

PE teacher

Contract: Full-time (term-time + INSET), permanent

Reports to Area Lead

Responsible for:

Delivery and leadership of PE across EYFS–Year 11, including formal and semi-formal pathways

About the role

We are seeking a passionate and adaptable Teacher/Instructor to join our autism specialist school and lead our PE curriculum.

You will lead, develop, and deliver a high-quality, inclusive physical education provision that meets the diverse needs of pupils with autism and associated needs.

You will teach across all Key Stages and deliver both formal and semi-formal curricula, ensuring every pupil has access to meaningful, structured physical activity that supports communication, independence, emotional regulation, and physical development.

You will play a key role in shaping a PE offer that is accessible, engaging, and ambitious, while supporting staff to confidently deliver autism-informed physical education.

This role suits a practitioner with strong autism pedagogy, creativity, and a belief in the importance of physical activity to support wellbeing, regulation, and lifelong participation.

Key Responsibilities

PE Leadership & Curriculum Development

- Lead the development and implementation of a progressive PE curriculum from EYFS–Year 11 across both formal and Semi-Formal curriculum pathways
- Ensure clear progression across formal (subject-based/accredited) and semi-formal (experiential/developmental) pathways
- Align PE provision with consideration for EHCP outcomes, including:
 - Physical development
 - Sensory regulation

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- Social interaction and teamwork
- Contribute to whole-school curriculum planning and improvement priorities
- Promote inclusive sport, physical activity, and healthy lifestyles across the school

Autism-Informed Teaching & Learning

- Teach across all Key Stages, delivering PE that reflects pupils' interests, EHCP outcomes and identified needs
- Plan and deliver structured, differentiated PE lessons to meet the need of all students
- Use structured teaching approaches (e.g., TEACCH principles, visual systems, predictable routines, low-arousal environments)
- Embed communication approaches in PE sessions (e.g., AAC, PECS, visuals, modelling, clear instructions)
- Implement personalised strategies for sensory regulation, including:
 - Movement breaks
 - Sensory circuits
 - Adapted equipment and environments
- Create safe, predictable learning environments that reduce anxiety and maximise engagement
- Use assessment approaches that capture small steps of progress and engagement as well as progression towards National Curriculum expectations and external qualifications

Enrichment & Wider Opportunities

- Develop inclusive enrichment opportunities such as:
 - Sports days
 - Activity weeks
 - Targeted physical activity interventions

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- Explore appropriate external opportunities (e.g. adapted competitions, community links)
- Ensure all pupils can access meaningful extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities
- Promote pupil voice and engagement in shaping PE provision

Positive Behaviour Support & Safeguarding

- Use relationship-based practice and positive behaviour support frameworks
- Implement individual support plans with attention to:
 - Sensory triggers
 - Transitions
 - Co-regulation strategies
- Uphold safeguarding policies and respond appropriately to concerns
- Ensure safe use of equipment, spaces, and activities through robust risk assessment

Essential

- Teaching qualification or willingness to undertake
- Experience working with pupils with autism and/or SEND
- Strong understanding of:
 - Sensory needs
 - Physical differences present within SEN
 - Communication differences
 - Structured teaching approaches
- Ability to adapt PE activities for a wide range of needs and abilities
- Strong communication and teamwork skills
- Commitment to safeguarding, inclusion, and pupil wellbeing

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Desirable

- QTS/QTLS or relevant Instructor experience within an education or specialist setting
- Experience in a specialist autism or SEND setting
- Subject leadership experience in PE
- Training in autism approaches (e.g., TEACCH, PECS, AAC, behaviour support)
- Experience delivering inclusive or adapted sports provision
- Knowledge of accreditation pathways (e.g. Entry Level, ASDAN, AQA Unit Awards)
- First Aid qualification (or willingness to train)
- Experience leading enrichment or extra-curricular sport

What We Offer

- A nurturing autism-specialist environment with a strong emphasis on wellbeing and belonging
- A supportive leadership team and collaborative staff culture
- High-quality autism-specific CPD and coaching
- Opportunities to shape and lead PE across the school

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