Job Description

Job Title: Life Skills Instructor

About the Role

At Ryecroft School we place significant value on personal development and giving our pupils the life skills to thrive in a modern world.

We are seeking a passionate and creative Life Skills Instructor to deliver high-quality education for pupils diagnosed with Autism (ASC). This role focuses on helping pupils develop practical skills, independence, and confidence within a supportive and structured environment.

You will plan and deliver a curriculum combining functional academics, vocational learning, and personal development, tailored to the sensory, communication, and social needs of autistic learners. Lessons may include:

- Independent living skills
- Road safety
- Cooking
- Money management
- Communication
- Health and wellbeing
- Community engagement
- Career preparation

You will collaborate closely with therapists, support staff, and families to provide personalised, meaningful learning experiences that address each pupil's strengths and challenges. This is a unique opportunity to make a lasting impact on pupils' lives and prepare them for successful transitions into adulthood.

Who We're Looking For

We are seeking a suitable candidate who:

- Has experience or a strong interest in working with pupils diagnosed with Autism (ASC)
- Can design and deliver structured, engaging lessons that meet the communication, sensory, and social needs of autistic learners
- Is passionate about developing functional skills and preparing pupils for independence and future success
- Can differentiate the curriculum to ensure access and engagement for pupils with a range of abilities

- Works collaboratively with a multidisciplinary team to support each pupil's holistic development
- Values celebrating progress and achievements, fostering a nurturing and inclusive learning environment

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.

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

Developing links within the local community to support with pupils' learning and development.

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.

Desirable: Experience or eagerness to teach in other areas linked to independent living such as food technology, PSHE, Careers, Music. We welcome applicants from diverse teaching backgrounds who share our commitment to supporting autistic learners to thrive.