helping all staff reach their full potential and developing their career within our Academies. If you are willing and wanting, we will do all we can to put you on the relevant courses and give you the right opportunities so you can keep achieving more in your career.



TEACHER TESTIMONIALS

"If you are looking for a place to enjoy the never-ending positives of teaching and working in a 'family-feel' academy, The Vale is where to be. As soon as you step into our academy, it has a sense of a warm welcome.

Our staff are extremely high quality, due to excellent CPD opportunities and an environment in which we can share best practice. Our staff members are fun, dynamic and full of energy, and will make you feel welcome as soon as you step through the door! I have always felt supported during the great times, and the challenging times. I feel I can confidently share my ideas and suggestions, and ask for support when I need it. The leaders of the academy listen to us and play to people's strengths and interests. There is also plenty of opportunities for continuing your professional development here.

The children are the pinnacle of everything we do at The Vale, and we share an ethos of a 'Can-Do!' attitude. We have high expectations, and children rise to the challenges and opportunities provided to them. We are proud of every pupil, and share the belief that they will all achieve amazing things!"

Tanya Knight, Deputy Headteacher

Being an NQT was never going to be easy but thanks to the love and support I have received at The Vale Academy, it has made my year so much easier. I have always been reassured to never be afraid to ask for anything and learnt that help can come in numerous forms, either from one of the very experienced teachers at the school or an experienced LSA, everyone is happy to help. I am yet to hear of a school that welcomes staff input so much and ensures that the focal point of training provided tackles areas the team wish to develop. I personally have been given the chance to attend numerous courses outside of school and also had time off timetable to further my development as a teacher. We have a team full of great characters which guarantees the staff room is always buzzing and all of our social events are lots of fun! The school itself has a caring and family feel to it with plenty of opportunities for my children to learn both within the classroom and outside. I am positive I speak for all my colleagues when I say that we are a lucky bunch to have the privilege of working at The Vale Academy, an amazing school that is headed in one direction; up!

Tayeb Rohman, Teacher

The Vale Academy is a friendly, vibrant place to work, where children and their learning are always placed first. I was given my final year teaching placement at The Vale Academy a few years ago. All of the staff were so helpful and friendly and guided me well through the last part of my teacher training. After this I accepted a job at The Vale and have loved the experiences I have had here. The school promotes creative learning and encourages all staff to think out of the box and provide the children with excellent learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom. I have been given lots of brilliant opportunities whilst working at the school and the support from everyone has been amazing. If I need help or guidance with anything I know all I need to do is just ask. The school offers chances to develop skills and attend CPD and other training courses all the time and clearly has a high regard for our professional development. I have had the pleasure of working in a fun and enthusiastic team who always know how to make the best out of a situation and will always pull together when needed.

Danielle Chowdhary, Teacher

JOB DESCRIPTION

Reports to:	Head of School
Responsible for:	Reception class
Main Purpose	Take responsibility for standards of learning, teaching curriculum provision and pastoral care in a Foundation Stage class.
Main Activities	<p>Through reflective practice, provide a dynamic curriculum which values play, exploration and inclusion.</p> <p>Ensure excellent progress for children across all areas of development through effective observation, assessment and planning.</p> <p>Create a stimulating environment which supports learning.</p> <p>Support parents to become competent and confident educators who are actively involved in their child's development.</p>
Experience	<p>Experience of working with 4-5 year olds.</p> <p>Experience of involving parents with their child's development.</p> <p>Experience of Working in a Team.</p>
Qualifications/Training	<p>Qualified Teacher Status or Early Year Teacher Status (EYTS) or degree in relevant subject.</p> <p>Post graduate experience relevant to the post</p>
Practical Skills	<p>The ability to plan and deliver stimulating teaching experiences in line with Early Years Foundation Stage Framework including phonics.</p> <p>A sound understanding of Early Years child development</p>
Personal Qualities and Attributes	<p>The ability to refine policy and practice through reflection and consultation.</p> <p>A sound understanding of Early Years child development.</p> <p>A sound understanding of EYFS and other documentation relevant to the curriculum.</p> <p>A sound understanding of inclusion, making the curriculum accessible to all learners.</p> <p>The ability to work in a team and motivate other adults in the classroom in order to achieve successful outcomes.</p> <p>The ability to prioritise and manage workloads effectively in order to</p>

	<p>secure successful outcomes within agreed timescales.</p> <p>A sound understanding of EYFS assessment.</p> <p>The ability to adapt to changing circumstances and needs.</p> <p>The ability to reflect constructively on practice and to manage needs.</p> <p>The ability to motivate others to see improvement.</p> <p>A positive attitude.</p> <p>A willingness to contribute to whole school development.</p> <p>A desire for high expectations and standards for self and others.</p>
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This job description sets out the duties of the post at the time it was drawn up. The post holder may be required from time to time to undertake other duties within the school as may be reasonable expected, without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed. This is a common occurrence and would not justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.