Therapy Assistant

Key Skills:

* Create effective working relationships with children, rooted in age appropriate child-centred fun.
* You must have a ‘companionate curiosity’ for understanding the child’s experience, creating a narrative from their viewpoint in terms of the challenges they face in their learning.
* Have a wide range of personal interaction skills to enable communication with children who range from non-verbal to age appropriate speech and language skills and everywhere in between.
* Be creative and imaginative.
* You will need to be confident and have the group management skills to working with children in whole class and small group and the 1:1 setting within classes.
* Have keenness to learn about and implement new approaches quickly.
* Demonstrate effective listening, negotiating, empathy skills to collaborate with class staff to hand over and demonstrate Intervention programmes using an ‘appreciative enquiry,’ style approach.

Professional Skills:

* You will need to have the computer skills to access and make resources on Boardmaker, as well as skills in Microsoft office to create individualised resources.
* You must be able to write to clinical notes based upon effective observational skills of the child following each session completed.
* Have the communication and negotiation skills to create collaborative working relationships with teaching staff.
* You must be happy to be recorded on video based feedback systems such as Iris which we use routinely at school to assess/ observe children’s skills.
* Have a self-directed, confident working style and be able to take responsibility for the delivery of your timetable.

Knowledge:

* Demonstrate an understanding of disorders including Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down syndrome and Global Developmental Delay.
* A basic knowledge of sensory integration and communication skills would be desirable but not essential.
* Knowledge of frequently used visuals and classroom curriculum supports would be desirable but not essential.
* A basic knowledge of curriculum approaches such as sensory diets, sensory circuits, Attention Autism and Colourful semantics.