Valence School
enabling independence

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Principal: Roland J. Gooding OBE

September 2021

Application for Specialist Teacher for Physical Disability

Thank you for your interest in the vacancy for the above position.

The Specialist Teaching and Learning Service for Physical Disability and Complex Medical Needs is a county-wide service supporting children and young people (CYP) from a number of bases in each of the twelve districts in Kent.

The service is commissioned by Kent County Council, through Valence School, a special school in Westerham for physical disability, to support the inclusion and progress of CYP with physical disability and/or complex medical needs. There are a whole range of ways that we support the access to education for this group of young people

Our specialist teachers are experienced teachers with a qualification in one or more areas of SEND. They work alongside other professionals in providing effective and co-ordinated support. Our aim as a team is that children and young people with Special Educational Needs can have their learning, physical, social and emotional needs met, so that they can be fully included at school and make good educational progress.

Please find enclosed the following forms:

- Application Form and Equality Monitoring Form } to complete online
- Framework for Specialist Teacher posts
- Mission Statement
- Copy of the Advertisement
- Job Description and Person Specification.

The closing date is **10 October 2021** and we look forward to receiving your completed forms at your earliest convenience. Interviews will take place on 21 October 2021.

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every student and we expect all staff to share this commitment. References will be taken up before interview and successful applicants will need an enhanced DBS check. Please note that smoking (including e-cigarettes) is prohibited within the school premises and grounds.

Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely
Sarah Lowndes
HR Manager

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk · food for life PARTNERSHIP GOLD · Healthy Schools KENT · Kent special educational needs trust · INVESTORS IN PEOPLE · KASS Kent Association of Special Schools · Kent Community Health NHS NHS Foundation Trust

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SPECIALIST TEACHER PHYSICAL DISABILITY

Full Time : 1.0 FTE : Permanent

MPR/UPR (depending on experience) + SEN Allowance

To cover Dartford & Gravesham

This is a unique opportunity to join an enthusiastic, and collaborative county team working to ensure the best outcomes for children and young people (CYP) with physical disabilities and complex medical needs in educational settings through full inclusion and access to learning. You will advise and support early years settings and mainstream colleagues (SENDCos, Class Teachers and TA's) on strategies and interventions which enable full physical and curriculum access. You will be involved in multi-agency planning to ensure the best possible outcomes for CYP with physical disabilities and/or complex medical needs.

You will have Qualified Teacher Status. Subject specialism is unimportant but **recent experience of successful teaching in UK mainstream schools is essential** along with exemplary classroom practice including excellent interpersonal and organisational skills. Experience of working with physically disabled children and young people is highly desirable. You must be able to travel across Kent to meet the requirements of the role.

For application details visit www.valenceschool.com > work for us
or contact the HR team on 01959 567841
vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications 10 October 2021

Interviews to be held 21 October 2021

For information on the Specialist Teaching & Learning Service (STLS) contact Julie Jackson, STLS Professional Lead for Physical Disability on 07714 246396 jjackson@valence.kent.sch.uk

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every student and we expect all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment. References will be taken up before interview and the successful applicant will require an enhanced DBS check.

Valence School Job Description:
SPECIALIST TEACHER for PHYSICAL DISABILITY

Responsible to: County Professional Lead / Valence School Principal

Main purpose

To ensure the best possible outcomes for Children and Young People (CYP) with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) aged 0 to 19/25 by working collaboratively with professionals in statutory and non-statutory organisations.

The specialist teacher for this post will work as part of a County Team of Specialist Teachers with a specialism in Physical Dis ability (PD) and will work to promote participation, progress and independence of Children and Young People (CYP) who have physical disabilities and/or complex medical needs. This post is offered as full-time (1.0 FTE) although part-me above 0.5 FTE will be considered.

Duties and responsibilities

1. Provide specialist teaching expertise and advice to improve learning outcomes for CYP with physical disabilities or complex medical needs; supporting the delivery of and access to the National Curriculum and other appropriate approaches to learning.
2. Meet the requirements of the Code of Practice and Kent's Mainstream Core Standards by providing specialist assessments and observations in order to inform appropriate learning objectives, targets and strategies for individual children and young people and inform county decision making.
3. Improve practitioner's capacity to raise achievement and attainment of children and young people and overcome the barriers to learning of children and young people with PD by providing relevant and specific advice, and developing training, particularly at points of transition.
4. Actively promote the development of an ethos that supports independence and resilience in CYP with PD.
5. Follow team process and protocols to ensure databases are appropriately maintained, case files, electronic diary and report writing follow agreed timescales. Effectively manage own caselist.
6. Ensure protocols are followed in line with GDPR and confidentiality and follow STLS Safeguarding procedures for Valence School.
7. Contribute to the monitoring of children and young people's achievement and attainment and keep records to inform the Synergy database.

8. Use assistive technology as a tool for communication, record keeping and managing information.
9. Advise on appropriate use of specialist equipment and assistive technology to support learning and inclusion.
10. Work in partnership with families, and a range of external agencies to promote and facilitate educational opportunities, inclusion and independence for CYP with PD
11. Promote the involvement of parents and carers in decisions and interventions involving their children.
12. Promote opportunities for children and young people to be actively involved in decisions affecting them.
13. To liaise closely with expertise within districts' specialist teaching and learning service provision to promote seamless working between all parts of the county wide resource.
14. Develop and deliver training to the children and young people's workforce in a range of educational settings to promote inclusive practice and knowledge of physical disabilities or complex medical needs.
15. Support multi agency planning and decision-making fora, e.g. Team around the child, SENIF, Schools Access Initiative.
16. Develop robust links with other professional staff to provide coherent and consistent multi-professional interventions for children and young people, particularly through integrated working.
17. Undertake continuous professional development to enable the postholder to maintain and develop specialist skills, knowledge and expertise in line with agreed Teachers' Standards for PD.
18. Participate proactively and effectively in professional supervision and performance management processes.

Priorities for 2021/22

These will be agreed in relation to each locality plan and link to SLA and county priorities.

The deployment of the post holder will be mainly within an identified locality but may require travel across a wider area.

The postholder must pro-actively observe and comply with all school policies and procedures relating to child protection, equality and diversity, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection reporting all concerns to an appropriate person and the requirements and standards as outlined in the Service Level Agreement.

This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what his/her main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

Valence School Person Specification:
SPECIALIST TEACHER for PHYSICAL DISABILITY

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

REQUIREMENT	Minimum
1. Qualifications	• Degree level or equivalent • QTS • Specific relevant advanced SEND qualification (desirable)
2. Experience	• Demonstrable high quality recent and sustained experience teaching the national curriculum to CYP with SEND in a range of educational settings (in last 3 years) • Ability to assess needs, plan and deliver effective teaching programmes and review progress of CYP with SEND • Ability to demonstrate successful sustained experience of working collaboratively with teaching and non-teaching staff, parents/carers and other professionals through integrated working • Experience of using assistive technology to support learning outcomes for CYP with SEND • Demonstrable experience of designing and delivering high quality INSET to a range of audiences • Demonstrable experience of initiating, managing and working within a changing environment
3. Skills and Abilities	• Demonstrable evidence of participating in continuous professional development and applying this within the specialist area/s of work • Strong interpersonal and communication skills to build and maintain effective working relationships with a wide range of professionals and an ability to resolve conflict • Ability to prioritise and plan to make effective and efficient use of time and resources • Ability to write reports that are clear, concise and jargon-free • Ability to contribute an enthusiastic and clear vision for collaborative working in multi-disciplinary teams • Ability to model high professional standards in all aspects of work • Confidence and competence in the use of ICT particularly Microsoft Office applications • Ability and willingness to travel to within Kent

4. Knowledge	• Specialist knowledge of the impact of physical disabilities on access to the curriculum in mainstream settings and schools. • Demonstrable evidence of continuing to develop skills and knowledge and current educational research and literature linked to a specialist area • Knowledge of relevant legislation relating to CYP with SEND, particularly physical disabilities and complex medical needs
5. Behaviours	• Commitment to equalities and a respect for diversity • "Can Do" approach • Professionalism in all interactions • Team working and co-operation
6. Other Requirements	• The successful candidate will be required to provide a car for business use (casual car allowance payable) • This role will require safeguarding checks, including a Disclosure and Barring Services check. •

Mission Statement

Student's views and rights are central to the ethos of Valence School.

Its mission is to provide a learning community where there is quality education, care, access and therapy in order to promote each student's intellectual, physical, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

Our work is about enabling children and young people who have special physical, medical and sensory needs to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding together with the confidence, self-esteem and self-dependence necessary for them to participate in and contribute to society in the way each chooses.

The School's aims are to:

1. Meet the individual needs of each student as documented in their individual Statements of Special Educational Needs.
2. Maintain and develop in students lively enquiring minds; to promote the ability to question and argue rationally; to encourage students to apply themselves to a range of tasks and skills.
3. Provide a multidisciplinary approach to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum that meets individual needs with full access and accreditation.
4. Raise students' self-esteem and self-confidence and create in them a sense of personal excellence enabling them to acquire knowledge and skills relevant to life in a fast-changing world.
5. Help students to develop self-knowledge, spiritual and moral awareness and understanding and respect for other people's feelings, values and beliefs.
6. Help students to understand the multicultural world in which they live as citizens and the inter-dependence of individuals, groups and nations and the rights and responsibilities of living in today's Britain.

Our Child Protection Policy can be found on our website