# Forest School Leader

**£29,000 – £35,000 per annum pro rata to 41 weeks out of 52, plus SEN allowance**

**Full time, term time only**

The Sallygate School is an Independent Special School catering to the unique needs of pupils with SEMH. Located in the heart of the Alkham Valley, near Dover, the Sallygate School is part of Channels & Choices Therapeutic Community which comprises several therapeutic residential children’s homes, an independent therapeutic fostering agency and a multi-disciplinary therapy service, including SaLT & OT service.

## Additional Perks, Rewards and Benefits

* Private Optical, Dental and Audiological cover
* Private Medical care
* Long service awards for 5-, 10- and 15-years’ service
* Regular team building days, parties, meals and more!
* Complimentary health and wellbeing support with our employee assistance programme
* Full Induction training Package

## Job Summary

We are seeking a skilled and enthusiastic Level 3 qualified Forest School Leader to support the further development and leadership of our established Forest School provision, working with pupils aged 7–16 with a range of SEMH and associated needs.  
  
You will play a key role in planning and delivering structured, therapeutic outdoor learning experiences that support pupils' emotional regulation, social interaction, personal development, and academic progress.

Working collaboratively with our existing Forest School team, teaching staff and therapy colleagues, you will help ensure that outdoor learning is embedded across the curriculum and aligned with the school’s values of Kindness, Respect, Tolerance and Resilience.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

**Forest School**

* Lead the development and delivery of the Forest School programme, including planning, risk assessments, and activity design.
* Supervise and support pupils, ensuring safety and engagement in outdoor learning activities.
* Model and promote positive behaviour through therapeutic and relational approaches.
* Maintain and prepare equipment and spaces for Forest School sessions.
* Observe, assess, and contribute to pupil progress records and planning reviews.
* Coordinate with the wider school team to integrate outdoor learning into the curriculum.

**Safeguarding and Compliance**

* Follow and promote all school safeguarding procedures and policies.
* Maintain confidentiality and data protection (GDPR) standards.
* Attend training and comply with health and safety expectations.

**Pupil Support and Inclusion**

* Foster inclusive practice and promote social interaction, self-regulation and confidence through outdoor learning.
* Build therapeutic relationships and use restorative approaches in line with the school’s SEMH ethos.
* Work collaboratively with therapists, mentors and teaching teams.

**Professional Responsibilities**

* Participate in CPD and relevant meetings.
* Uphold school values in all interactions.
* Contribute to the wider life of the school including themed days and enrichment.

## Person Specification

**Essential**

* Level 3 Forest School Leader diploma
* Experience working with children or young people in outdoor education
* Experience working with children with SEMH or SEN
* Strong communication and relational practice skills
* Ability to plan and lead outdoor learning sessions
* Understanding of safeguarding and behaviour regulation strategies
* Full UK driving licence and access to transport

**Desirable**

* GCSE English and Maths
* Outdoor First Aid qualification