

St John Fisher Catholic High School Job Description

Job Title:	Teaching Assistant for Deaf Students
Scale:	Level 1-3 (depending on experience and level of BSL)
Weeks:	Term Time
Hours:	34.5 hours per week (8.30am - 3.30pm) (plus 2 hours CPD)
Line Manager:	Deaf Hub Manager

Job Purpose: To support the Hub Manager and class teacher to facilitate the active participation of Deaf students in all aspects of the academic and social activities of the school. Contribute to raising standards of Deaf students and the deaf culture in school.

SPECIFIC DUTIES

Supporting the Students:

- Support students in accessing the classroom curriculum in a variety of ways including BSL, that promote understanding of the subject, working with peers and increasing confidence as an independent learner.
- Under the direction of the specialist or class teacher, supervise students in following a programme of study.
- Provide specialist learning support, requiring in-depth knowledge and understanding, to students with severe special needs, resulting from their hearing levels.
- Take responsibility for delivering learning activities with groups including a Deaf student, or individuals, who would benefit from a different learning approach as agreed with the specialist teacher.
- Establish and maintain supportive relationships with individual students, small groups and parents/carers so that the students understand and can achieve the task, ensuring that they see themselves as independent learners.
- Liaise with specialist services on behalf of individual students, e.g. educational Psychologists, Speech Therapists, by agreement with the specialist teacher.
- Inform and advise the teacher and school staff as required on the best ways of promoting inclusion by giving appropriate information and advice.
- Help develop and reinforce the students' confidence and self-esteem, and promote the student voice in expressing their own needs.
- Take responsibility for the day to day monitoring and maintenance of specialist audiological equipment.
- Provide targeted communication, to facilitate access to the curriculum.
- Assist with facilitating students' emotional and social interaction and development including building relationships with deaf peers.
- Prepared to provide intimate care and/or medical needs if required.

Supporting the Teacher:

- Contribute to reports on student progress and development against National Curriculum, and other descriptors.
- Contribute to the development of IEPs
- Contribute to the planning and evaluation of work programmes for individual students and groups.
- Provide feedback on learning activities and contribute to school and service review and developing planning.
- Organise the learning environment and develop appropriate classroom resources as required.
- Contribute to student management.
- Attend and contribute to Annual Reviews as requested by the Teacher of the Deaf.

Supporting the Curriculum:

- Support the school curriculum, including literacy and numeracy activities.
- Provide additional tuition for students who need extra support with ICT.
- Provide targeted support to enhance learning and improve attainment.
- Provide alternative approaches to teaching in a one to one setting for individual students who find mainstream lessons difficult.
- Contribute to the on-going development and maintenance of specialist resources.

Supporting the School:

- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with other staff and parents of carers.
- Contribute to the maintenance of a safe and healthy environment.
- Attend and actively participate in relevant staff meetings.
- Act as a mentor for less experienced Teaching Assistants on best practice and methods of overcoming difficulties.
- Work flexibly and effectively as part of a larger team.
- Think creatively to help resolve problems and obstacles to learning.
- Contribute to the day to day maintenance and organisation of specialist resources.
- Attend training and undertake other activities for continuing professional development.
- Support Deaf children and young people in other settings if required.

Person Specification:

Specification	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<p>5 GCSE, 9 -1 or A* - C, including English & Maths or equivalent.</p> <p>BSL Level 2 (at least)</p>	<p>BSL Level 3 or above</p>
Experience	<p>Recent Experience of working with children and young people in a school setting.</p> <p>Experience of working successfully as part of a team.</p>	<p>Experience of supporting Deaf students.</p> <p>Experience of working with children and young people who have language and communication needs.</p> <p>Experience of providing a range of support for students including small groups and 1:1 sessions.</p>
Professional knowledge and understanding	<p>Clear understanding of the SEND Code of Practice</p> <p>Good general deaf awareness</p> <p>Ability to deliver specialist interventions specific to an area of need in Key Stages 3 & 4.</p>	<p>Detailed understanding of the needs of more challenging students, for example those with Autism or SEMH</p> <p>Knowledge of the GCSE English and Maths curriculum</p>
Skills, attributes and personal qualities	<p>Ability to communicate effectively with adults and children with a wide range of communication skills.</p> <p>A willingness to undertake training to meet the specialised needs of Deaf students – this will include working towards British Sign Language (BSL) qualifications.</p> <p>Ability to work with small groups of students as directed by the Hub Manager.</p> <p>Willingness and ability to assist the students in the development of independence and self-advocacy.</p> <p>Willingness and ability to support the social and emotional development of the Deaf students.</p> <p>Willingness to undertake training to assist students with medical needs.</p>	<p>Ability to modify the curriculum to make it accessible to the student.</p> <p>Ability to make resources to support student's learning.</p> <p>Competence in using ICT in relation to the curriculum and learning targets.</p>