

Miers Court Primary School

Candidate Briefing Pack

Higher Level Teaching 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



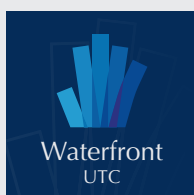
Temple Mill Primary School
240 Pupils on Roll
Rated Good by Ofsted
Located in Strood, Kent



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 2020, 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.
- Subsidised Private Healthcare with Benenden Health.
- 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.

Professional Development

- Early finish for teaching staff every Friday afternoon to allow whole school CPD (Secondaries only) and whole school PPA (Primaries only).
- Comprehensive CPD programmes including departmental and whole school training.
- Trust-wide training events and Staff Conference 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 up-skilling opportunities across the Trust.
- Access in-house training into Middle & Senior Leadership courses for future leaders.
- Access to industry leading CPD subscriptions including Optimus Education.

Wellbeing

- All year round support staff receive 24 days annual leave (pro-rata'd for part time staff) 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.
- Cycle to Work Scheme.

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 with a full lunch menu.
- Free car parking at each Trust site.



Hear from staff across the Trust







Welcome to Miers Court Primary School

We are a happy 2 form entry Primary and are proud of our reputation as a friendly and caring place where children are encouraged to be the very best they can be in all aspects of school life. Our children have a strong voice here; from our School Council to our House Captains, pupil leadership is highly valued and there are lots of opportunities for children to contribute to our school community.

Our curriculum is aimed at sparking the children's interest and allowing their curiosity to grow. Through the opportunities that the curriculum offers and our promotion of life-long learning skills we aspire for the children to build their independence and resilience and to have a sense of pride in all of their learning.

We happily welcome visitors who would like to find out more about us, please contact the office to arrange a visit.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Mrs Chapman,
Head of School





Miers Court Primary School is a community primary school serving the full primary age range from 4 to 11. At present there are 420 children on roll. On 1 August 2017, Miers Court Primary School became part of the Howard Academy Trust.

School Characteristics

NOR:	402
Age Range:	3-11
Gender of Pupils:	Mixed
OFSTED Rating:	Good
Disadvantage (PP+FSM):	11%
SEN:	18%
EAL:	3%



Hear from our current staff

Job Description

Job Title:	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Contract Type:	Full-time, Permanent
Remuneration:	NJC C2 points 12-25 (FTE £26,421 - £33,945)

Core Purpose and Scope

The holder of this post is expected to carry out the professional duties of a Higher Level Teaching Assistant as described below, as circumstances may require and in accordance with the Trust's policies under the direction of the Head of School. The post-holder is required to fully support the vision, ethos and policies of the Trust.

THAT Vision & Values

As a Trust, our Vision and Values are 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 Higher Level Teaching Assistant is expected to demonstrate good standards of personal and professional conduct. The following statements define the behaviour and attitudes which set the required standard for conduct throughout your career.

It is important to maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by:

- treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to the position;
- having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions;
- showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others and not undermining fundamental British values, including:

- democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and

- tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs;
- ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law.

Key responsibilities:

To complement the professional work of teachers by taking responsibility of Inclusion programmes under an agreed system of supervision. This may involve planning, preparing and delivering learning activities for individuals/groups and monitoring students and assessing, recording and reporting on students' achievement, progress and development.

Support for Students

- Assess the needs of students and use detailed knowledge and specialist skills to support students' learning
- Establish productive working relationships with students, acting as a role model and setting high expectations
- Promote the inclusion and acceptance of all students within the setting
- Encourage students to interact and work co-operatively with others and engage all students in activities
- Promote independence and employ strategies to recognise and reward achievement of selfreliance
- Provide feedback to students in relation to progress and achievement
- Contribute to, develop and implement Support Plans
- Support students consistently whilst recognising and responding to their individual needs

Support for the Teacher

- Organise and manage appropriate learning environment and resources
- Provide objective and accurate feedback and reports as required on student achievement, progress and other matters, ensuring the availability of appropriate evidence
- Record progress and achievement in lessons/activities systematically and providing evidence of range and level of progress and attainment
- Work within an established discipline policy to anticipate and manage behaviour constructively, promoting self-control and independence
- Support the role of parents in students' learning and contribute to/lead meetings with parents to provide constructive feedback on student progress/achievement etc.
- Produce lesson plans, worksheet, plans etc.
- Monitor and evaluate student responses to learning activities through a range of assessment and monitoring strategies against pre-determined learning objectives
- Within an agreed system of supervision, plan challenging teaching and learning objectives to evaluate and adjust lessons/work plans as appropriate
- Administer and assess/mark tests and invigilate exams/tests.

Support for the Curriculum

- Deliver learning activities to students within agreed system of supervision, adjusting activities according to student responses/needs
- Deliver local and national learning strategies for Inclusion and make effective use of opportunities provided by other learning activities to support the development of students' skills
- Use ICT effectively to support learning activities and develop students' competence and independence in its use
- Advise on appropriate deployment and use of specialist aid/resources/equipment
- Select and prepare resources necessary to lead learning activities, taking account of students' interests and language and cultural backgrounds.

Administration

- Take register every session using school system
- Prepare and produce resources for sessions
- Write reports on progress to be shared with parents & staff termly

Resources

- Operate relevant equipment/ICT packages (e.g. MS Office, internet, intranet, Email, Arbor)
- Be comfortable and capable of operating equipment in line with health and safety policies and procedures
- Determine the need for, prepare and maintain general and specialist equipment and resources
- Help students access specialist learning resources as required
- Keep up-to-date knowledge of the range of external agencies and opportunities that can be used to provide extra support for students.

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.

Person Specification

Post: Higher Level Teaching 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
Education and Qualifications	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths & English GCSE or equivalent Grade C and above • Certified HTLA course of training 	<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 or HLTA and the confidence and ability to deliver whole class lessons • Evidence of planning and supporting students with their work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working within the academy or education sector. • Experience of working in a building or trade environment • Full clean Driving Licence
Knowledge and Understanding	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiar with the school's teaching strategies and school curriculum • Ability to manage time effectively to complete tasks to a high level • Ability to work both alone and within a team to achieve specified standards • Be flexible to changing demands of the post • To undertake any training relevant to the role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of Child Development and learning processes • 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
Characteristics and Competencies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent communication including verbal and written skills • Competent with IT and other software packages • Good organisational skills • 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• A high level of integrity, confidentiality and discretion.• Ability to develop good personal relationships within a team, making an effective contribution to high morale | |
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