

Heathlands School, St Albans

Required October 2021

Part Time Speech and Language Therapy Assistant

Heathlands is a special school for deaf children aged 3-16 set in beautiful grounds close to the city of St Albans. An exciting opportunity has arisen to join the staff of this vibrant, high achieving local authority special school for deaf children aged 3-16. In September 2017 Heathlands was graded as outstanding in all categories by Ofsted.

We are looking for a Speech and Language Therapy Assistant who is interested in working with Deaf children. The Speech and Language Therapy Assistant will work as part of a collaborative team with teachers, classroom support staff and therapists. They will deliver targeted intervention programmes to individuals and small groups of deaf children.

Hours: 15 hours per week, term time only (hours to be worked on Thursday and Friday)

Pay Scale: H5 (£10.83 - £11.96 per hour depending on qualifications and experience)

Some flexibility regarding salary may be available for an exceptional candidate.

The successful candidate is likely to have

- experience working with children
- experience of or a desire to develop expertise in relation to hearing impairment
- knowledge and understanding of how children develop language
- experience of supporting a range of SEN
- skills in sign language and a commitment to further develop these

Benefits include good technical support, extensive staff development programmes including the opportunity for in house sign language training.

Heathlands is committed to safeguarding pupils and this post will require an enhanced DBS check.

To apply for this position please return your application form and person specification form to: The Co-Headteachers, Heathlands School, Heathlands Drive, St Albans AL3 5AY.
Email: head@heathlands.herts.sch.uk

For an informal discussion please contact the school by email to arrange a telephone or facetime discussion.

Closing date: Wednesday 8 September 2021 at 12 noon

Heathlands School

Speech and Language Therapy Assistant – Job Description

Job Purpose

To assist the children with the development of linguistic skills with a focus on spoken language communication and development.

Main Areas of Responsibility

- To be familiar with S.A.L.T. assessments and to assist teachers and therapists with the assessment of pupil's language and communication needs.
- To undertake some assessments under the direction of the therapist.
- In discussion with classroom staff and speech and language therapists agree aims and targets for groups and individuals.
- In discussion with therapists devise and deliver stimulating and challenging activities addressing pupil speech and language therapy targets
- To record pupil progress and provide the teacher and speech and language therapists with feedback on pupil progress.
- To prepare written case notes on pupil progress which form an integral part of the annual review reports.
- To attend and contribute to review meetings when required.
- To develop appropriate materials and resources to support the delivery of speech and language therapy targets.
- To work with the teaching staff and audiological assistant to ensure good audiological practice is established throughout the school.
- To maintain contacts with external professionals e.g. at cochlear implant centres.
- Assist with the ordering of resources and maintenance of an inventory of S.A.L.T. resources.
- To maintain accurate pupil S.A.L.T. records in line with Health Care Practise Council (HCPC) requirements.
- To actively promote opportunities throughout school for reinforcing speech, language and communication development.
- To take responsibility for personal professional development attending relevant staff training sessions and appropriate external training courses.
- To carry out any other duties reasonably requested by the Co-Headteachers that are in line with the purpose of the job.

Contacts

Speech and Language Therapists

Other members of the communication team

County Audiologist and audiological assistant

Heathlands classroom staff

External professionals working in the field of deafness, language and communication.

Knowledge, Experience and Training

- Experience of working with children.
- Understanding and knowledge of child development.
- An awareness of additional speech, language and communication needs that affect children.
- Good liaison skills and the ability to work collaboratively with other adults.
- An understanding of spoken language development and how profound hearing loss impacts on this.
- Knowledge of audiological equipment and the ability to check and maintain it effectively.
- Qualifications in British Sign Language, desired BSL level 3.
- Deaf awareness.
- A high level of knowledge of the English Language.