



Learning Support Assistant

Start Date: 1st September 2026

OPENING DOORS TO THE FUTURE

Welcome from the **Headteacher**

Welcome to Bishop Barrington Academy, where we open doors to the future.

At Bishop Barrington Academy, we strive to promote an inclusive and safe school environment, where our highly ambitious curriculum meets the needs of all students and mutual respect underpins excellent relationships between staff, students and our community. All students, regardless of age or ability, should experience success and be celebrated for their achievements. Every decision has your child front and centre and it is our aim to help all our school community to be the best version of themselves. A culture of high expectations is promoted through our RISE values, where Respect, Inspiration, Resilience and Excellence permeate through all aspects of our school, thus inspiring our children to embrace a highly stimulating learning environment, to work hard, to be independent and to take responsibility for their learning.

The extra-curricular offer at Bishop Barrington Academy is second to none, allowing our students, alongside our excellent educational offer and personalised pastoral support, to gain the essential skills required to become confident and successful learners who will thrive in a dynamic, ever-changing world. Thank you and welcome to Bishop Barrington Academy, where our students are at the heart of everything that we do.

Colin Smith
Headteacher

Why work for **Advance Learning Partnership**

Advance Learning Partnership (ALP) is a child-centred, forward-thinking organisation where people truly matter. If you're looking for a role in a workplace that values collaboration, innovation, and professional growth, ALP offers the perfect opportunity to thrive.

A Culture of Excellence and Collaboration

- Our ethos, *'Your child is our child,'* underpins everything we do. We're proud to provide an environment where every decision prioritises the success of our children and the wellbeing of our team.
- As a **Times 100 Best Places to Work 2024** and **Investors in People Platinum Employer**, we are committed to creating a supportive and inclusive workplace. We were proud to be named **Medium Employer of the Year 2024** by Investors in People, highlighting our dedication to our employees.

Exceptional Benefits

- Pension Scheme with Generous Employer Contributions
- Flexible and Hybrid Working Opportunities
- Generous Annual Leave Entitlement
- Family-Friendly Policies

Wellbeing First

- Employee Assistance Programme including counselling and financial wellbeing advice.
- Health and Wellbeing Support including benefits like mental health support, physiotherapy, free flu jabs, and 24/7 GP services.
- Occupational Health Services ensuring you're looked after both physically and mentally.

Investing in Your Development

- Professional Growth: We're passionate about helping our staff develop. From bespoke CPD programmes to leadership pathways, we'll support you to achieve your career goals.
- Leadership Opportunities: Whether you're just starting out or ready to take the next step, we offer leadership development programmes to help you succeed.

Added Benefits

- Discount Schemes: Enjoy savings on shopping, travel and entertainment.
- Salary Sacrifice Options which include our electric car and cycle-to-work schemes.

Why Now?

This is an exciting time to join ALP. We are a growing organisation with a clear vision for the future, and our commitment to excellence means you'll be working in a dynamic, inclusive and forward-thinking environment.

At ALP, your contribution will make a real difference—not only to the lives of our children but also to your own personal and professional growth.

Join us and be part of something truly special.

The LSA Department

Bishop Barrington Academy is a vibrant and inclusive school committed to ensuring every student achieves their full potential. We take pride in fostering an environment where students who require additional support can thrive academically, socially and emotionally. We are looking for a compassionate and enthusiastic Learning Support Assistant to join our outstanding SEND Team. This role involves working within our dedicated Enhanced Learning Provision as well as supporting students in and outside of the classroom. You will play a vital role in helping students access learning, develop independence and achieve their potential.

This is an exciting time to join a prosperous school, with our recent Ofsted rating of "Good," our school is recognised for its strong leadership, effective management, and positive learning environment. This achievement reflects the hard work and commitment of our entire staff, and we are eager to continue building on this success.

As part of our Learning Support Team, you will also play a key role in supporting the ongoing growth and development of the school. You'll be joining a collaborative team that values professional development, teamwork, and a positive work culture. Your contributions will directly impact maintaining the high standards that have been recently recognised.

If you're looking for an opportunity to make a difference in a thriving and forward-thinking school, now is the perfect time to join us.

The Person

- Exhibits the highest of expectations.
- Demonstrates exceptional listening skills and outstanding verbal and written communication abilities.
- Displays outstanding expertise in organisational and time management skills, ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in all tasks.
- Exemplifies the values and ethos of the Trust as a positive role model.
- Displays an ability to lead and motivate a team and foster a culture of collaboration.
- Collaborates as a team player, demonstrating flexibility and commitment to contributing actively to a full program of extra-activities.
- Exhibits excellent people management skills.

Job Description

JOB TITLE	Learning Support Assistant
CONTRACT TYPE	Temporary * subject to student led funding Term time only 37 hours per week
ACCOUNTABLE TO	Subject Leader / Senior Leadership Team
GRADE	Grade 4 SCP 5-8
SALARY	Actual £22,139.13 - £23,213.08
REQUIRED	1 st September 2026

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL POST HOLDERS

ETHOS

Employees are expected to support and contribute to the school ethos.

This job description will be reviewed annually and may be subject to amendment or modification at any time after consultation with the post-holder. It is not a comprehensive statement of procedure and tasks but sets the main expectations of the school in relation to the post holder's professional responsibilities and duties.

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all employees and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to signing our ICT Employee User Policy and having a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Certificate.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Employees will:

- Contribute effectively to the work of the school and to the achievement of the 'School Improvement Priorities'.
- Play a full part in the life of the school community, to support our distinctive aims and ethos, to encourage employees and pupils to follow this example.
- Follow school policy regarding care, support and supervision of pupils.
- Attend training and development activities and courses, ensuring continuing, personal and professional development.
- Contribute to a welcoming school culture by promoting mutual respect for all.
- Comply with any reasonable request from a leader to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.
- Work as a team member.
- Act as a role model to pupils in speech, dress, behaviour and attitude.
- Have common duties in the areas of: Quality Assurance, Communication, Professional Practice, Health & Safety, and General Management (where applicable), Financial Management (where applicable), Appraisal, Equality & Diversity, Confidentiality and Induction.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ALL SUPPORT STAFF

Support Staff will:

- Maintain personal expertise, to be a role model and promote high expectations for all members of the school community through their role within the structure.
- Model the values, ethos and vision of the Trust.
- contribute to the overall ethos, work and aims of the Trust.
- Maintain at all times the utmost confidentiality with regard to all records, personal data relating to staff, pupils and other information of a sensitive or confidential nature.
- Attend relevant meetings as required.
- Be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to safeguarding, child protection, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
- Show a duty of care to pupils and staff and take appropriate action to comply with health and safety requirements at all times.
- Be aware of, and support, difference, ensuring that all pupils have access to opportunities to learn and develop.
- Maintain good relationships with colleagues and work together as a team.
- Appreciate and support the role of other professionals.
- Attend any training courses relevant to the post, ensuring continuing, personal and professional development.
- Demonstrate and promote commitment to equal opportunities and to the elimination of behaviour and practices that could be discriminatory.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF THIS POST

CONDITIONS OF THIS POST

- The post holder will be expected to undertake any appropriate training provided by the Trust to assist them in carrying out any of the above duties.
- The post-holder will be expected to contribute to the protection of children and vulnerable adults, as appropriate, in accordance with any agreed policies and/or guidelines, reporting any issues or concerns to their immediate line manager.
- The post-holder will be required to promote, monitor and maintain health, safety and security in the workplace. To include ensuring that the requirements of Health & Safety at Work Act, COSHH, and all other mandatory regulations are adhered to.
- An Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) will be undertaken before any appointment can be confirmed.
- Follow all school medical/health policies.
- To provide first aid, if appropriate, ensuring timely referral to the health service in emergency situations and deciding on the appropriate action. This includes liaising with parents/guardians/carers where necessary.
- To complete first aid training as required and ensure that records are kept up to date.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS POST

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

All LSA's will:

- Work in partnership with teachers and other professionals to provide effective support for learning activities, tailoring support to the needs of the students if necessary.
- Support planning and delivery of the curriculum for students.
- Offer students varied and purposeful extended day activities in and out of school.
- Contribute to the planning, preparation, maintenance and evaluation of learning activities and environment, identify areas of improvement and new developments as necessary.
- Promote and assist with the development of core literacy and numeracy skills.
- Monitor, assess, report and maintain records of students and their performance.
- Work with small groups of students and individuals both within the classroom and during withdrawal sessions.
- Provide appropriate support and care for students throughout the day, including break and lunchtime monitoring and pre-post academy activities as necessary.
- Attend meetings about students as required.
- Invigilate internal and external tests and examinations under formal conditions.
- Accompany and supervise students on trips and visits as appropriate.
- Liaise with parents/carers and outside agencies as appropriate.
- Follow Academy policy regarding care, support and supervision of students.
- Support the SEDN review process by creating, monitoring and reviewing SEND support plans.
- Liaise with SEND staff and leadership as necessary.

COVER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

All LSA's will:

- Supervise students in class during absence of their class teacher (short term) in accordance with school policy.
- Promote positive values, attitudes and good student behaviour, dealing promptly with conflict and incidents in line with the code of conduct, encouraging students to take responsibility for their own behaviour.
- Administer clear instructions to the class, based on the detailed work set, and actively supervise students as they carry out the instructions.
- Provide objective and accurate feedback to the teacher on the conduct of the lesson.
- Take class registers.
- Liaise with the subject leader, where possible, to ensure that instructions are clarified.
- Liaise with teaching assistants regarding individual students being supported in class.
- Provide feedback on learning activities.
- Make appropriate use of equipment and resources and support the use of ICT.
- Work co-operatively with the admin and support teams and provide assistance as necessary to all parents, students, staff, governors and other relevant stakeholders.
- Supervise students on visits, trips and out of school activities that fall within the normal hours of work of the post holder.
- Supervise student's out of school hours learning activities that fall within the normal hours of the post holder.

The above list of duties and responsibilities are not an exhaustive definition of all tasks associated with the post.

Person Specification

		Essential	Desirable
Application	A well-structured letter of application indicating interests and strengths in the subject	*	
	Fully supported in references	*	
Qualifications and Professional Development	Educated to G.C.S.E Grade C or higher in English and Maths	*	
	A Teaching Assistant qualification at NVQ Level 3 or its equivalent		*
	Recent and relevant in-service/professional development in SEND		*
	Ability to use ICT as a learning tool		*
	Commitment to further study including any in-service training during the last three years	*	
Experience	Ability to demonstrate high standards student support	*	
	Knowledge of a wide range of SEND difficulties and their impact on learning	*	
	Knowledge of the use of data to inform planning, measuring progress and to aid target setting and improving performance against identified outcomes		*
	Experience of multi-agency working and liaison with outside agencies and the Educational Psychology Services.		*
	To have knowledge or experience of 'Restorative Practices' to resolve issues with students.		*
	Working with KS3/4 students in a school environment	*	
	Experience of working with autistic students		*
Qualities & Values	A drive to make learning fun, engaging and exciting	*	
	The ability to inspire others and share good practice	*	
	Good communication skills with the ability to relate effectively to all ages and abilities	*	
	A commitment to promoting inclusion	*	
	Ability to provide and present evidence for statutory assessment and annual	*	
	Ability to provide advice to school staff and liaise with parents/carers.	*	
Personal Attributes	Ability to work under pressure and retain a sense of humour	*	
	Ability to work as team member to achieve common goals	*	
	Initiative, energy and perseverance	*	
	Enthusiasm and self-confidence	*	
	Personal presence and impact	*	
	Ambition to go on to a position of responsibility		*

Assessment against the criteria above will be through the application form, letter of application, work related assessments, interview process and references.

Application Guidance

Please return a completed application form in full ensuring you have provided accurate information, including the names, addresses and relevant contact details of two referees together with your letter of application.

The letter of application should be no more than two sides of A4 and should set out the particular strengths that you would bring to the post and how you feel you meet the criteria outlined in the job description and person specification. Applications received after the closing date/time will not be considered.

Please ensure you also complete and return the required DCCR form. Completed applications must be received by the school by **9am, Monday 6th July 2026 addressed to:**

**Bishop Barrington Academy
Woodhouse Lane
Bishop Auckland
County Durham
DL14 6LA**

or by e-mail to the office, admin@bishopbarrington.net

AFTER SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

If you have not heard from us within 4 weeks please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

Shortlisted Candidate Guidance

REFERENCES

References will be requested prior to interview, except for non-teaching roles where there are exceptional circumstances, and the applicant does not give consent to do so on the application form.

DBS

Advance Learning Partnership is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all employees and volunteers to share this commitment.

An application for a DBS certificate will be submitted for all candidates once they have been offered the position. For posts in regulated activity, the DBS check will include a barred list check. During the recruitment process, any offences, or other matters relevant to the position will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Any offer of employment will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory DBS Enhanced Disclosure.

DIGITAL CHECKS

Online searches may be conducted as part of the Trust's due diligence checks. [Section 226. KCSIE 2025.](#)

PRE-OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Pre-occupational health checks are an essential part of the selection and recruitment process to assess if any reasonable adjustments are required.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

We are an equal opportunity employer. We want to develop a more diverse workforce and we positively welcome applicants from all sections of the community. Applicants with disabilities will be granted an interview if the essential job criteria are met.

As a disability confident employer, we are committed to employing disabled people and people with health conditions making reasonable adjustments to support disabled applicants when required.