

stChris

A day and boarding school for boys and girls
aged 3 – 18. Asking interesting questions since 1915.

**A dynamic and
rewarding place
to work.**

LSA Autism Specialist

37 hours per week
Term Time plus one week
37 weeks per annum

Apply by 12.00pm on
Tuesday 22 April 2025

Hello! Thank you for taking an interest in our LSA Autism Specialist role. Here at St Chris, we embrace the challenges of the modern world which necessitates the asking of interesting questions.

This job pack contains more details about what this position involves, personal specifications and total reward.



LSA Autism Specialist

Salary

FTE £27,397 - £30,052

Actual Salary £22,444 - £24,619

Point 25 - 28 of the Professional Services salary scale dependent on skills and experience.

Contract

37 hours per week

Term Time plus one week

37 weeks per annum.

Location

On-site, Letchworth Garden City
Hertfordshire

Life at **stChris**

St Chris is an independent day and boarding school for girls and boys aged 3 to 18 located in Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire. Our School was established in 1915 and, since then, has been working to do things differently if, and only if, it makes things better for our students.

There are currently around 500 pupils on roll and 200 staff.

St Chris seeks to be a continuously developing community of children and adults working together to enable everyone to achieve their best. All are valued as individuals and encouraged to develop curiosity, competence, judgement, kindness and courage. St Chris seeks to prepare pupils for happy and fulfilled lives in the service of others.

We treat young people as individuals, encouraging them to develop into capable, imaginative, responsible people with a zest for life.

Purpose of the Role

To support students who have Autism attending St Chris to make good academic, social and personal progress by using autism evidence based approaches. You will support the delivery of a broad, balanced and personalised curriculum that has a therapeutic approach woven throughout. You will predominantly be based in our specialist resourced provision, Arunfield, however may at times be required to support in both the Junior and Senior school.

Line Management Responsibility

This role will have no line management responsibility and will report to Inclusion Strategy Lead.



The students are incredibly self-aware and unafraid to be who they are. It's inspiring to see them advocate for themselves.

Olivia Pastor, teaching Assistant

What will the LSA Autism Specialist do?

Here's an overview of the LSA Autism Specialist's responsibilities and how they will be involved in the day-to-day running of the school.

Key accountabilities and responsibilities of the role:

- Use specialist skills to support students with autism to fully engage with their learning at St Chris.
- Foster an inclusive and positive learning environment, supporting the student to develop their self-esteem and recognition of their abilities.
- Undertake structured and agreed activities, adapting activities according to student responses, including supporting challenging behaviour.
- To plan, run and review interventions, including outdoor and life skills interventions as directed by the Inclusion Strategy Lead, either on a 1-2-1 basis or with small groups.
- To have a creative and therapeutic approach to interventions and use appropriate strategies, to support students to achieve.
- To establish a positive, professional and productive working relationships with students, acting as a role model and setting high expectations for behaviour and learning.
- To encourage the student to interact and work collaboratively and co-operatively with peers and staff.
- Monitor students' responses to learning and accurately record achievement/progress as directed and provide detailed and regular feedback to teachers about students' achievement and progress.
- Use positive behaviour management strategies, in line with the St Chris's policies and procedures, which contribute to a purposeful learning environment.
- To support the social and emotional development of the student reporting any issues when required to the Mental Health Lead and Inclusion Strategy Lead.
- Collaborate with teachers, therapists, and other professionals where required.
- Create and maintain a purposeful, orderly and supportive environment, including producing and maintain resources, displays and provision layout in consultation with the Inclusion Strategy Lead.
- To engage in ongoing professional development, including specific Autism training, to support the needs of students in school and to share the learning from this training with the wider staff body.



Continued on following page. →

Additional Duties

- Demonstrate a continual commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
- To uphold St Chris policies to protect and safeguard pupils to secure their health, safety and wellbeing
- Demonstrate a continual commitment to the promotion of equity, inclusion and diversity initiatives and the sharing of best practice in line with St Chris Equal Opportunities policy and procedures
- Ensure the highest degree of confidentiality and data protection of all material. Have a good understanding of relevant data protection legislation and regulations, especially the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation.

This job description is not contractual or exhaustive but reflects the type and range of tasks, responsibilities and outcomes associated with the role. The post holder will be expected to also complete any tasks, as requested by their manager.





stChris

Person Specification



Qualifications, training and experience

- Literacy and numeracy qualifications to level 2 or above
- To have experience of supporting students with Autism
- Understanding of and an interest in education
- Experience of effective record keeping use of administrative skills
- Relevant qualifications in Autism
- Understanding of special educational needs and strategies that can be employed to support pupil learning
- Experience of working with children of a primary and secondary school age
- Experience of supporting pupils with special educational needs
- Understanding of the area, local communities and relevant issues for families.
- Knowledge of KS3 and GCSE course requirements

Skills and abilities

- Have a calm, patient, and proactive approach to working with students.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Willingness to learn
- Ability to manage own work effectively and take responsibility for own professional development
- Developed interpersonal and communication skills (including written, oral and presentation skills)
- Be able to cope with change and meet challenges successfully
- Team working skills
- Ability to liaise/consult with as appropriate with a range of professionals and agencies as well as pupils and parents
- Ability to advocate on behalf of pupils and form appropriate positive relationships
- Fundamental belief that every child matters and that aspirations/achievements can be significantly altered
- A liking, empathy and respect for children and sensitivity to their needs
- Ability to relate well to parents and the wider community
- Personal presence to develop and promote high standards in all aspects of school life.
- IT skills, including email, internet

Benefits of Working at St Chris

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There's a passion for learning and a real sense of belonging here.

Connor Vincent, Drama Teacher



Welcome to St Chris

Schools are - in truth - nothing more than a collection of people working together, and it is on that understanding that all the incredible things achieved at St Chris come to be. So, 'Hello'; and we mean that.

St Chris is a lot of things, all at the same time.

St Chris is an independent school for boys and girls aged 3-18.

St Chris is a community of young people from across the local area, the country, and the world.

St Chris is something unmistakably different from the moment you arrive.

St Chris is an outstanding, modern school with an important, progressive heritage.

1

Pension Scheme

Competitive pension scheme with 8% employer contribution plus an additional up to 4% personal sacrifice matched.

2

Westfield Health Plan

Complimentary opt-in Level 1 Westfield Health Plan with the option to scale up your plan with salary sacrifice.

3

Free Lunch

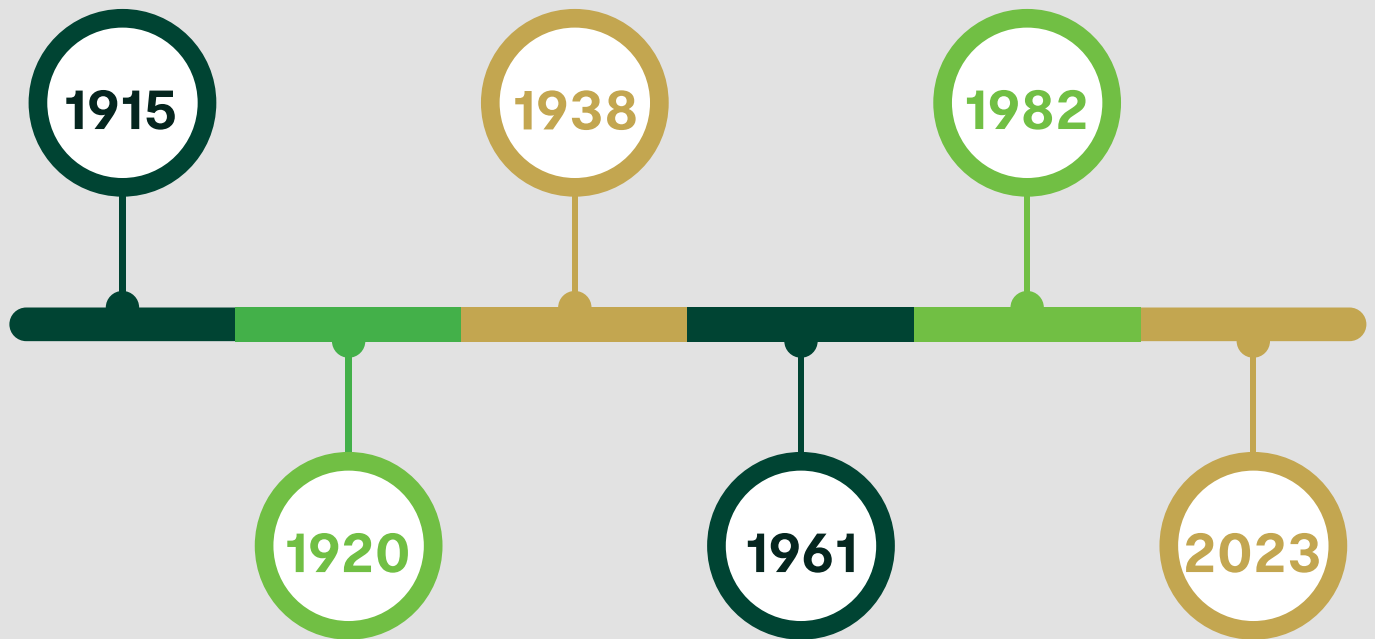
As part of a non-contractual agreement. Free vegetarian lunches are provided to staff during term time.

4

Facilities

Access to the school's on-site swimming pool and gym.

A Brief History of St Chris



St. Chris Established

St Christopher School (then known as the 'Garden City Theosophical School') was established in 1915 by headmaster, Dr. Armstrong Smith, ready for a new style of education.

Initial Meeting of the School Council

The Council consisted of 32 students and staff and met on a fortnightly basis to discuss and legislate on school matters. From December 1920, decisions made by the Council were later ratified by a meeting of the whole school.

Abolishing Uniform

Following a protest in the school magazine, the School Council discusses abolishing school uniforms for boys. The motion is, eventually, passed but no action is taken. During the war, clothing rationing and difficulties for parents meant that uniform was relaxed in 1938.

Swimming Pool Built

Parents contribute an initial £600 towards building the school swimming pool and pupils aim to raise £1000 themselves in 1961. The community pulls together to remove topsoil, excavate and build the pool. By 1968, the pool and changing rooms were completed.

Theatre and Sports Hall Open

A drama festival of eight plays marks the opening in 1982. Over the next decade, the enthusiasm of pupils allowed an average of five school productions each year, ranging from *Twelfth Night* and *Three Sisters* to *Blood Wedding* and *Accrington Paris*.

Present Day

Today, St Chris is a vibrant, thriving community working together. We believe in the benefits of an informal approach underpinned by the belief that all voices, from the youngest member of the nursery to the chair of governors, should be listened to and treated respectfully.



Let's work together.

Piqued your interest? We thought so.

At St Chris, we do things differently to benefit our young people and community. Looking for a new challenge? Looking to have an impact? Searching for a job that gets you thinking?

Apply for this role at www.stchris.co.uk/vacancies.

How to apply

To apply, please complete an application form (we do not accept CVs as an educational institution) and submit this, together with a covering letter to the People team at hr@stchris.co.uk. If you would like a conversation regarding this opportunity, please contact Kirsten Rockey, Head of SEND at 01462 650850.

Please also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring form which will be immediately detached from your application.

St Chris is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants will be subject to child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

St Chris is fully committed to equality of opportunity and diversity and we warmly welcome applicants from all suitably-qualified candidates. We welcome applications regardless of race, colour, nationalist, ethnic or national origins, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marital or civil partner status, pregnancy or maternity, disability or age.

The closing date for applications for this role is 12.00pm on Tuesday 22 April 2025. Interviews will take place on Friday 2 May March 2025.