Job Description

Job Title: Physical Education and Outdoor Education Instructor

At Ryecroft School we place significant value on physical development, physical education and outdoor learning and its importance in a therapeutic ASC environment.

In this role, you will take overall responsibility for the planning, teaching and assessment of PE and Outdoor education, which will include working with small groups and/or delivering 1:1 learning.

You will be required to create engaging activities to support pupils in their physical development, to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding in the subject, and to facilitate their enjoyment of the great outdoors.

The applicant should have experience of working with children with complex needs, a love of being outdoors and resilience to all weathers. Sport and Outdoor education qualifications are essential with forest school qualifications being desirable but not essential to apply for this role.

Although this role requires the ability to support our pupils primarily in PE and Outdoor education lessons, the successful applicant will also support our young people at Ryecroft School to interact effectively with the world around them, express themselves and communicate confidently. Your timetable may contain other lessons to provide additional cover within the school where necessary.

The specific nature and balance of these responsibilities will vary according to the needs of the school and may be shared.

Main duties and responsibilities:

To work under instruction/guidance to enable access to learning by:

• Attending to the welfare and care of pupils

• Delivering learning/support programmes

• Taking responsibility for the planning cycle

• Undertaking general clerical/administrative support

• Developing the outdoor areas

Duties:

Support the department by:

• Creating and maintaining a holistic and supportive environment.

• Using strategies, in accordance with individual pupil's EHCP, and to support pupils to achieve learning goals.

• Taking responsibility for the planning of the learning programme and daily activities.

• Monitoring pupils' responses to learning activities and accurately recording achievement/progress as directed.

• Providing detailed and regular feedback to SLT on pupils' achievement, progress, barriers to learning etc.

• Promoting good pupil engagement, dealing promptly with conflict and incidents in line with established policy and encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their own behaviour.

• Establishing constructive relationships with parents/carers and, where appropriate, participating in feedback sessions with parents alongside SLT.

• Administering routine tests, invigilating exams and undertaking routine marking of pupils' work.

• Assisting with the display of pupils' work online, on site and in newsletters

• Providing clerical/administrative support e.g. photocopying, typing, filing.

• Supporting all Outdoor Education activities as needed

• Taking responsibility for the development and upkeep outdoor areas.

Supporting pupils by:

• Supervising and providing particular support for pupils, ensuring their safety and access to learning/activities during lessons.

• Supporting pupils with medical conditions/needs to include attending to the pupil's personal needs, and implementing related personal programmes, including social, health, physical, hygiene, first aid and welfare matters.

• Creating varied and interesting lessons to promote engagement in the subject

• Establishing constructive relationships and interaction with pupils according to individual needs.

• Promoting the inclusion and acceptance of all pupils.

• Encouraging pupils to interact with others and to engage in activities.

• Setting challenging and demanding expectations and promoting self-esteem and independence.

• Providing feedback to pupils in relation to progress and achievement

Support the curriculum by:

• Taking responsibility for planning, to include use and maintenance of existing long, medium and short-term plans.

• Undertaking structured and agreed learning activities/teaching programmes and adjusting activities according to pupil responses.

• Linking lessons and activities to pupil's EHCP targets around gross motor skills and physical development.

• Undertaking programmes linked to local and national learning strategies e.g. AQA units, recording achievement and progress, and feeding back to SLT.

• Supporting the use of ICT in learning activities and developing pupils' competence and independence in its use.

• Preparing, maintaining and using equipment/resources required to meet the lesson plans/relevant learning activity and assisting pupils in their use.

Support the school by:

• Being aware of and complying with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, and reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.

• Being aware of and supporting difference and ensuring all pupils have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop.

• Contributing to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school.

• Appreciating and supporting the role of other professionals.

• Attending relevant meetings as required.

• Participating in training and other learning activities and performance development as required.

• Assisting with the supervision of pupils out of lesson times within contracted hours, as required

• Contributing to subject enriching visits, trips and out of school activities as required.

• Contributing to the upkeep of the learning environment.

Person Specification

Qualifications and Experience

• Sport coaching qualifications

• Outdoor Activities qualifications such as Forest School qualifications (or a willingness to work towards these qualifications)

• Experience working with pupils in an outdoor education or environmental setting.

• Knowledge and understanding of child development and the ability to plan appropriate learning experiences in an outdoor environment:

• Experience working with young people in an ASC setting desirable.

• Experience of risk assessment, health and safety, and safeguarding.

Skills and Knowledge

• Strong understanding of Forest School philosophy, child-led learning, and the benefits of outdoor education.

• Ability to plan and deliver engaging, child-centred outdoor learning experiences.

• Strong communication skills, including the ability to liaise with children, parents, and staff.

• Knowledge of risk management and how to balance safety with adventurous play.

• Ability to adapt and respond to changing weather conditions and the natural environment.

• Proficiency in using a variety of tools, resources, and materials safely in outdoor learning.

• Understanding of safeguarding and child protection procedures.

• Desirable:

• Knowledge of local environmental education opportunities and the use of natural materials in teaching.

• Understanding of the role of outdoor learning in supporting children's physical and mental well-being.

Personal Attributes

• Passion for working with children and outdoor learning.

• Positive attitude and enthusiasm for fostering a love of nature in children.

• Ability to inspire and motivate children to explore and learn in natural environments.

• Patient, empathetic, and approachable, with the ability to build positive relationships with children, colleagues, and parents.

• Strong organizational and time-management skills, with the ability to manage multiple tasks and responsibilities.

• Flexible and adaptable, willing to work in all weather conditions.