



HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL

Teaching Assistant

January 2024

Information for applicants

Welcome to Hydesville Tower School

Hydesville Tower School opened its doors in 1952 with 22 pupils on the roll and has since grown to a pupil roll over 320 and has become known as the leading independent co-education day school in Walsall, delivering first-class education for children aged from 3 to 16 years.



Situated within walking distance of the bustling Walsall town centre, and with excellent transport links to nearby Birmingham and Wolverhampton, the school offers a range of facilities, combining tradition with modern.

A purpose built outdoor classroom is perfect for exploring and learning outdoors. As children progress into Prep and then through to Senior School, our classrooms cater for all subjects, including science laboratories, our library (the Hydesville Hive), and the School Hall, which also operates as a fully functioning theatre and performance area.

We have direct, secure access from the playground into the magnificent 35-acre Walsall Arboretum which we use for outdoor learning, cross country, sports days, picnics and more. Our 500m² multi-use sports pitch enables school sports training throughout the year. Our Nursery and Lower Prep playgrounds have recently been resurfaced and replaced with brightly coloured play areas, complete with game markings and built with a soft astroturf to ensure children can play safely.

In addition, we have wireless coverage throughout the school, which means mobile devices can be used in any classroom to support any subject area, allowing for a fully integrated and cross-curricular approach to ICT.



Working with us

Our small class sizes, individual learning and outstanding pastoral support helps pupils to exceed expectations in their academic endeavours whilst our extra-curricular activities help develop well rounded individuals, equipped to excel in today's world.

Academic results are consistently high at Hydesville. Year on year, a high proportion of Year 6 pupils progress onto Grammar Schools and our hugely successful GCSE results are typically the best in the borough among all non-selective schools. At the end of Year 11, our pupils leave us typically to pursue their post 16 education at a local Grammar School.

Beyond the classroom, pupils participate in a range of sporting, performance and extra-curricular activities, and are also encouraged to engage in adventure and charitable causes, including the Hydesville Challenge and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The school is an active member of the Independent Schools Association.

This is an exciting time to join Hydesville Tower School; the leadership team are committed to continuing to increase the School's profile locally. Pupil numbers have grown. The school is recognised as one of the leading independent schools in the Midlands and was ranked in the top 20 small independent schools without a sixth form.



Role Overview

An opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic and highly committed Teaching Assistant to join our dedicated Prep School team. They will be required to provide support for pupils through curriculum learning, pastoral care as well as general support to the Prep school teachers.

It is important that the successful candidate will have good inter-personal skills, be willing to work as part of a team and be fully committed to our extra-curricular programme.

If you are passionate about the life chances of young people and possess the expertise required to teach in an environment where children of mixed abilities excel, then we would love to hear from you.



Key Responsibilities

Teaching and Learning

- Assist in the educational and social development of pupils under the direction and guidance of the Headteacher, Head of Prep School, SENDCO and class teachers
- Assist in the implementation of Individual Education Programmes for students and help monitor their progress
- Provide support for individual students inside and outside the classroom to enable them to fully participate in activities
- Work with other professionals, such as speech and occupational therapists, as necessary
- Assist class teachers with maintaining student records
- Support students with emotional or behavioural problems and help develop their social skills

Administrative Duties

- Prepare and present displays of students' work
- Support class teachers in photocopying and other tasks in order to support teaching
- Undertake other duties from time to time as the Headteacher / Deputy Headteacher requires

Staff Responsibilities

- To participate in the school's staff development programme
- To engage actively with the school's performance management programme
- Where appropriate, ensure the effective deployment of classroom support
- To work as a member of a team, positively contributing to effective working relations within the school
- To communicate, where necessary with parents and external bodies, following school policies
- To attend Open Days and Evenings, Parents' Evenings & Prize Giving
- To attend Prep assemblies
- To attend staff briefings
- To undertake duties as stated in the "Staff Duty Rota" and "Supervision Rota".

Person Specification

- Level 3 Teaching & Learning
- Excellent interpersonal skills including the ability to develop effective relationship with children, staff and parents.
- A willingness to play a full part in a busy independent school
- Flexibility and to work as part of a team
- Well organised, creative and innovative
- A role model
- Good classroom management

Training and Experience:

- Previous experience in a child setting
- Experience in Early Years is desirable but not essential



Safeguarding Responsibilities

- To comply with safeguarding policies, procedures and code of conduct
- To demonstrate a personal commitment to safeguarding and pupil/colleague wellbeing
- To ensure that any safeguarding concerns or incidents are reported appropriately in line with policy
- To engage in safeguarding training when required.



How to Apply

Closing date: 6th November 2023 at 9am

Remuneration:

- Salary based on experience
- Term time only fixed term contract (will be reviewed after 12 months)
- Pension Scheme
- School fee discount (for qualifying pupils)
- School Lunches (term time)
- Professional development

To apply, please complete an employment application form and return to natalie.mills@hydesville.com

Cognita Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and other third parties to share this commitment.

Safer recruitment practice and pre-employment background checks will be undertaken before any appointment is confirmed.





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