



## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>JOB TITLE</b>	Forest School Assistant / Learning Mentor
<b>SALARY POINT</b>	Kent Scheme Band 3 plus Special Needs Allowance
<b>LIASION WITH:</b>	Forest School Leads, Teachers, Heads of School and Executive Headteacher
<b>ROLES:</b>	32.5 hours per week, term time, plus 5 INSET days Core hours are 8.30am – 3.30pm
<b>LOCATIONS:</b>	Grange Park School @ Wrotham, Borough Green Road, Wrotham, Kent, TN15 7RD  Grange Park School @ Stansted, Malthouse Road, Stansted, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 7PH
<b>DATE:</b>	September 2022

### RESPONSIBLE FOR:

Assisting the team to lead the Forest School programme whilst providing exciting and educational experiences outdoors for our pupils that links to the learning that happens in the classroom and beyond.

Progress of identified pupils/students in the subjects /vocational areas in which the postholder is deployed.

### JOB PURPOSE:

To provide support to individual pupil/student, or small groups of pupils/students, within forest school and lessons. Where required, to teach intervention groups to enable designated pupils/students to make more rapid progress in knowledge and understanding in subjects where they require additional support. Learners from some or all of the categories specified below may be part of a support group at any one time:

## SIX KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

### 1. Developing Pupil/Student Skills and Knowledge

#### Forest School Assistant Duties

- Working with the Forest School leaders, under their instruction to help prepare, facilitate, run and report on sessions
- Speaking to the pupils and answering nature questions, facilitating learning by supporting pupils to attain their own goals and develop their interests.
- Assist in the shaping, delivery, management and evaluation of all the activities in our Forest Space.
- Assist with the day to day management of the Forest School area in line with our management plan
- To assist the Forest School leader in carrying out pre-site checks and ensuring risk assessments and the health and safety of everyone on site are adhered to.

#### General Learning Mentor Duties

- Assist in drawing up and undertaking the delivery of an individual pupil/student learning support programme, either in intervention groups or within the classroom, to ensure delivery of the individual's targets.
- To coach individual SEND pupils/students or small groups of SEND pupils, to support their knowledge, skills and understanding in specific subject areas.
- To support pupils/students who are underachieving.
- To understand the key factors that affect pupils'/students' learning that may impact on their progress (joint responsibility of teacher/Learning Mentor), including updating the teacher as necessary with relevant information.
- To support pupils/students to be on-task at the start of each lesson and throughout the course of the lesson.
- To use area(s) of subject expertise to contribute to the learning activities in the lesson, suggesting and/or implementing effective differentiation within the classroom in collaboration with the teacher.

### 2. Monitoring Pupil/Student Progress

- To support pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium to make at least expected progress
- To monitor and evaluate the impact of all pupil/student learning programmes.
- Assist the teacher with observations and monitoring of the progress of pupils/students, maintaining accurate records in order to ensure documentation of all interventions with pupils/students.

### 3. Maintaining an ASD Learning Environment

- Assist the teacher where necessary with preparation (and clearing away) of the classroom and materials to ensure effective and efficient teaching.
- To establish the learning environment for each pupil/student based on knowledge of pupil/student needs (resources management).

- To contribute to producing learning materials for pupils/students in order to meet their needs for examinations, revision or general progress.

#### **4. Professional Collaboration and Liaison (Colleagues and Parents)**

- To liaise with parents/carers where appropriate and as requested by the teacher.
- To attend meetings, training and development activities, as required by the Senior Leadership Team, with overtime available if necessary.
- To attend Annual Reviews where appropriate.
- To take part in relevant training/CPD to help build a greater understanding of supporting pupils/students to improve their learning.
- Maintain high levels of professional conduct at all times
- Undertake any reasonable requests as negotiated with the line manager.
- Support the ethos and aims of Grange Park School.

#### **5. Maintaining Pupil/Student Well-being**

- Promote positive behaviour patterns, raise self-esteem and improve independent working in pupils/students to assist their education and growth.
- To assist in the physical well-being of the pupils/students, where appropriate.
- To assist in the implementation of individual programmes and strategies from the Therapy Team.

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#### **6. Statutory Responsibilities**

- Following Health and Safety requirements and initiatives as directed.
- Ensuring compliance with Data Protection legislation
- The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment
- At all times operating within the schools Equality policies
- Commitment and contribution to improving standards for pupils/students as appropriate
- Contributing to the maintenance of a caring and stimulating environment for young people.

# Person Specification – Learning Mentor

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Desirable</u>
<b>Skills and Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of working successfully with young people in an educational setting.</li> <li>• Experience of supporting the learning and achievements of young people and able to support individuals and groups.</li> <li>• Proven record of improving the outcomes for young people.</li> <li>• Skills and experience of working with vulnerable young people.</li> <li>• ICT skills, including use of internet, emails and Microsoft word.</li> <li>• Experience of working with teachers and school staff to plan and manage learning opportunities.</li> <li>• Energy and enthusiasm required to support the leader and work with a large group of children.</li> <li>• The desire to work in an amazing and unique outdoor area offering forest school and continuous outside messy, exploratory learning and play in all weathers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of working with pupils/students with ASC and associated Learning Disabilities.</li> <li>• Specific knowledge of ASC and/or ADHD</li> <li>• Level 2 Qualified in Forest School Assistant / willingness to train</li> <li>• 1st Aid Certificate / willingness to train</li> <li>• An awareness of health and safety in a woodland environment</li> <li>• An understanding of the Forest School philosophy</li> <li>• Knowledge of SIMS.net</li> </ul>
<b>Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE grade C level or equivalent in both English and mathematics</li> <li>• Level 3 Qualification as a Teaching Assistant or equivalent level of education</li> </ul>	
<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of working with young people.</li> <li>• Able to produce learning resources and materials to support progress and achievement.</li> <li>• Knowledge of education and how best to support, motivate and engage young people in learning.</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of child protection and safeguarding practices and protocols</li> <li>• Knowledge of the principles involved in giving advice and guidance to young people including the place of confidentiality and sharing information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of the school curriculum</li> </ul>

<b>Personal Attributes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to engage constructively with, and relate to, a wide range of young people and children from different backgrounds.</li> <li>• Ability to establish relationships with internal and external stakeholders.</li> <li>• Ability to undertake comprehensive assessments of pupils/students to determine those in need of particular support.</li> <li>• A positive attitude with energy and commitment.</li> <li>• Desire to further develop the school's ethos.</li> <li>• Ability to form and maintain appropriate professional relationships and boundaries with children and young people.</li> <li>• Ability to motivate and enthuse pupils/students.</li> <li>• A commitment to high academic standards.</li> <li>• Ability to manage pupil/student behaviour</li> <li>• Ability to work effectively as a member of a team and display excellent interpersonal skills.</li> <li>• Ability to work effectively with and command the confidence of teaching staff.</li> <li>• First class communication skills on all levels.</li> <li>• Highly organised, motivated and enthusiastic.</li> <li>• High professional and personal standards</li> <li>• A commitment to working to strict deadlines</li> <li>• Willingness to play a part in the wider life of the school</li> <li>• Confidence, liveliness, tenacity, flexibility, adaptability and resilience.</li> <li>• Hold a current, clean and valid driving licence and be willing to drive school vehicles</li> </ul>	
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<b>Other factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must satisfy relevant employment checks</li> </ul>	
<b>Requirements from confidential references</b>	<p>Written reference(s) only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirmation of professional and personal knowledge, skills and abilities.</li> <li>• Positive recommendation from current employer.</li> <li>• Good health and attendance record.</li> </ul>	

Grange Park School requires the appointed candidate to gain satisfactory relevant background checks in accordance with safer recruitment guidelines; this will include an Enhanced (with Barred) Disclosure check.