

Job Description – Communication Support Worker TA

Title: Communication Support Worker (CSW – British Sign Language) for a pupil who has additional medical and physiotherapy needs.

Pay Scale: Dorset (Green book) Grade 8

Reporting to: Class Teacher / Senior Leadership Team / Co-Headteachers

Type: Term Time Only (full time)

Job Purpose:

- To support a SEN child who is not only profoundly Deaf but requires additional support in managing sensory integration, toileting and self-care, wearing splints and who is reliant on PEG feeding and suffers with ARFID.
- To support in accessing all areas of the curriculum through voiced British Sign Language (BSL), enabling their full participation in learning and school life. The role also includes promoting Deaf awareness within the class and supporting the development of a Deaf-friendly school environment.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Pupil-Focused Responsibilities

Interpret and adapt spoken classroom content into BSL sign and speech to support the pupil's access to learning.

Facilitate the development of the pupil's expressive and receptive sign language skills.

Modify and clarify spoken and written language to ensure comprehension in a range of Curriculum subjects.

Provide one-to-one and group support as required, including pre- and post-tutoring of curriculum content.

Promote the pupil's social and emotional well-being through positive relationships and a responsive, child-centred, therapeutic approach.

Support the pupil's independence, confidence, and sense of Deaf identity within the school context.

Contribute to target setting, assessment, and review processes through regular feedback to the class teacher, and external professionals.

Maintain confidentiality and adhere to safeguarding and child protection procedures.

2. Whole School Responsibilities

Promote Deaf awareness and inclusive practice across the school.

Deliver informal BSL learning opportunities to pupils and staff (e.g. lunchtime or after-school signing clubs).

Provide informal training and mentoring to staff to build confidence in using everyday signs and Deaf-friendly strategies, in collaboration with our Speech and Language Therapist (SaLT) and SaLT Assistant.

Celebrate Deaf culture and identity through assemblies, displays, and themed events in collaboration with school staff.

Liaise with parents/carers to share progress and support strategies.

Attend relevant meetings, including EHCP reviews and team around the child (TAC) meetings, as required.

In the case of absence of the individual student, you may be required to provide Teaching Assistant support, where needed, across the School and College.

The role will involve close liaison with external professionals, including the Sensory Support Service and Educational Audiologists.

Person Specification:

Essential:

Must have a BSL Level 3 qualification or above.

Must have experience of working with children.

Strong communication and interpersonal skills.

Commitment to safeguarding and inclusion.

Commitment to continuous professional development; in particular, to support the specific student, BSL, Deaf education, sensory integration, PEG feeding.

Desirable:

CSW Qualification.

Experience working with Deaf children or adults.

Experience in a school setting, preferably in SEN education.

Understanding of the impact of Deafness on learning.

Knowledge of the National Curriculum.

Experience delivering sign language learning to others.

Ability to build trusting relationships with pupils, families, and professionals.

Knowledge of assistive technology and Deaf-specific educational resources.

Creative, flexible, and reflective practitioner.

Understanding of Deaf culture and identity.

Evidence of ongoing CPD in Deaf education and/or SEND.