



Learning and Behaviour Specialist Ambitious College

Recruitment Pack 2021

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If you, or someone you know would like this publication in an email, in Braille, large print, Easy Read transcription or audio tape, please email jobs@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk.



Welcome from the Head of College

May I take this opportunity to thank you for expressing an interest in applying for this position at Ambitious College part of Ambitious about Autism.

This is an exciting time to join our college as we embark on our seventh year serving autistic young people aged 16-25 across London and the Home Counties. We are proud to be an Ofsted rated 'Good' college, winning the Natspec Award for 'Wellbeing and mental health' this year.

We believe that every young person attending Ambitious College deserves a fulfilling, happy and rewarding life. Our educational approach focuses on the individual at all times. We offer a highly personalised curriculum and positively support our learners to acquire new skills and take part in everyday life.

We currently have 85 learners aged 16-25 supported by over 140 specialists. Ambitious College is committed to providing the high quality, specialist learning and support needed to prepare our learners for adulthood through increasing their skills, independence and wellbeing.

As part of the charity Ambitious about Autism, Ambitious College strives to make the ordinary possible and enhance the quality of life of its learners. We are very proud of our college and our learners achievements. Our 'Good' judgements from Ofsted quoting "Learners are well motivated by the individual learning programmes and high aspirations that staff hold for them. All staff are skilled, know the learners well and are caring and sensitive in their approach." To continue our development, we need collaborative individuals that thrive in challenging environments working as part of a robust team.

If you are Ambitious about making the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism, share our forward thinking, open minded values then we would love to hear from you.

**Linda Looney,
Head of College**



Where to Find Us

Pears Campus at CONEL

Ambitious College, Pears Campus at CONEL, Clyde Road, South Tottenham, London, N15 4FY



Imartucci@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

Parking is available at the Bernie Grant Art Centre. Car Park charges apply. The car park postcode is N15 4FP. The Pears Campus at CONEL is easily accessible by regular bus, underground, and train services.

The nearest tube station is Seven Sisters on the Victoria Line and is a five-minute walk from there.



Pears Campus at West Thames College

Ambitious College, Pears Campus, West Thames College, London Road, Isleworth TW7 4HS



Imartucci@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

There is a car park for staff, disabled students, and evening students (entrance on Harvard Road), however, places are limited on a first come first-served basis. If visitors require parking, then please contact the campus and the team can request on your behalf. Please note, places are not guaranteed. There are parking meters on the roads directly around the campus. The nearest free parking is on Osterley Road.



The Pears Campus at West Thames is easily accessible by regular bus, underground, and train services.

[Click here to meet the team](#)

[Click here to take a virtual tour around our colleges](#)

About Autism

Ambitious about Autism is committed to making the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism.

- Autism is a lifelong, developmental disability which affects 1 in 100 people in the UK. It affects the way a person communicates and how they experience the world around them.
- Children with autism face many barriers. These may include a lack of understanding of their needs and how to meet them, a lack of good quality services and opportunities to have their views taken into account.

As a result:

- Fewer than 1 in 4 young people with autism access education beyond school.
- Only 16% of people with autism work full-time and 90% remain dependent on their families for the rest of their lives
- Many families struggle to support their child, live in poverty and feel isolated.

This must be addressed with urgency if we are to stop the wasted opportunities for these children, their families and our society.



Ambitious College

Our history and what we do

Ambitious College is an independent specialist day college that opened in September 2014 dedicated to supporting young people with autism aged 16–25. Ambitious College is a part of Autism about Autism the national charity for children and young people with autism.

We are located within two mainstream further education college campuses: The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London (CONEL), and West Thames College, West London. At each campus, our team of dedicated and passionate professionals includes: teachers, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, employment

specialists, behaviour analysts and specialist support staff. They do not take a 'one size fits all' approach. Instead, they work together to provide learning and support approaches tailored to the individual.

Through a range of partnerships with local and national businesses, community groups and our mainstream college partners, we also offer opportunities to learn in the community. This combined approach – personalised education, positive support and real work experience – delivers results. It allows our young people to achieve their goals, fulfil their potential and go on to lead active lives in their community.

Our values

Children and young people with autism are at the centre of all that we do.



Our aims

- **More and better services** that meet the needs of young people with autism effectively
- **Greater awareness and understanding of the needs** of young people with autism and how best to meet these needs
- **Policy at national and local level** that takes into account the needs of young people with autism

Our co-located model

We are aspirational and ambitious for our learners and believe that many of them, with the right support, can have a place in a mainstream educational setting. That is why our campuses are co-located within mainstream further education colleges. This allows us to offer a much wider curriculum and provide learners with a broad range of mainstream vocational learning, and social and work experience opportunities.

In North London, our co-located partner is The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London, and in West London we have partnered with West Thames College. The success of our co-located approach depends on strong partnerships with our host providers. We thank them for their support.

Ambitious College is London's only registered Specialist College dedicated to educating and training young people with complex autism aged 16-25 years. The college is now based on two permanent campuses co-located and in partnership with mainstream further education colleges.

Our curriculum

We support young people with autism to live the lives they want. To do so, we devise and deliver personalised learning opportunities that help them achieve outcomes set out in their individual Educational, Health and Care Plans (EHCP). Because our learners' skill levels vary, we take an individual, person-centred approach to teaching, learning and assessment.

We include, throughout our entire curriculum, functional skills such as English, maths, communication, information and communications technology (ICT). Our curriculum also reflects the four pathways of the Preparing for Adulthood Agenda

preparingforadulthood.org.uk

Job Description

Job title	Learning and Behaviour Specialist	Team	Ambitious College
Job band	2/3	Reporting to	Learning Support Co-ordinator
Hours	35 Hours per week (41 weeks per year)	Line manages	N/A

Role Purpose

- To deliver high-quality learning support to young adults with autism to enable them to pursue their ambitions in relation to further education, work and leisure. Learning and Behaviour Specialists support learners' person-centred study programmes in a range of environments.

Duties and Key Responsibilities

- To appropriately support learners to achieve the person-centred outcomes outlined in their individualised study programme.
- Support will be provided to access further education settings, supported employment opportunities, social enterprises, leisure activities and community-based learning opportunities • Support learners to achieve targets laid out in their individual learning plans (ILP) and gather related evidence of learning and share with the multidisciplinary team within a specified timeframe
- As part of a college multidisciplinary team ensure that learners are supported to achieve their learning development goals. This will include following support plans and programmes designed by Teachers, Behaviour Analysts, OTs and SaLTs
- To be responsible for safeguarding learners and reporting any concerns as per organisational policy and procedure
- Ensure risk assessments, and emergency plans are followed up in line with policy and procedures

- To ensure appropriate and accurate data is collected and recorded. To be responsible for regularly sharing data with line management to evaluate the effectiveness of learning
- To provide excellent personal care support in line with organisational policy and approved support plans and guidelines. This may include support with toileting, the administration of medication, mealtime support etc. The post-holder will have responsibility for ensuring that all administrative requirements in relation to these tasks are undertaken, are kept timely, and that any concerns are identified and reported
- Where key working responsibilities have been allocated, to ensure that learners' folders are kept valid and all documents reviewed as per agreed timelines. This will include personal care support plans, medical care support plans, individual learning plans, behaviour support plans, risk assessments, data collation and tracking etc
- Where directed, to produce and organise appropriate learning materials and resources
- To support the creation and maintenance of good working relations and communication both internally within the college and with families and other relevant stakeholders
- To be responsible for allocated petty cash and learners' money as per organisational policy and procedure. To ensure the accurate completion of related administrative tasks and the timely reporting of any concerns
- To work in line with service policy and procedure to ensure compliance to all legislative requirements. To ensure that any concerns are reported
- Where required and authorised to do so, drive vehicles to support the transportation of learners

Training

- Commitment to attendance at, and completion of, all training required by Ambitious College
- To apply learning and skills gained through training to all areas of the role

General

- To ensure safeguarding practices are undertaken to the highest standards
- To support the running of the service in accordance with the policies of the charity
- To participate in team meetings and meetings across the charity where required
- To carry out any other duties at the request of management as appropriate
- Responsible for ensuring effective communication (the right information, to the right people, at the right time)
- To be responsible for the health and safety of self and others using proactive and reactive strategies. This will include using positive handling techniques
- To promote equality of opportunity and a respect for diversity

Person Specification

Role and band competencies

Specific Knowledge, Experience & Technical skills

1. Five GCSEs or equivalent (including Maths and English)
2. Knowledge and demonstrable experience of working with young adults with autism/SEN
3. Interest in, and knowledge of, autism
4. Experience of managing behaviours that challenge
5. Good appreciation of, and a basic knowledge of, health and safety, data protection principles and equal opportunities
6. Proven ability to solve problems quickly and remain calm in escalated situations
7. Basic level of IT literacy in using Microsoft software e.g. outlook, Word, Excel
8. Excellent communication skills both written and verbal (in English)
9. Willingness to support and participate in community based activities such as swimming and gardening etc

Personal Attributes

1. Willingness to learn and commit to the principle of positive behaviour support
2. Willing to undertake direct intimate personal care tasks as required
3. Willing to lone work as and when required
4. To have the physical and emotional resilience to work with young adults with autism who may have behaviours that challenge
5. Able to develop and maintain positive relationships with learners and other relevant stakeholders
6. Able to work using own initiative and also effectively as part of a team
7. Punctual and reliable
8. Able to work flexibly: occasional evening and weekend work in order for learners to participate in line with person-centred plan
9. Demonstrate a continual commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
10. Demonstrate a continual commitment to the promotion of diversity initiatives and the sharing of best practice in line with Ambitious about Autisms Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy and procedures
11. Ensure the highest degree of confidentiality and data protection of all materials

How to apply

If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity, need any further information or wish to have an informal discussion please contact **Luca Martucci, Recruitment Team** – 0208 142 3845 lmartucci@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

Equal opportunities monitoring

Stage	Timescale
Closing date for applications	Friday 3rd September 2021
First Stage Interviews (Virtual, Microsoft Teams)	Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th, Wednesday 8th and Monday 13th September 2021
Start Date	As soon as possible, we fully appreciate current commitments and notice periods and will take these into consideration.

If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity, need any further information or clarification please contact Luca Martucci on **0208 142 3845** or lmartucci@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

Equal opportunities monitoring

Ambition about Autism is fully committed to equality of opportunity and diversity and we warmly welcome applications from all suitably-qualified candidates. We welcome applications regardless of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origins, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marital or civil partner status, pregnancy or maternity, disability, or age. All applications will be considered solely on merit.

Ambitious about Autism is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and successful candidates will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check

We are Ambitious about Autism

Ambitious about Autism is the national charity for children and young people with autism.

We provide services, raise awareness and understanding, and campaign for social and policy change. Through TreeHouse School, The Rise School and Ambitious College, we offer specialist education and support.

Our ambition is to make the ordinary possible for more children and young people with autism.

Contact us

The Pears National Centre for Autism Education
Woodside Avenue, London N10 3JA

☎ 020 8815 5444

✉ info@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

🌐 ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

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Ambitious about Autism is a registered charity in England and Wales: 1063184 and a registered company: 3375255.

Ambitious about Autism Schools Trust is an exempt charity in England and Wales and a registered company: 08335297.