



Steephill School

Off Castle Hill, Fawkham, Longfield, Kent DA3 7BG

Tel: 01474 702107

Head: Mr John Abbott BA Hons. PGCE.

Registered in England and Wales no. 2478341

SEN Assistant 1:1

Part Time, Temporary role

From January - July 2022

Steephill School

Steephill School is a coeducational independent day school, for pupils aged from three to eleven years old. It is situated in the beautiful Fawkham Valley area between Dartford and Gravesend in a quiet lane overlooking the thirteenth century St Mary's Church.

The school was founded in 1935 by Miss Eileen Bignold, who established its excellent reputation for high academic standards. In 1990, the school became a charitable trust administered by a Board of Governors.

Our small classes bring out the best in young children who receive all the help and encouragement they need from our qualified, experienced teachers. Each child benefits from the individual attention necessary to achieve his or her full potential. As a small school the staff, parents and children all know each other and this contributes to our happy, family atmosphere.

We promote the arts at every opportunity, and our pupils have been winners and runners up in many categories at recent festivals including the Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival, the Maidstone Festival, the Bromley Festival and I.S.A. Arts Festivals. We also develop children through sport and regularly play matches against other schools, providing the opportunity for all children to participate. Steephill has a large sports field for football, athletics, cricket, hockey and rounders. Short tennis and netball are played on the purpose-built court.

Steephill children are taught to respect the environment, animal wildlife and the community. They walk across the church meadow to attend Church of England services at nearby St. Mary's for Harvest Festival, Christmas, Easter and Founder's Day. The Rector visits the school regularly for the daily assembly.

The friendly caring atmosphere at Steephill ensures that our pupils have happy memories of their early school days. Great emphasis is placed on social skills and we encourage good manners, consideration for others and team spirit. Steephill pupils are encouraged to enjoy learning and work towards high standards. They earn house stars for academic progress and good behaviour. The annual prize-giving in the summer is the culmination of their many achievements during the school year.

Steephill School has excellent facilities. As well as the main building, which houses some of the classrooms, it has a school hall and in the garden area (our gardening club is very popular) further classrooms and an art/science room. The school has a dedicated music room, an I.T. Suite, a netball court, a sports field and a playing field. Furthermore, our orchard with climbing and play equipment provides an exciting outdoor space for exploration and the adjacent woodland is used for Forest School activities.

Overview

Steeplehill School wishes to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced 1:1 SEN Assistant from January 2022 to January 2023 to work with one child in Year 2 (mostly in class) throughout the school day. The post is full time and temporary, Monday to Friday 8:45am- 3:30pm. The salary is £12.60 per hour.

The ideal candidate will be personable, patient, and approachable. They will need to be flexible and able to adapt to the child's ever-changing needs and behaviours. They should show a willingness and interest to learn about the child's specific needs and find creative ways to support him. The 1:1 assistant will need to build a trusting relationship with the child and his family to provide reliable support. They will show initiative but also take direct lead and guidance from Class Teachers, SENCO and play therapist.

Responsible to:

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO), Class teacher and Parents.

Pupil you will be working with:

The pupil will need support with emotional regulation as well as supporting their learning. The pupil has not yet been assessed by an Educational Psychologist and therefore does not have any diagnosed conditions.

Challenges:

- Regulating his emotions and behaviours
- Accepting other's points of view when they differ from his own
- Following instructions if he does not wish to
- Angry outbursts, involving occasional physical and verbal episodes

The duties are outlined as follows:

- Developing a close relationship with the pupil to gain his trust and help with his overall emotional wellbeing
- Assisting the pupil in his learning by helping him to remain focussed
- Distracting the pupil to prevent unwanted behaviours
- Using techniques provided by the play therapist to help regulate his emotions
- Extending the pupil in his learning
- Taking pupil outside of the classroom when he is becoming agitated or aggressive
- Adapting to pupil's needs and understanding his specific difficulties
- Effective communication with class teacher and parents

The 1:1 assistant will work with the pupil in class with occasional out of class interventions. You will work with the Class Teacher to support his learning and provide general support for him to meet the Year 2 curriculum by regulating his emotions effectively.

Standards and quality assurance, including training

1. Support the aims and ethos of the School as represented in the Staff Handbook.
2. Set a good example in terms of dress, punctuality and attendance.
3. Be pro-active in matters relating to health and safety.
4. Be familiar with the Staff Handbook and all the policies and procedures relevant to their work.
5. Treat all School business as confidential.

Safeguarding Checks

Recruitment of staff will be in line with all statutory requirements in the area of safeguarding. All appointments will be subject to two satisfactory references (as specified on the application form), appropriate DBS checks, medical fitness for the role and evidence of identity and qualifications. Candidates may be required to fill in a self-declaration of disqualification and disqualification by association. All interviewees are checked on the Barred list and teachers are also checked on the Employer Access Online Services; managers are also checked for any disqualification from management. These checks must be completed satisfactorily before the start date. In the event of any unsatisfactory outcome from any of the checks being received, any conditional offer will be withdrawn without notice.

The School has regard to its responsibilities regarding the Prevent Duty and upholds British Values.