



**Ripplevale School
Animal Care
Job Description**

Name of Post Holder:

Post Title: Animal Care Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Post Purpose: To work collaboratively with teaching staff and SLT, to deliver animal therapy to small groups or individually throughout the school. To provide the overall care and wellbeing of the school's animals.

To provide support for students and the school in order to raise standards of achievement for all, by utilising advanced levels of knowledge and skills when assisting with monitoring, assessing and managing small groups and individuals. To provide support for students' welfare and all aspects of their social, emotional and communication outcomes as well as support their learning and cognition targets.

The successful candidate should be prepared to work over all 3 Ripplevale School sites: Broadstairs, Deal and Rochester.

Reporting to: Senior Leadership Team

Responsible for: None

Liaising with: Senior Leadership Team, SENCOs, Teachers, & Specialists

Disclosure level: Enhanced

Teaching and Learning

- To enhance and support the students' understanding of animals.
- To deliver lessons and interventions and teach students Animal Care when directed by a teacher or Senior Leadership Team.
- To promote a love for Animals, their wellbeing and environment.
- Teach students how to nurture, care for and tend to animals.
- Motivate and progress students' learning by using clearly structured, interesting teaching and learning activities both inside and outside the classroom.
- Be familiar with lesson plans, provision plan targets and learning objectives.
- Be aware of and support differences and ensure all students have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop.
- Use behaviour management strategies in line with the school's policy and procedures, to contribute to a purposeful learning environment and encourage students to interact and work cooperatively with others.

- Organise and safely manage the appropriate learning environment and resources.
- Promote and reinforce students' self-esteem and independence and employ strategies to recognise and reward achievement and self-reliance.
- To safely deliver off site supervision of students and adhere to individual students' Risk Assessments
- Support the role of parents in students' learning and contribute to meetings with parents to provide constructive feedback on student progress, achievement and behaviour, maintaining sensitivity and confidentiality at all times.

Monitoring and Assessment

- With teachers and SENDCOs, evaluate students' progress through a range of assessment activities.
- Assess students' responses to learning tasks and where appropriate, modify methods to meet individual and/or group needs.
- Monitor students' participation and progress and provide constructive feedback to students in relation to their progress and achievement.
- Assist in maintaining and analysing records of students' progress.
- Contribute to programmes of observation and assessment as planned by the teacher and provide reports, evaluations or other information to assist in the provision of appropriate support for specific children.
- Contribute to reports of students' progress.

Mentoring, Supervision and Development

- Assist teachers in offering mentoring support and guidance to other teaching assistants undertaking training.
- Support and guide other less experienced teaching assistants' work in the lesson when required and lead training for other teaching assistants.
- Contribute to the overall ethos, work and aims of the school by attending relevant meetings and contributing to the development of policies and procedures within the school. Also participate in staff meetings and training days/events as requested.
- Undertake induction/ training/mentoring for other Learning Support Assistants in Land Based Studies.

Behavioural and Pastoral

- Recognise and challenge any incidents of racism, bullying, harassment, victimisation and any form of abuse of equal opportunities, ensuring compliance with relevant school policies and procedures and making sure the individual(s) involved understand it is unacceptable.
- Understand and implement school Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures and comply with legal responsibilities.
- Assist in maintaining good discipline of students throughout the school and escort and supervise students on planned visits and journeys.
- Provide assistance to students' pastoral needs.
- Foster and maintain constructive and supportive relationships with parents/carers, exchanging appropriate information, facilitating their support for their child's attendance, access and learning and supporting home to school and community links.
- Supervise students at times other than during lessons according to the school's duty arrangements.

- Assist teachers by receiving instructions directly from professional or specialist support staff involved in the student’s education. These may include social workers, health visitors, language support staff, speech therapists, educational therapists, educational psychologists and physiotherapists.

Other

- To be the key point of call for the care of the animals on site and undertake the following as and when required:
 - check animals daily and monitor their health
 - to oversee the clean out of pet areas
 - to oversee the cleaning and grooming of animals
 - to look after sick or distressed animals and liaise with SLT when further assistance may be required by a veterinary professional
 - to update any records and deal with questions from colleagues or the public
 - to make sure animals are exercised regularly
- Any other duties required by the class teacher or Senior Leadership Team that fall within the responsibilities of the post **including 1 overnight stay of the school dog per week at your own residence.**
- **To provide an additional 14 days ‘respite’ holiday for the school dog/s including overnight stays.**
- At all times carry out duties with due regard to the school’s Health and Safety Policy.
- To work within and encourage the school’s Equal Opportunities Policy and contribute to diversity policies.

The above outlines the main duties and responsibilities of the post but may not identify each individual task to be undertaken.

Signatures:

The school will undertake to make any reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for an employee who develops a disabling condition.

This job description is current at the date below but will be reviewed on an annual basis (or as need arises) and following consultation with you may be changed to reflect or anticipate changes in the job requirements which are commensurate with the job title and grade.

Signed	Name	Designation	Date
		HLTA	
		Headteacher	