**Horizon KS4 Leader – ASC specialist provision**

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**What we are looking for**

We are looking for a highly effective teacher to join our Horizon leadership team. This post will provide excellent experience for future promotion. Ideally, we would like you to be able to offer a core subject or to have particular expertise in the Curriculum for Life areas (see below) but will consider other specialist subjects. For those wishing to maintain mainstream subject experience, your timetable will include both base and mainstream teaching.

You would work closely with the Horizon Leader and other members of the team. We want you to be passionate about teaching and supporting SEND children with ASC and have high expectations for your students. You will be expected to support achievement through a focus on students’ learning and development, together with a knowledge of strategies that support students to make good and outstanding progress. An ability to form strong and effective working relationships with your colleagues is essential.

**About Horizon and what it offers**

The Horizon Opportunity Base at Oaks Park High supports ASC students with mild to moderate autism and learning needs in a mainstream school. This is an exciting time to be joining the Horizon base as we are developing and improving the curriculum we offer to our students.

**Facilities**

The base, working with around 70 ASC students, is a self-contained unit with its own entrance, classrooms and play area. The base itself was purpose built and has its own science lab, food technology area and dining hall as well as an OT/Hall area and a sensory room. These complement the 7 classroom areas that each have an attached group room as well as dedicated storage. The base has access to a wide range of technology that can be utilised in lessons, all classrooms are fitted with an interactive whiteboard allowing creative interaction with learning resources. Every member of teaching staff is provided with a laptop.

**Staffing**

We have a strong team spirit, with a friendly and open atmosphere within the base and we have our own dedicated staffroom. Staff are very supportive of one another. New members of staff will receive support during the first term as well as plenty of informal help from all members of the department. Newly qualified teachers receive a wide range of additional support as part of their induction year.

The leadership of the base is split into two curriculum areas, KS3 and KS4, which are each lead by a base teacher who report to the Horizon Leader. The Horizon tutor role is also central to the team ethos and involves close contact with parents/carers as well as particular oversight of the children in that year group. Our teachers each have a subject specialism. As well as being experienced with working with ASC students, they are supported in their subject teaching by the relevant department.

There are currently six specialist teachers and over 20 support staff in the Horizon base teaching and support team. The base has dedicated SEN administrative support as well as pastoral and support staff manager roles.

The base also works with a range of therapists to support our students. In particular, OT and SaLT work closely with teachers and support staff helping to embed therapy into our provision. The base also draws upon other therapies as needed eg Drama therapy, psycho/play therapy and other support such as Dyslexia intervention.

The leadership team, teachers and support staff meet regularly to discuss students and their progress to ensure the smooth running of the base as well as share best practice across the base and the rest of the school. There are many opportunities for personal and professional development.

**Curriculum**

From September 2020, the base has offered a bespoke Curriculum for Life which will continue throughout a student’s time at Oaks Park and is usually taught by the form tutor. This will include social and communication skills, emotional literacy, autism awareness, RE, PSHE and general life skills and is approximately 25% of the taught curriculum.

* At Key Stage 3 (Years 7 & 8). In addition to Curriculum for Life, we provide small group teaching of the mainstream subject curriculum with the exception of foreign languages. Students are taught by mainstream specialist teachers in Art, Drama, Music, and the Humanities, and by our specialist staff otherwise. We usually have 8 students in each year group who are taught within the base for the vast majority of their timetable.
* At Key Stage 4 (Years 9-11) all students will follow examination courses. These are usually GCSEs and Vocational qualifications. For those who do not access mainstream classes, students take a reduced number of option subjects which are taught by specialist teachers in small groups.
* At Key Stage 5, students are able to join the Post 16 mainstream provision with support. From September 2021, they will have a base in the sixth form provision with a dedicated learning mentor as a point of support during the day. Their support will include: therapy, Curriculum for Life, study support and, as needed, additional subject teacher input. A small number may also have LSA support in class for non-academic reasons.

As a specialist base, we constantly review schemes of work, aiming to improve the quality of teaching and learning by sharing good practice.

We look forward to meeting you

**February 2021**