



SEDBERGH  
SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1525

---

Candidate Information Brochure  
**VISUAL IMPAIRMENT TEACHING ASSISTANT**

SEPTEMBER 2021

FULL-TIME

[sedberghschool.org](https://sedberghschool.org)

Click [HERE](#) to watch the Spirit of Sedbergh video







# Introduction

Sedbergh School, founded in 1525 by Roger Lupton, Provost of Eton, is an Independent Co-educational Boarding School. The Headmaster is a member of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference. Set in the spectacular Yorkshire Dales National Park, it also benefits from fast motorway and rail access to the rest of the UK.

The School is a vibrant, demanding and supportive community which encourages pupils and staff to be involved in as broad a range of activities and interests as possible. Art, Drama and Music are especially strong, and the School has a national reputation for Sport. Sedbergh has its own Prep School located approximately eight miles away at Casterton.

We are now seeking to appoint an outstanding full-time Visual Impairment Teaching Assistant and the position will be available from September 2021.





# The Learning Support Department

The Learning Support Department is a successful, effective and professional part of the School, providing guidance and support for pupils and staff. The department has two full-time members of staff. There is also a small team of specialist invigilators who provide reading and scribing support during exams.

Over 150 pupils appear on the Learning Support register, of whom 40 are receiving Learning Support lessons. Most of these pupils have a diagnosis of Dyslexia. There are also pupils with Asperger's Syndrome, ADHD, ADD, Dyspraxia, Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia as well as supporting pupils with EHC plans.

Lessons take place when a pupil is not studying another subject to ensure regularly timetabled sessions rather than a withdrawal system. A small staff to pupil ratio is aimed for, and pupils follow a plan that is specific to their needs which they write in conjunction with their Learning Support Teacher. One of the main focuses is on developing effective revision and organisation skills together with exam technique, so that pupils are fully prepared for their GCSEs and A Levels. Liaison takes place with subject areas so that topics can be consolidated and sometimes pre-taught, block tests can be prepared for and then supported in the Department as per the pupil's normal way of working. Learning Support also provides a touch-typing programme in Year 9. For Sixth Form pupils, the Department can provide 1:1 lessons during a pupil's study period and assist with UCAS applications, personal statements and DSA enquiries, as well as providing guidance with their current workload. The Department also fulfils a crucial pastoral role in helping to raise pupil's self-esteem and overcome the barriers to learning that they experience. The Department has a substantial role within the School.

This particular role is for the support of one, visually impaired pupil. The successful candidate would report to the Head of the Learning Support Department.



# Person Specification

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROLE:

The principal responsibility of the Teaching Assistant is to support the learning of one, visually impaired pupil, who will join Sedbergh School into Year 9 in September 2021 as a full boarder.

The successful individual would accompany the pupil to lessons and provide support outside of the classroom in the wider life of the school, where appropriate.

## ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Strong empathic and interpersonal skills coupled with a genuine interest in young people and their access to learning
- Excellent administrative and organisational abilities
- A willingness to share expertise with colleagues
- A flexible approach and a genuine desire to allow this pupil to experience the full life of Sedbergh School
- Strong empathic and interpersonal skills coupled with a genuine interest in young people and their learning
- Creativity, flexibility and adaptability

## DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS:

- Experience of working with visually impaired children
- Braille reader, writer and scribe
- Familiarity with emerging technologies for visually impaired children
- Familiarity with boarding education

# Beyond the Classroom

There is potential for the successful candidate to contribute to the wider life of the School by helping the pupil to access extra-curricular activities, or mobility and life skills within the boarding house, or to contribute to the life of the school in a myriad of alternative ways.

In May 2017, the School was graded 'Excellent' in every category of provision by an ISI Inspection; pupils' personal awareness and the provision of extra-curricular opportunities being identified as a particular strength.

# Salary & Accommodation

Sedbergh has its own salary scale. The salary of the successful candidate will reflect experience. Accommodation may be provided for a suitable candidate.

# Application and Appointment Process

The Deputy Head, Lotte Tulloch, is very happy to receive enquiries about the post or application process prior to applying. Please send any enquiries to [let@sedberghschool.org](mailto:let@sedberghschool.org).

All applicants must submit an application form giving the names of two referees. A supporting letter and CV will be welcome. Applications may be sent electronically or in hard copy to:

HR Department, Sedbergh School, Sedbergh, Cumbria LA10 5RY  
Email: [hradmin@sedberghschool.org](mailto:hradmin@sedberghschool.org)

**Diversity** – the School is fully committed to the principles of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion. Sedbergh School does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, marital status or racial ethnic or national origin and applications are welcome from a diverse range of backgrounds.

Applications will be acknowledged by email.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 12noon.**

**Interviews are scheduled to take place week commencing Monday 19 April 2021 (details to be confirmed)**

The successful candidate will be contacted by telephone in the first instance and the appointment will subsequently be confirmed in writing. Unsuccessful candidates will be notified by telephone and by email.











# SEDBERGH SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1525

.....

Sedbergh School is committed to safeguarding & protecting the welfare of children.  
Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post,  
including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Registered Charity No 1080672