



**Astrea Academy Trust**

INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

**Catering Assistant**

**CANDIDATE PACK**



# Open Letter from our CEO

Dear Candidate,

Astrea is an ambitious, dynamic and young trust with a mission to tackle historic educational disadvantage. Our academies are based across South Yorkshire and Cambridgeshire, often in areas which have experienced generationally poor educational opportunities. Our role is to change that. We want to play our part in the social regeneration of these areas.

We have grown rapidly over the last four years and now educate around 14,000 students in 27 academies. Whilst our educational outcomes have improved over the last 4 years, they are not yet as strong as we would like them to be, nor as strong as our students and communities deserve.

With this in mind, we are entering a new period in our development. We are increasingly clear and specific about our vision for behaviour, curriculum and teaching quality, but our sense of what defines us is still evolving. With this in mind, we are looking for leaders who:

Want to be part of our journey to outstanding, shaping our vision, and helping us to unlock the collective power of our system. If you're a solo flyer, our Trust is not for you.

Share our commitment to an inclusive, aspirational and academic education for all pupils.

Believe that in a Multi-Academy Trust, the whole is greater than the sum of the parts and that it is our collective responsibility to get the best outcomes for all our pupils.

Bring expertise, aspiration, courage, and a collegial approach. We are brave for our communities and we welcome challenge and ambition.

Are authentic, visible and driven.

Bring an academic perspective to their work, supported by well-researched, well-evidenced approaches that make us think and push the trust's practice forwards

Want our schools to be joyful places to learn, underpinned by expert teaching, brilliant curriculum, broad opportunities for learning and excellent consistent behaviour in every classroom.

For our part, we commit to challenging you, inspiring you, supporting your development and giving you access to leadership opportunities not only within your own school, but also across our Trust as your role develops.

Best Wishes

Rowena Hackwood

CEO at Astrea Academy Trust



# Job Description

**JOB TITLE:**  
Catering Assistant

**REPORTING TO:**  
Catering Manager

**SALARY RANGE:**  
£22,548 - £23,114 per annum full time equivalent salary

**ACTUAL SALARY IF PRO RATA:**  
£12,965 - £13,290 per annum

**CONTRACT TYPE:**  
Permanent

**WORKING PATTERN:**  
25 hours per week, 39 weeks per year (term time plus 5 INSET days)



# Role Description

## Purpose

A Catering Assistant, or Kitchen Assistant, helps the Cook to prepare food and keep the kitchen clean. Their duties include serving dinners preparing ingredients, setting dining tables and ensuring that children and staff have a quality dining experience.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Catering Assistants help with all activities related to catering. Their key duties and responsibilities can include:
- Assisting with basic food preparation activities, including washing, peeling and cutting vegetables.
- Assisting with all cleaning requirements, including deep cleans, and daily clean downs.
- Cleaning and sanitizing all tableware and service equipment before and after service.
- Setting up dining areas by arranging tables, service counters, service fridges, beakers and water jugs according to the Catering Manager's instructions.
- Ensuring there is no shortage of supplies by informing the catering manager if any stock or produce is running low.
- Answering questions and serving the children with a friendly can-do attitude.
- Completing tasks to the best of their abilities which have been set to them by the Catering Manager.
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- Completing all closing down procedures as per catering manager/cooks instructions.



# Person Specification

## Experience

- Excellent organisational skills including the ability to multitask and organise workload.
- Great communication skills. Communicating effectively with different internal and external stakeholders.
- Has the ability to work to tight deadlines whilst paying excellent attention to detail.
- Excellent team working skills including communication and prioritisation.
- Helpful and positive approach to dealing with all stakeholders.
- Proactive approach to planning work and achieving deadlines.
- Able to work independently and as part of a team.
- Welcomes challenges and is flexible and adaptable to the needs of the trust.
- Experience preparing fresh food.
- Experience working in a similar chef's role.

## Education and Qualification

Catering Assistants are required to complete mandatory in-house courses such as: Food Hygiene, Allergen Awareness and Anaphylaxis, Food Safety, Manual Handling, Fire Safety, Health and Safety at work and safeguarding. This is part of our induction plan.

Any qualifications in food preparation, hospitality or professional cookery is desired but not essential.

## Skills and Knowledge

A successful Catering Assistant candidate has prerequisite skills and qualifications needed to do their work effectively. These include but are not limited to:

- Having experience in different preparation methods of food items
- Application of food health and safety regulations
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Friendly and hard working
- Effective organizational skills
- The ability to complete admin tasks to an adequate level
- Able to work effectively in a team or on their own

### **This is not exhaustive.**

Astrea Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Posts are subject to enhanced DBS checks. For further details on the recruitment process, please review our Recruitment Pack. This can be found attached to each vacancy

# About Astrea

Astrea is an ambitious, dynamic and young trust with a mission to tackle historic educational disadvantage and raise quality standards across all of our schools. Our academies are based across South Yorkshire and Cambridgeshire, often in areas or at schools which have experienced generationally poor educational opportunities. Our role is to change that. We have grown rapidly over the last four years and now educate around 14,000 students in 27 academies and settings. Whilst our educational outcomes have improved over the last 4 years, they are not yet as strong as we would like them to be, nor as strong as our students and communities deserve. With this in mind, we are entering a new period in our development. We are increasingly clear and specific about our vision for behaviour, curriculum and teaching quality.

## Key Characteristics of our academies:

- High aspirations, with a firm emphasis on academic attainment
- A knowledge-rich curriculum that develops a general knowledge of the world not simply for progression for the workplace, but for the love of the acquisition of knowledge
- A calm and purposeful learning environment built on mutual respect and centralised behaviour systems
- Outstanding pastoral care with the provision of specific trust delivered SEMH services where appropriate to the pupil
- Standardised reading and arithmetic catch-up programmes for pupils where this is relevant that are taught by specialists
- Active parental and community involvement
- A broad range of extra-curricular activities including sports, music, performing arts and academic clubs

## Objectives for pupils:

- Encourage all children to be confident, hard-working and ambitious, regardless of background
- Transmit a core body of knowledge to all pupils and the ability to think for themselves in order to be aware of the world around them
- To be active and thoughtful participants in their local community
- To be successful in achieving their qualifications at both GCSE and A Level

## A knowledge-rich education:

- By a knowledge-rich education we mean a rigorous and extensive, knowledge-based education that draws its material and methods from the best and most important work in both the humanities and the sciences.
- The aim of a core-knowledge education is not primarily to prepare pupils for a job or career, it is more to transform their minds so that they are able to make reasonable and astute judgments and engage fruitfully in conversation and debate – not just about contemporary issues, but also about the universal questions that have been troubling mankind throughout history.
- We want children to leave our schools with the confidence that comes from possessing an essential general knowledge. A knowledge-rich education should not confine itself to the Western canon, but should embrace other cultures and traditions. What that canon includes will be subject to review, but will always be closely connected to the history and the present nature of the society in which we live, including our international connections.

View the [Astrea 2025 Strategy here](#)

Astrea Academy Trust are delighted to be part of such an important movement, which will ensure we have the guidance to challenge attitudes towards disability, tap into wider talent pools and help all individuals across the Trust fulfil their potential and realise their aspirations. As a Disability confident employer we have pledged to promote a culture that ensures there are no barriers to the development and progression of disabled staff.

## Astrea Talent Programme

*We believe that everyone has talent. At Astrea, we want your career to flourish, nurturing potential through the Astrea Talent Programme. This provides a defined career pathway, with associated personal and professional development way points and opportunities, funded by the Trust, wherever you start on the pathway. From apprentice to senior leader, we are devoted to growth and fulfilment. We want you to realise your ambition plus competence towards a brilliant education for all our pupils, giving them the opportunities they truly deserve.*

