

JOB TITLE: FOOD TECHNOLOGY AND LIFE SKILLS TEACHER / INSTRUCTOR

Location: Ashley Park- Skylarks School – Epsom, KT18 7LR

Responsible to: Headteacher

Hours: 37.5 hours per week, Monday to Friday

About Skylarks (Ashley Park- Skylarks)

Ashley Park School is set across two sites, both offering high-quality, specialist SEND education from primary years right through to sixth form. Skylarks in Epsom is the secondary specific site.

Ashley Park- Skylarks is an independent special school for pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition, where we provide specialist education and therapeutic support tailored to a wide range of additional needs. All children at Skylarks have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), and many children have other special educational needs in addition to ASC, e.g. Dyslexia, Developmental Delay, Sensory Processing Disorder, ADHD and SEMH (Social, Emotional, and Mental Health needs).

Alongside academic study, pupils can work towards accredited qualifications, vocational pathways, and life skills courses, ensuring they are well prepared for life beyond school.

About the Role

We're seeking a creative, enthusiastic Teacher/Instructor of Food Technology and Life Skills to inspire pupils aged 11–19. You'll focus on Food Tech and Life Skills and possibly teach in additional curriculum areas such as PSHE and Independent living skills as they naturally crossover.

Over time, you may also help develop BTEC or other accreditation pathways, reflecting pupils' interests and career ambitions. This may include catering or hospitality qualifications

You'll work closely with our Quality of Education team to create accessible, engaging lessons, maintain a calm, purposeful classroom, and follow trauma-informed, relational approaches to support all learners.

You may be asked to provide form tutor responsibilities as required. This is sometimes to provide cover for staff absence or to enable effective implementation of the 4DWW

About You

We're looking for someone who is:

- Qualified (PGCE/QTS or equivalent, ECTs welcome). *For the right candidate we will be in a position to consider those without QTS and they would be recruited as an Instructor rather than a Teacher.*
- Experienced in food technology/home economics/life skills coaching and other related subjects.
- Confident using digital tools and flexible in developing new skills.
- Skilled in planning and adapting lessons for a range of abilities.
- Passionate about supporting pupils with SEND and/or SEMH needs.

- Collaborative, creative, and committed to inclusive education.
- Keen to get involved in enrichment activities, digital projects.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Have knowledge and understanding of:

- The school's aims, priorities, targets, curriculum policies and action plans;
- The implications of the code of practice of special educational needs for teaching and learning.

Planning and Target Setting Expectations

- Set appropriate and achievable expectations and targets for pupils in relation to standards of pupil achievements.
- Work with the Headteacher and any other staff to ensure that Individual Education Plans are used to set subject specific targets and match work well to pupil's needs
- Establish with the involvement of relevant staff, short, medium and long term plans for the development and resourcing of the subject taught, which:
 - contribute to whole school aims, policies and practices including those in relation to behaviour, discipline, bullying and racial harassment;
 - are based on a range of comparative information and evidence, including the attainment of pupils;
 - identify realistic and challenging targets for improvement;
 - are understood by all those involved in putting the plans into practice;
 - are clear about action to be taken, time skills and criteria for success

Managing Pupil Learning:

Ensure (with guidance/ support from SLT/ other Teaching staff members):

- Curriculum coverage, continuity and progression in Food Technology taught for all pupils, including those of high ability and those with special educational needs;
- You are clear about the teaching of objectives in lessons, understand the sequence of teaching and learning in subjects taught, and communicate such information to pupils;
- Guidance is provided on the choice of appropriate teaching and learning methods to meet the needs and learning requirements of different pupils;
- Classroom organisation is appropriate for the lesson content and teaching style in use, with well organised resources that promote and enhance learning
- Provision of a stimulating learning environment, in which displays are relevant, well maintained and an aid to learning
- Preparation of termly, weekly and daily plans in accordance with agreed school policy and NC content

Assessment and Evaluation

- Analyse and interpret relevant national, local and school data, research and inspection evidence, to inform policies, practices, expectations, targets and teaching methods
- Establish and implement clear policies and practices for assessing, recording and reporting of pupil achievement, and for using this information to recognise achievement and to assist pupils in setting targets for further improvement
- Ensure that information about pupil's achievements in previous classes and schools is used effectively to secure good progress

- Monitor pupil progress made during lessons, evaluate the effectiveness of teaching and learning, and use this analysis to guide further improvement

Pupil Achievement

- Establish clear targets for pupil achievement and evaluate progress and achievement by all pupils, including those with special educational and communication needs
- Use data effectively to identify pupils who are underachieving and, where necessary, create and implement effective plans of action to support those pupils

Relations with Parents/Carers and Wider Community

- Establish a partnership with parents/carers to involve them in their child's learning as well as providing information about curriculum, attainment, progress and targets
- Develop effective links with the local community, including business and industry, in order to enhance teaching and develop the pupil's wider understanding
- Communicate effectively, orally and in writing with parents, Acorn directors, external agencies and the wider community including business and industry

Managing own Performance and Development

- Prioritise and manage own time effectively, particularly in relation to balancing the demands made by subject management and involvement in school development
- Achieve challenging goals
- Take responsibility for your own professional development

Managing Resources

- Establish resource needs and advise the Headteacher of likely priorities for expenditure, and allocate available resources with maximum efficiency to meet the objectives of the school and achieve value for money
- Ensure the effective and efficient management and organisation of learning resources, including information and communications technology
- Maintain existing resources and explore opportunities to develop or incorporate new resources from a wide range of sources inside and outside the school
- Use accommodation to create an effective and stimulating environment for teaching and learning
- Ensure that there is a safe working and learning environment in which risks are properly assessed

Team Working and Collaboration

The post holder will:

- Work as a team member and identify opportunities for working with colleagues

Application Guidance

When applying, please include the following in your supporting statement:

- **About you** – Tell us a little about yourself and why you're interested in this role
- **Suitability** – Why you believe you are suitable, referring to the job description
- **Skills & experience** – Highlight relevant skills with real examples
- **Contribution** – Explain how you would contribute to the role and the school if appointed

Other Duties and Responsibilities

A JOB DESCRIPTION CAN NEVER BE FULLY DESCRIPTIVE AND EXHAUSTIVE OF UNFORESEEN CHANGES OR CIRCUMSTANCES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT STAFF WILL, WITHIN REASON, RESPOND TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES AND EMERGENCIES AS THEY ARISE, COMMENSURATE WITH THEIR QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND THE SITUATION.

Review and Amendment:

This job description will be reviewed annually and may be subject to modification and amendment following consultation between the Headteacher and the post holder.