



## Learning Support Assistant

*Our staff are the most important part of the organisation. We inspire and support employees to continually grow and achieve within a progressive, diverse, and inclusive team.*

Become a Learning Support Assistant at Orange Tree School

### Term time only hours

- 35 hours per week – 8:30 to 16:00, Mon to Fri
- Competitive salary
- Position start date: ASAP

The Orange Tree School is a new independent school provision for young people aged 11-18 who will thrive in a small, therapeutic and nurturing environment

The Orange Tree School team are passionate about providing opportunities for those students currently out of education or those who are not coping within the mainstream setting.

Our aim is to work consistently to provide excellence for every student. With a highly-trained team, we support each student's individual needs, particularly focusing on those students needing a safe, but aspirational, environment to recapture an often lost passion for learning and creativity.

Initially growing out of the years of experience at the consistently Ofsted 'Outstanding' Ellern Mede hospital School for children with eating disorders, we have developed an approach to education that not only takes seriously student wellbeing but integrates a therapeutic approach within all aspects of school life.

The student's needs and wellbeing are at the heart of everything that we do, and we take pride in helping our students to re-engage with their learning and thrive and develop as individuals and as part of a community. We do this through individualised care, in small class sizes, alongside a team composed not just of educationalists, but a wide array of healthcare professionals who work together as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

We are extremely proud of the tireless efforts of all of our staff, driven by the desire to bring about the best outcomes for each and every one of our students. If you have any questions, or know anybody who might benefit from our services, please do not hesitate

to reach out to us.

As soon as you walk through the doors of Orange Tree School you can feel its warmth and generosity. Our friendly and diverse community is one that is built on the trust – between students and staff, between students and families, and between everyone who works at the school – that the Orange Tree School will always put the child at the heart of every action and decision.

### **The opportunity**

Enjoy a rewarding education career and have a real impact on children and young people's lives. Join an amazing team creating supportive, nurturing and therapeutic environments where our pupils achieve far more than they ever expected.

As a Learning Support Assistant you will connect directly with the brilliant children and young people we care for, helping to make sure they get the very best from their education. They have so much potential, and they will rely on you to guide their learning journeys bespoke to them.

You will be providing teaching support, implementing and actualising the targets set out in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) and assist with the specific strategies and goal outlined in a student's Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP).

You will be adaptable and ready to work in a variety of classroom roles, both indoors and outside according to individual need. Taking a responsive and caring approach, you may be running classroom activities, leading outdoor experiences or supervising children as they explore further afield.

Orange Tree School is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Our commitment is underpinned by robust processes and procedures that seek to minimise risk and continuously promote a culture of safeguarding amongst our workforce.

All posts within the school are subject to an enhanced DBS check. We welcome applications from all sections of the community, regardless of gender, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or age.

## **Who we are looking for**

### **Education and Qualifications**

#### **Essential**

- Enthusiasm to work with students and develop SEN/ SEMH knowledge and understanding.
- Compassionate and patient with learners.
- Team player who is willing to undertake tasks and projects in addition to supporting the learner.
- Willingness to learn and develop skills.
- Dedication to supporting our learners to be aspirational and enhancing their learning experience.
- Strong communication skills, written and verbal to a variety of audiences.
- Strong team player.
- Motivated and Pro-active.

### **Desirable**

- Experience in education
- Evidence of continuous professional development
- Knowledge of SEN/SEMH and experience of working in a school setting
- Creative and innovative support methods
- Knowledge of how to provide effectively for the needs of all children.
- Teaching assistant qualification.

## **Knowledge**

### **Essential**

- Creative and innovative teaching methods
- Knowledge of how to provide effectively for the needs of all children
- Full understanding of the level of personal and professional commitment

### **Desirable**

- An understanding of the independent school sector

## **Personal Skills, Qualities and Attributes**

### **Essential**

- A positive and child-centred individual
- Excellent interpersonal skills with colleagues, parents, and pupils

#### Ability to:

- Create a happy, challenging, and effective learning environment.
- Establish a rapport with children, engaging them, keeping them focused and motivated.
- Respond effectively to children and adapt support approach when needed.
- Support the teaching and learning taking place in the classroom.
- To be good humoured and enthusiastic
- Strong communication skills, both verbal and written to a variety of audiences
- Strong team working skills.
- Well organised with good planning skills
- Able to stay calm under pressure.
- Smart and presentable appearance
- Aspirational and empathetic to the needs of children
- Innovative / Creative / Flexible and resourceful

Our schools are built on great teamwork and mutual support. If you enjoy working as part of a dedicated team, sharing knowledge, experience and learning, simply fill in our safeguarding-compliant application form and a member of our team will be in touch.

## **How to apply?**

Please complete the application form on <https://www.orangetreeschool.org/teaching-assistant>