**THRIVE PRACTITIONER**

**ADVERT and JOB INFORMATION**

**Background**

Gosden House School is a thriving community and a maintained special school for children between the ages of 4 and 16 years of age. The school caters for pupils with learning and additional needs (LAN), and other special educational needs, including language and communication.

We are incredibly lucky to be set in 40 acres with a mansion house, walled garden and beautiful grounds and we have supported children with learning difficulties and increasingly complex needs for over 60 years. Our reputation for both educational attainment and pastoral care is reflected in the retention of our ‘Outstanding’ grading by Ofsted earlier this year. Because of the wonderful setting we are in, we can ensure all our children can benefit from outdoor learning, creative play and really enjoying and learning from the environment.

Our ethos is built around a child centred approach to learning, one founded on high expectations and innovation. We have a wonderful supportive team and we aim to tailor strategies and approaches that will meet the needs of each child, supporting them in all aspects of their development, nurturing self-esteem, confidence and aspiration. We deliver a modified National Curriculum, with a strong focus on core literacy, numeracy and communication skills.

We are committed to working in partnership with families, professionals and all agencies to maximise the opportunities for each child.

***Gosden House School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The appointment will be subject to satisfactory references and an enhanced disclosure through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).***

**THRIVE PRACTITIONER – PAGE 2**

**ADVERT and JOB INFORMATION**

**Start Date 2nd December – This is flexible**

*This is one year pilot, so this position will be reviewed in Autumn 2020.*

* ***Closing Date for Applications Wednesday 23rd October 9 am***
* ***Interviews to be held week commencing 4th November***
* ***Hours: 3 day/week, term time only***
* ***Grade: Surrey Pay Scale S5 TA grade.***
* ***Reporting to the Deputy Head***

We are looking to embed our strong pastoral ethos by introducing the Thrive Approach. This is a whole school approach, which will also be used to support individual children and targeted groups. Our pastoral team – ie Home School Link Worker and Pastoral Care practitioner, will both be trained in the Thrive approach (if not already qualified). This is a one year course, delivered online and in face to face sessions.

**What is Thrive?**

It is a development model designed to assess children’s social and emotional development, in order to understand their functioning and identify gaps. Thrive provides practical, creative strategies to work with children and young people to rebuild neural pathways. It has a strong research base and is designed specifically for schools.

<https://www.thriveapproach.com/>

**What will this look like in practice?**

Whole school: A practical model which directly builds on the school’s pastoral ethos. *Thrive Online* is an assessment tool which enables staff to assess exactly where a CYP is developmentally and plan a programme to meet their needs. This is used as part of the whole class planning and assessment cycle.

Targeted groups: The assessment can be collated in order to target vulnerable groups and offer additional support – e.g. a group of Secondary students who are struggling to safe stay online, a group of primary children struggling with sensory regulation at playtimes.

Individual pupil: The Assessment is done for each pupil, and produces a profile and action plan. This can be used to work with an individual, directly with the Thrive Practitioner in a regular, creative session. The online tool will also produce a corresponding plan for classroom staff to work with an individual child.