



Teaching Assistant

Location: Wetheringsett Manor, Suffolk.

If you really want to make your mark in a rapidly growing business that is committed to improving the lives of children and young people, we have the role for you!

We're looking for a Teaching Assistant to join our team at Wetheringsett Manor School. Someone who is motivated by helping others, patient and resilient would be perfect for this role.

Wetheringsett Manor also incorporates the 4-day working week for all staff after successfully passing probation. This means that staff work 80% of their time but get 100% of their salary, this is not a contractual change, but something designed to promote staff wellbeing.

About the School

Wetheringsett Manor School is a new independent day SEMH School for up to 100 pupils aged 7-18. Our dedicated team work together to ensure successful outcomes for pupils who often arrive at the school with a troubled view of education and life.

Wetheringsett Manor School has gone through significant refurbishment and is based in Suffolk, East Anglia and opened to pupils in November 2020. The Manor House is located in 17 acres of parkland with wooded boundaries and sits on the edge of the village of Wetheringsett. The accommodation also provides several other buildings including a converted stable block, a cottage and two industrial units.

We pride ourselves in steering children in the right direction, nurturing aspiration to progress them both academically and socially to encourage them to take pride in their achievements. Socially, we build confidence in our students, so they are able to have a greater understanding of the wider community in which they live.

About the Group

We are part of Acorn Care and Education and can promise you plenty of challenges, and a rich variety of opportunities to develop your career.

We provide Education and Care across a number of schools and residential homes nationally. Our specialist SEN provision, coupled with our expertise within residential care means we offer thousands of vulnerable children and young people across the UK a holistic, wraparound care, residential and education service, empowering them with everything they need to flourish. It is by no accident that 94% of our homes are rated as Outstanding or Good.

We welcome staff who share our commitment to help children experience better days and better lives. Through ongoing development and training, we ensure our staff are well prepared for their jobs and given every opportunity to extend their skills.

About the Role



Are you looking to start a career in education? Do you want to make an invaluable difference to young people with special educational needs? If so, we have an exciting opportunity for a Teaching Assistant to join our supportive environment at Wetheringsett Manor School.

As a TA, you will be responsible for safeguarding the young people and making sure they are healthy, safe and as comfortable as possible. You will assist in their learning by offering companionship and support, whilst ensuring their physical, mental and emotional needs are met. You will be required to prepare learning materials under the supervision of the teachers and to participate in learning activities. The TA will also be required to liaise with parents and staff with regards to the wellbeing of the young people.

This role involves working with young people who have complex behaviour associated with their learning needs. You will be trained to deescalate these situations and put in place pro-active strategies to avoid similar situations in future.

Who are we looking for?

As a dedicated Special Educational Needs school, we require a person who has a clear motivation for working with young people with complex needs. We do not necessarily require you to be experienced as full training and support will be provided. However, you will need to be compassionate, enthusiastic, reliable and resilient. The ideal candidate should work well within a team, be able to organise and plan a workload, communicate effectively and be prepared to work with varying types of difficulties.

Key responsibilities

- Provide a safe, caring and healthy environment where the children can thrive and develop their independence.
- Promote and celebrate diversity.
- Safeguard all children and support them with their individual and personal needs.
- Support and facilitate the learning of students.
- To follow school policy and procedures for recording and reporting

Please see the Job description for further responsibilities.

Why work for us?

- Opportunity to enrich the lives of young people and make a positive difference.
- Be part of a supportive and dedicated team
- Continuous professional development and training
- Internal Promotion
- "Your Wellbeing Matters" – The ability to speak to a councillor for support regarding your mental health.
- Employee Rewards Hub – An app which offers high-street discounts, hints and tips.
- Have the benefits of the 4 day working week with no salary implications.

Personal Specification

	Essential	Desirable	Measured by: application form / interview
Qualifications and Training			
Attainment of at least 4 GCSE qualifications		✓	A
Willingness to undertake training	✓		I
Good literacy and numeracy	✓		A/I
Full Driving Licence	✓		I
Current first aid qualification		✓	A
Qualification related to Child or Social Care		✓	A
Experience			
Experience of working with young people, preferably in an education		✓	A
Knowledge and Understanding			
Understanding / knowledge of Safeguarding	✓		A/I
Understanding / knowledge of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN)	✓		A/I
Understanding / knowledge of assessment tools		✓	I
Understanding / knowledge of local and national learning strategies		✓	A/I
Skills			
Ability to work as part of a team	✓		A/I
Able to organise, prioritise and complete tasks efficiently	✓		A/I
Flexible approach to working	✓		I
Ability to build relationships with children & young people	✓		A/I
Able to deal with problems in a positive and systematic manner	✓		I
Ability to use own initiative	✓		A/I



Able to recognise behaviour in children, which gives cause for concern, and follow school procedures.	✓		A/I
Competent in the use of ICT	✓		A/I
Able to work effectively as part of the whole school team	✓		A/I
Able to communicate effectively (both orally and in writing).	✓		A/I
Personal Characteristics			
Punctual and Reliable	✓		A/I
Calm under pressure	✓		A
Self-motivated	✓		A
Positive and energetic approach to work	✓		A/I
Versatile and Flexible	✓		A
Willing to learn from the good practice of others	✓		A/I

The position is due to commence in August 2023 (however this is subject to approved reference/DBS checks and a start date cannot be given until these checks are complete). If you have any further queries regarding how to apply please contact the recruitment team on 01204 558055 or email us at recruitment@acorncare.co.uk

Acorn Care and Education are committed to the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced DBS Check