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**Professional development at Fairley House School**

**Fairley House sets out, in its mission statement, to meet the needs of children with difficulties in the areas of literacy and numeracy (Specific Learning Difficulties).**

All children receive specialist teaching for English and Maths in small, attainment based groups. Therapy (Speech and Language and Occupational) integrated within children’s education, for instance much therapy is delivered through the curriculum with therapists working in the classroom alongside teachers

**FHS Diploma [OCR 5 equivalent]: WHY WE NEED YOU TO UNDERTAKE THIS COURSE**

As part of being registered as a CReSTeD school we require that all key staff (teachers and therapists) hold an OCR or RSA certificate or diploma or a higher qualification, or to be enrolled on the OCR course that we run in conjunction with Partners in Education. This enables you to teach literacy up to GCSE level at Fairley House School. There are very few schools that integrate their specialism so completely.

We offer our teachers the highest levels of professional training FHS certificate and Diploma, Professional Development evenings, online training and the opportunity to attend external training courses and conferences where appropriate.

**FAIRLEY HOUSE SCHOOL**

**Level 5 Diploma in Teaching Learners with Specific Learning Difficulties (Dyslexia)**

Fairley House School (FHS) and CPD have offered the training in teaching learners with specific learning difficulties since January 2006.

This qualification provides Continuing Professional Development for teachers working with specific learning difficulties affecting the acquisition of literacy and numeracy. It is suitable for SENCOs, learning support teachers, therapists and classroom teachers wishing to develop specialist skills in this area.

Candidates will attend lectures and seminars after the end of the school day on a Wednesday (from 4:30 to 7:00). Jacqueline Murray, our Principal Educational Psychologist will contribute to the course, as will members of the school’s speech and language and occupational therapy teams. Tutors will present the majority of lectures, and then take group seminars and individual tutorials.

Candidates are required to teach a student with literacy difficulties for 12 hours and a student with literacy and numeracy difficulties for 6 hours.

Candidates will be assessed teaching both their students and this will usually be done by tutors submitting a videoed lesson. Candidates must gather a portfolio of evidence which demonstrates knowledge of SEN legislation and the roles of Specialist Teachers, Educational Psychologists and Speech and Language Therapists. The portfolio must also demonstrate skills in identifying and assessing students with specific learning difficulties, planning teaching programmes, delivering and evaluating lessons, as well as reflection on the candidate’s own performance. There are formal guidelines to follow in order to achieve the qualification. The expectation is that those taking diploma will need to allow at least 10 hours of study per week on top of attending the course.

The course runs over an academic year. Fairley House staff are funded in house, but are required to work in the school for at least 2 years following the course. If not, they would be liable for the course costs or part, thereof, depending upon circumstances

For staff who are not teaching English we have introduced a new course The Fairley House Certificate – this is a general course on teaching pupils with specific learning difficulties, and is led by our Leadership team.

For all other enquires relating to professional development please contact HR