



**Waterfront
UTC**

**Candidate Briefing Pack
Learning Support Assistant**





Welcome to

The Howard Academy Trust

As a Trust, we currently comprise of Medway secondary and primary schools. We have future growth plans as a Multi Academy Trust with major projects taking place across the organisation.

Our overarching aim and vision is for our member schools to deliver an outstanding education for children and young people. We endeavour to ensure that all our students have access to the highest standards of teaching, resources and opportunities. The Trust's role is to oversee the leadership and vision of member schools and to develop effective and supportive partnerships between them. We have a firm belief within the Trust that every child should have access to at least a good education.

We are proud that every academy inspected since joining our Trust has remained as a Good school. Temple Mill Primary School joined the Trust as a sponsored academy in December 2015 and has moved from Special Measures to a Good school. Our schools serve their own community and each has a unique identity. Being part of this Multi Academy Trust has already provided member schools with practical benefits. We want communities to be proud of their local THAT school and we are determined to make it the first choice for all families.

As Chief Executive, I am enormously proud of our schools and of the leaders, governors, teachers and support staff who every day ensure our pupils enjoy and make good progress in their learning.

Owen McColgan
Chief Executive
The Howard Academy Trust





Working together to build a community of successful learners

Vision and Values

Learning and growth are at the heart of The Howard Academy Trust ethos. We strongly advocate that all members of our community have the opportunity to become the very best that they can be. We recognise and value the unique talents and expertise within our community and aim to create a culture of dignity, inclusivity, respect and ambition, where all can thrive.

This is achieved through:

Excellent teaching and learning that promotes inclusivity;

Regular opportunities for collaborative CPD to ensure best practice across academies;

A proactive network for joint working across academies, for staff at various career stages;

The highest standards of behaviour and conduct achieved through clear expectations and positive relationships;

The unique character of each academy is valued and contributes to the THAT whole Trust ethos;

Shared whole Trust values of dignity, respect and ambition;

High aspirations for all involved with the Trust and a solutions led approach;

Each academy is a hub for its local community and families;

Facing outwards and working in collaboration with other organisations and stakeholders;

A centralised team that allows academies leaders to focus on their core purpose of education.



Strategic Priorities

Continuously improving the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance pupil outcomes across the Trust.

Provide excellent teaching and learning that promotes inclusivity.

Continue to build the profile of THAT to support further growth within the Southeast.

Champion our THAT People Strategy to retain, recruit, develop and reward an excellent workforce.

Ensuring a financially viable and sustainable MAT with a strong business infrastructure.

Ensuring effective leadership and governance at all levels.



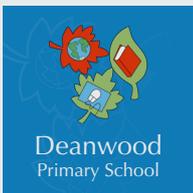
Our Family of Schools



The Howard School
1,500 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent



Temple Mill Primary School
240 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Strood, Kent



Deanwood Primary School
230 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent



Thames View Primary School
468 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent



Waterfront UTC
250 Pupils on Roll
Located in Gillingham, Kent



Miers Court Primary School
400 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Rainham, Kent

Further information about our academies can be found at www.thatrust.org.uk



Working for The Howard Academy Trust

The Howard Academy Trust is very pleased to offer our staff a vast range of benefits, both professional and personal, as we believe that our excellent teaching and support staff should be supported at work and rewarded for the great work they do. Since 2018, The Howard Academy Trust has received the Gold Kent & Medway Workplace Wellbeing Award and we continue to make advances in emotional, physical and professional wellbeing.



Financial

- A competitive salary for both teaching and support staff, with annual pay progression and a robust performance development scheme underway.
- All staff are automatically enrolled into the Teacher and Local Government pension scheme with attractive employer contribution rates.
- We have introduced Access EarlyPay through our payroll system as a mobile app that lets users draw down a proportion of their salary. You can withdraw at any point, 24/7 with just a few taps on your mobile phone. This money will then appear in your bank account within minutes.

Professional Development

- Early finish for teaching staff every Friday afternoon to allow for whole school CPD, PPA, departmental training, and wellbeing afternoons.
- Trust-wide training events and Trust Day events to bring all staff across the Trust together to network and share experiences.
- Assessment Only routes and Schools Direct opportunities to take your first step into Teaching.
- Access to 30 Level 2 qualifications through The Skills Network, free of charge to all staff.
- Career Progression and upskilling opportunities across the Trust.
- Access in-house training in to Middle & Senior Leadership courses for future leaders.

Wellbeing

- Full Time support staff receive 23 days annual leave as standard plus bank holidays, to increase after 5 years of service.
- Each of our academies have received the Gold Kent & Medway Workplace Wellbeing Award in 2021.
- Employee Assistance Programme, 24/7 access to a free counselling service for our employees and their families, for confidential advice and guidance.
- Access to Senior Mental Health First Aiders and a team of established Mental Health First Aiders based at all of our academies.
- Hosts of Medway Council's wellbeing afternoons consisting of use of a health check machine, blood pressure checks, alcohol awareness speakers.
- Flu jabs available for free every autumn for all staff, at their own academy for ease of access.
- Discounted gym membership at Avenue Tennis, Gillingham, on a range of different packages.
- Mindfulness taster sessions.

Facilities

- Discounted hire of the school facilities, halls, fields, and gyms, for all members of staff up to 20%.
- On site catering at our school canteens for breakfast items and a full lunch menu.
- Free car parking at each Trust site.



Hear from staff across the Trust





Welcome to Waterfront UTC

Welcome to Waterfront UTC and thank you for your interest in this post.

I am determined to recruit the best possible individual who is passionately driven to ensure that every child succeeds in life and becomes a pioneer for Engineering or Construction. I am delighted to be leading such a fantastic team of teachers alongside hard working and driven students with ever supportive parents and carers.

What is a UTC?

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) are government-funded schools with a STEM focus. They provide a unique and relevant approach to education which addresses the changing needs of students and employers in the 21st Century. Established by companies and universities in areas of high demand for talent, UTCs provide sought-after technical qualifications and benefit from industry standard equipment and specialist staff to provide students with the skills valued by employers.

Employer Partners:

Our employer partners work closely with us, getting to know our students over the time they are here, supporting them with careers guidance, careers planning and ongoing project work. This relationship results in roughly a third of our students going onto apprenticeships at higher and degree level, a third going directly to University to study

STEM type degrees and a third going direct into employment or further education.

We like to treat our students as adults and the environment reflects this. Students follow a professional dress code and conduct themselves as if they were working in a professional work environment, all part of our employability programme.

Students at Waterfront UTC study a tailored curriculum which focuses on Engineering and Construction, whilst building a solid understanding in the core subjects. Students have the opportunity to study either or both Engineering and Construction, Business Studies, Computer Science, Design Technology and Triple Science. All students also study Maths, English Literature/Language and Combined Science.

Our students join us in September of Year 9 or Year 12, where they are introduced to our technical subjects alongside the traditional GCSEs that go to make up our curriculum offer. We are very fortunate to be based in a purpose-built facility in the heart of the Chatham Waters redevelopment area. Our students come from as far away as Whitstable, Faversham, Sittingbourne, Maidstone and of course Medway.

I am particularly proud of our exam outcomes which have improved year on year as we continually strive for excellence. These outcomes have meant that 100% of our students leave at the end of year 11 or 13 and are placed in their chosen destination and career path, proving that we are doing, works!

Mr Bennett,
Head of School



About Waterfront UTC

NOR:	208
Age Range:	13-19
Gender of Pupils:	Mixed
OFSTED Rating:	Newly Registered School (April 2020)
Disadvantage (PP+FSM):	26%
SEN:	29%
EAL:	9%



Hear from our current staff

Job Description

Job Title:	Learning Support Assistant
Department:	Teaching Support
Grade/Salary:	NJC D2 Points 4 - 11
Responsible to:	Senior Leadership Team

Core Purpose and Scope

The holder of this post is expected to carry out the professional duties of a Learning Support Assistant as described below, as circumstances may require and in accordance with the Trust's policies under the direction of the Senior Leadership Team. The post-holder is required to fully support the vision, ethos and policies of the Trust.

THAT Vision & Values

As a Trust, our vision is achieved through:

- Excellent teaching and learning that promotes inclusivity;
- Regular opportunities for collaborative CPD to ensure best practice across academies;
- A proactive network for joint working across academies, for staff at various career stages;
- The highest standards of behaviour and conduct achieved through clear expectations and positive relationships;
- The unique character of each academy is valued and contributes to the THAT whole Trust ethos;
- Shared whole trust values of dignity, respect and ambition.
- High aspirations for all involved with the Trust;
- Each academy is a hub for its local community and families;
- Facing outwards and working in collaboration with other organisations and stakeholders;
- A centralised team that allows academies leaders to focus on their core purpose of education.

Values and Behaviour

Support Staff play a vital role in assisting teaching staff to make the education of their students their first concern, and are accountable for achieving the highest possible standards in work and conduct. All members of staff must act with honesty and integrity; have strong knowledge within their field, keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date and are self-critical; forge positive professional relationships; and work with parents in the best interests of the students in the school.

Personal and Professional Conduct

The post holder should conduct themselves professionally at all times, treating pupils and staff with mutual respect, regardless of personal beliefs, in accordance with Trust policies and practices.

Key Responsibilities

To support pupils, parents, teachers and the school to establish a supportive and nurturing learning environment in which children make good academic progress.

- To support teachers, parents and other colleagues to help create an effective and purposeful learning environment. Ensuring the classroom and resources are prepared on time as per the instructions of the classroom teacher
- Prepare or pre-teach students to ensure that they are able to fully engage with learning. This will include reminding them of previously learned strategies
- Provide, and as appropriate develop, additional resources, models or images to assist students with their learning
- Identify and signal transitions, preparing students for change
- Contribute towards evaluating student attainment and progress so that the information can be used to plan future learning activities
- Be fully aware of individual student targets and provide the necessary advice, support and guidance to enable them to be achieved
- Work with teachers to assess the needs of individual children
- Promote inclusion and acceptance of all pupils in the school, including those with SEN needs, working with the SENCO/ inclusion lead to deliver and implement the EHCP and develop resources for pupils who have: English as a second language, speech and language impairments, or behavioural issues which interfere with learning and/or relationships
- To manage and assist pupils as advised by the classroom teacher and or SLT, to include planning and facilitating small group teaching and intervention
- Ensuring students can effectively access their learning by simplifying or presenting work in a range of different ways
- Support assessment processes, monitor, record and report outcomes, amending work appropriately
- Assist with whole class teaching and cover for the class where required and appropriate
- Deliver behaviour management within and outside the classroom
- Attend to and assist with the care of pupils medical and personal needs to ensure their health and wellbeing is protected and a nurturing, safe environment is provided. (any necessary training would be provided)
- To work to promote the vision and principles of the Trust and school, including delivery of any policies such as the behaviour policy

Administration

- Observe, record and feedback information on pupil performance
- Support the classroom teacher with appropriate admin tasks which may include: photocopying, recording of data etc

Resources

- Operate relevant equipment/ICT packages (e.g. MS Office, internet, intranet, Arbor, Email)
- Assist with the creation of materials for curriculum delivery and display boards

Management

- This post does not have any management responsibilities.

Additional Duties

- All staff, with the support, of the academy's designated DSL, have a responsibility for providing and safeguarding the welfare of the children and young people.
- To be familiar with and support any health and safety procedures and ensure all duties and responsibilities are discharged in accordance with the academy's health and safety at work policy.

This job description does not form part of the Contract of Employment and is not necessarily a comprehensive description of the duties required but outlines the main responsibilities of the post. It will be reviewed regularly and may be subject to modification or amendment at any time after consultation with the holder of the post. The duties may be varied to meet the changing demands of the Academy at the reasonable discretion of the line manager.

An enhanced DBS check will be required for this post. The job description is current at the date shown, but, in consultation with you, may be changed by the Headteacher to reflect or anticipate changes in the job commensurate with the grade and job title. The successful candidate must have a commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Person Specification

Post: Learning Support Assistant

Please refer to these requirements when completing the application. The person specification is related to the requirements of the post as determined by the job description.

Essential	Desirable
Qualifications and Training	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maths & English GCSE or equivalent Grade C and above NVQ Level 3 in Childcare or equivalent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of ongoing Professional Development First Aid Training
Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of establishing successful learning relationships with a variety of pupils at the relevant age Experience of the role of a TA and in particular organisation and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working within the academy or education sector
Knowledge and Skills	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and equal opportunity issues within the workplace and the importance of culture and ethos and how this impacts on morale, high expectation and high standards Sound understanding of equality of opportunity issues and how they can be effectively addressed in schools Clear understanding of the role of parents and the community in school improvement and how this can be practised and developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of child protection and safeguarding policies Sound understanding of equal opportunity issues within the workplace and the importance of culture and ethos and how this impacts on morale, high expectation and high standards Knowledge of support services available to young people
Personal Qualities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good communication skills including written and oral Good numeracy and literacy skills Competent with computers and other technology Good administrative and organisational skills Able to lead intervention sessions Good team player and self starter Ability to create a happy, challenging and effective learning environment 	

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A solution-focused mindset and determined “no-excuses” approach to raising standards• A personable nature to build effective relationships• Ability and keenness to promote the Trust’s positive culture and ethos• Understands the importance of confidentiality and discretion | |
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Application Process

Application Process

We will review applications as they are received and contact those shortlisted for interview. Early applications are encouraged as we will close the recruitment process once a suitable candidate is appointed.

Applicants should send their completed application packs to hr@thatrust.org.uk

Important Information for Applications

Closing Date: Friday 27 May 2022

Interviews: TBC

Person Specification

This specification sets out the criteria which will be used to shortlist candidates for interview and during the interview process. After the closing date for this post a panel will conduct the shortlisting process. You will be selected for interview based entirely on the contents of your application form, it is therefore important that you fully read the Job Description and Person Specification prior to completing your form. After the shortlisting process has been completed candidates who have been selected for interview will be informed, and provided with full details of the interview programme. If you have not heard from us within 10 working days of the closing date for this post, you have, on this occasion, unfortunately been unsuccessful.

We hope you find the information in this pack useful. Should you have any further queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Sharon Teachen, HR Manager, on 01634 265771 or email hr@thatrust.org.uk.