



**Avon Valley**  
Academy



# Driver

Avon Valley Academy



Proud to be part of

**Acorn**  
Education Trust

# Welcome from **Rob Price**

Acorn Education Trust CEO

**Thank you for your interest in one of our vacancies; I hope the information enclosed in this pack inspires you to apply.**

Acorn Education Trust was established in 2014. We now serve 23 settings: 17 Primary Schools, 4 Secondary Schools, and 2 Nurseries.

Our Trust has a family feel to it. Our vision is to 'prepare young people for their world in their time' and this sits at the heart of all we do. We aim to transform lives through education, and we strive every day to achieve that through strong, supportive leadership and a keen focus on teaching and learning.

## **Our Acorn Values:**

- A** Active and visible leadership
- C** Care, support and challenge
- O** Opportunities for all
- R** Readiness to reach out
- N** Needs of all are paramount

In Acorn, we are proud to say that every Headteacher can focus on leading teaching and learning in their school. Our Central Services manage the business element of the Trust which allows us to share resources, improve IT and estates infrastructure, and invest in school-to-school support. This allows the Headteacher and staff more time to devote to those who really matter: the children.

Whatever role you are applying for, whether in one of our schools or as part of the central team, we hope you can align with our vision and values, have the determination to succeed, and are up for a challenge. In turn, we will provide you with a comprehensive and supportive induction programme, professional development, and a career with Acorn. As well as a great deal of fun.

We hope this information pack provides you with a flavour of working within our Trust and we eagerly look forward to receiving your application.





# About Avon Valley Academy

Respect, determination and excellence

Avon Valley Academy is a thriving, co-educational school, educating young people between the ages of 11 and 16 years. Located in Durrington, our school has a strong reputation for being at the heart of the community and has built strong relationships with the two local army bases at Larkhill and Bulford.

As a school, we aim for every lesson and every day to be exceptional. To achieve this, we ensure that all staff have access to a wide variety of training and are given time to foster strong relationships with our students. Our staff take pride in how well they know our students and are always looking to go the extra mile to help them achieve their dreams. With our strong pastoral care and high standards for behaviour, our school encourages students to have high self-worth and love coming to school. This has created a vibrant school community in which each individual can thrive.

In May 2022 we joined Acorn Education Trust, which has provided exciting opportunities to improve local education and draw on collective experience. We work closely with other schools within the Trust and the central team to help us continue to grow from strength to strength. In July 2025, we were proud to be rated 'Good' in all areas by Ofsted.

Our school has a wide range of excellent facilities, including:

- Sports fields, netball courts, tennis courts, astro turf pitches, a gym and sports hall; dance and drama studios;
- Interactive whiteboards and projectors in classrooms;
- Computer suites in most teaching areas;
- A large hall equipped with full AV system and a stage for our productions, events and concerts;
- A library with a wide range of reading materials;
- Subject area suites for science, design technology and art;
- Enhanced Provision via our Link and Learning and Welfare Hub, as well as a Behaviour Hub;
- New buildings;
- Large grounds.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Shelley Tuke  
*Headteacher*

For more information, please visit our website: [www.avonvalleyacademy.org.uk](http://www.avonvalleyacademy.org.uk)

# Job Description

<b>Job Title</b>	Driver (minibus)
<b>Reporting to</b>	Head of Estates / Headteacher

## Main Purpose

The Driver (minibus) will work with the school to ensure the safe, timely and efficient transportation of students to and from school / on school trips, ensuring the students' welfare and being responsible for the vehicle's roadworthiness. Other driving / transporting duties may be required, on occasion.

## Duties and Responsibilities

- Transport students to/from school / on school trips in a safe, timely and efficient manner, ensuring their welfare at all times while adhering to all traffic laws and safety regulations;
- Ensure health and safety is adhered to at all times, including daily and weekly checking of the vehicle prior to journeys to ensure its roadworthiness, and report any issues as necessary;
- Keeping the vehicle clean and tidy (inside and out);
- Ensure the safety and well-being of all students during transport, including assisting with boarding and disembarking, particularly for students with mobility issues;
- Keep accurate records of vehicle checks, fuel logs, and any incidents or accidents as required;
- Communicate effectively with school staff regarding student behaviour, vehicle maintenance needs, and any other relevant information;
- Maintain a professional approach and act as a positive representative of the school, being punctual and reliable;
- Assist with loading and unloading of student belongings or equipment, where required;
- Cover for absent colleagues, as required;
- Participate in relevant training courses, such as MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme).

# Person Specification

Criteria	Essential
<b>Qualifications and Training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holds a full clean driving licence</li></ul>
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can demonstrate previous experience in a similar (driving) role;</li></ul>
<b>Skills and Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can demonstrate knowledge of Health &amp; Safety procedures and precautions</li><li>• Effective communicator, able to communicate with all levels of school staff, pupils and outside agencies</li><li>• Ability to work flexibly, if required</li><li>• Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, prioritising and scheduling effectively and efficiently</li><li>• Excellent practical and organisational skills</li><li>• Is self motivated, dedicated and consistent.</li></ul>

The Driver will be required to follow school policies and the staff code of conduct.

*Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the successful applicant will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role.*

# Support for **Our Staff**

Whether your role is in a school or the central team, you will be part of a caring team that will provide you with the support and challenge needed to fulfil your role effectively.

## **Continued Professional Development (CPD)**

- A comprehensive induction programme for all new staff (across all roles), that includes mentor and peer support
- Statutory training on safeguarding, health & safety and GDPR
- Access to over 2,500 world-leading courses, webinars and resources via the National College online training platform
- Support for Early Career Teachers (ECTs)
- Role specific training for Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) and Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) roles
- School based training, including mentoring and coaching from senior leaders within school and across the wider Trust; Cross phase and school to school support
- Subject communities, across primary and secondary level, to share good practice across the Trust
- Opportunities to role shadow
- Apprenticeships available at various levels across the Trust for multiple roles, including Teaching, Teaching Assistants, Nursery and IT Technicians

## **Health and Wellbeing**

- A strong culture of wellbeing across all schools and the central team
- Family friendly policies, including comprehensive flexible working policy, adoption leave policy, maternity and paternity (including shared parental leave) policies and staff wellbeing policy
- Access to [Care First](#), an employee assistance programme which provides confidential support on health and wellbeing, relationships, money issues, bereavement and loss, stress, anxiety and depression and much more

## **Pensions**

- Teacher pension
- Local government pension
- Nest pension

Staff wellbeing is very important at Acorn Education Trust. We are consistently looking for new ways to improve our offering, and, regularly collect feedback at all levels to check in with our staff and ensure they feel supported in their role.

# How to Apply

If you would like more information about this role, please contact the school office via email at [office@avonvalleyacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@avonvalleyacademy.org.uk) or by phone on 01980 652467.

## To Apply

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Please visit our [Acorn careers page](#) to complete an application form.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for a one-day interview

Avon Valley Academy, Recreation Road, Durrington, Salisbury,  
Wiltshire, SP4 8HH

01980 652467

[office@avonvalleyacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@avonvalleyacademy.org.uk)

*Avon Valley Academy as part of the Acorn Education Trust, is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. If successful in obtaining this post you will be subject to a Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service and health screening. We are an equal opportunities employer. As part of our safer recruitment processes, if you are shortlisted for the post, we will carry out a social media account search.*

Applicant Information Pack



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**Thank you for  
taking the time to  
read our applicant  
information pack.**



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