Person Specification

Teaching Assistant with Forest School Responsibilities

Qualifications

Essential	Desirable
Good standard of literacy and numeracy (GCSE Grade C/4 or above in English and Maths, or equivalent).	Recognised Level 2 or Level 3 Teaching Assistant qualification.
Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.	Paediatric First Aid qualification.
Forest School qualification or willingness to undertake training and gain the qualification within an agreed timeframe.	Full Forest School Leader qualification.

Experience

Essential	Desirable
Experience of working with primary-aged children.	Experience of supporting children with SEND and/or EHCPs.
Experience of working as part of a team.	Experience of delivering or supporting outdoor learning activities.
Understanding of the needs of young children in a school environment.	Experience of assisting with educational visits and outdoor learning programmes.

Knowledge and Understanding

Essential	Desirable
Understanding of child development and learning.	Knowledge of Forest School principles and practice.
Awareness of safeguarding and child protection responsibilities.	Understanding of risk assessment and safe outdoor learning procedures.
Understanding of how to support children's learning, wellbeing and behaviour.	Knowledge of environmental education and nature-based learning.

Skills and Abilities

Essential	Desirable
Ability to work effectively under the direction of teachers and the Forest School Lead.	Ability to contribute to planning and evaluating Forest School sessions.
Ability to support individuals and groups of pupils in their learning.	Practical outdoor skills and confidence working in all weather conditions.
Good communication and interpersonal skills with children, staff and parents.	Ability to lead small-group outdoor learning activities.

Ability to organise resources and prepare learning environments.	Experience of using observation and assessment methods in outdoor learning.
Ability to promote positive behaviour and pupil engagement.	
Ability to maintain confidentiality and professional boundaries.	

Personal Qualities

Essential	Desirable
Enthusiastic, caring and approachable.	Passion for outdoor education and environmental learning.
Reliable, flexible and adaptable.	Creative approach to engaging children in outdoor experiences.
Positive role model for children.	
Patient, resilient and calm under pressure.	
Committed to inclusion and equal opportunities.	
Able to foster children's confidence, independence, resilience and wellbeing.	

Safeguarding and Compliance

Essential

- Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- Willingness to undertake all mandatory safeguarding training.
- Understanding of the importance of confidentiality and professional conduct.
- Satisfactory enhanced DBS check and all pre-employment checks.
- Ability to follow school policies and procedures at all times.