

Learning Support Assistant

Salary - Scp 3-4 (£20,812- £21,189 per annum pro-rata)

Term Time Only

Required October 2023 (or earlier)



Birkdale
High
School



Aspire - Thrive - Succeed

INFORMATION PACK - GENERAL INFORMATION.

Birkdale High School is a successful, oversubscribed 11- 16 all-boys High School. There are currently 890 pupils on roll. The school is situated in Southport and is very accessible from Liverpool, Preston and West Lancashire.

We are specialists in the education of boys and firmly believe that this gives us the opportunity to create a unique environment that will enable all our boys to develop their full potential both academically and personally, free from many of the gender based prejudices that so often put pressure on young men. In an all-boys setting, they can mature at their own pace, supported and challenged by staff who are experts in teaching boys, and surrounded by peers to whom they can closely relate.

We are proud of our academic achievements and the examinations success of our boys over the years. These achievements would not be possible without our talented and dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to engage and challenge each and every student, or without the hard work of the boys and the support of their parents and carers.

We also have a sporting record that is second to none amongst the local schools, whether on the track, the field or the court. We regularly top the local league tables and enjoy success at regional and national level too.

We are, however, most proud of our students themselves and the ethos they embody: Aspire, Thrive, Succeed. I hope that as you browse through this welcome pack you start to get an idea of the many different ways in which our pupils exemplify this motto: through our student leadership team, the school council, peer mentors, sports leaders, charity fundraisers and countless other examples.

We are a school for all boys, regardless of their backgrounds, abilities or interests. There are many different ways to be a boy and we value and celebrate every one of them, so we can help each student to succeed and become the young man they aspire to be.



Values and Ethos

Our vision is driven by the strong moral imperative that it is our mission to provide all our boys with a first class education, outstanding outcomes and better life chances. We seek to challenge stereotypes, we are ambitious for every boy we teach and we want to see a society that benefits from the contributions of our well-educated, well-rounded and empowered young men.

We believe that every child, regardless of their background, should be able to fulfil their academic potential and go on to thrive amongst the demands and expectations of life in modern Britain and beyond. The school's motto is "**Aspire – Thrive – Succeed**" and underpins its ethos and approach.

We aim to engage, support, stretch and challenge all boys by providing them with a range of exciting opportunities; a varied and purposeful curriculum and a strong set of core values, demanding of all its students the highest standards in all they undertake whilst supporting them in the fulfilment of their personal and academic potential.

We strive to be an inclusive school, an outward facing centre of academic, professional and personal achievement, prepared to lead, learn from and collaborate with all available partners in the pursuit of excellence for our pupils and staff.



SEND Department

The SENDCO works alongside a team of 12 Learning Support Assistants. This includes an HLTA and 3 level 3 LSAs. LSAs work with whole year groups to provide a link person to liaise with parents and Head of Year. These LSAs have really got to know the pupils they support in class and also offer some bespoke interventions for some of these students. Some LSAs work with specific children who are in receipt of High Needs Funding who require 1 to 1 support.

Aside from in-class support, we also offer a wide range of support outside of the classroom in order to support our boys' learning, social communication and mental health. The interventions & additional support strategies currently taking place are:

- Extra literacy in place of French lessons (3 lessons per fortnight) for year 7 and 8 pupils with the lowest reading age. During these lessons, year 7s do IDL (Indirect Dyslexia Learning which is a specific multi-sensory reading, spelling and grammar software), handwriting practice, individual and small group reading.
- Specific homework support after school - optional for all pupils but compulsory for those SEND students who need support.
- Specialist dyslexia tuition with an external tutor - 1 to 1 or 1 to 2 once a week for individuals in all year groups who require specialist literacy input.
- Specialist autism mentoring by OSSME (Autism Initiatives) - 1 to 1 once per fortnight for 8 of our students on the autistic spectrum.
- EAL support either in-house with one of our LSAs or external tutoring with a specialist tutor.
- LSAs arrange a check-in mentoring type session with some boys they support in class to ensure they are on track and organised for school or to chat about their well-being.



Summary

Role	Learning Support Assistant
Reporting to	Mrs Jayne Weir (SENDCO)
Start Date	October 2023 (or earlier)
Salary Grade	scp 3-4; £20,812 - £21,189 per annum pro-rata
Tour or discussion details	To arrange a tour or have a chat to Mrs Weir (SENDCO) please email kanslow@birkdalehigh.co.uk
Deadline for applications	Monday 18 September 2023
Interview Dates	Week beginning 18 September
Type of School	Multi Academy Trust
Age Range	11-16 (All boys)
Location	Southport, Sefton
Number of pupils	890

It was a pleasure to be shown around your high school today. We were very impressed firstly by Mr Bourgade taking the time to show us around and making our son feel so welcomed and calm. The school has a wonderful calm and caring feel and we were so happy with the subjects on offer, the hub, staffing and how well the school has adjusted during covid. It was a big step bringing our son today and he came away so happy about Birkdale High and not at all anxious. He skipped into primary telling his teacher all about his amazing time at Birkdale High.

A parent of a y6 pupil

