

Specialist Teacher of the Vision Impaired, QTVI Grade M/UPS, SEN Max

About the Service

The Specialist Teaching Support Service is a centrally based children and young peoples' service serving Staffordshire.

The Service consists of three teams:

- Deaf / Hearing Inclusion Team
- Vision Inclusion Team
- Autism Inclusion Team

The aims of the post are:

To ensure the special educational needs of Children & Young People who are Blind or are Visually Impaired are met within an inclusive mainstream environment that promotes curriculum access, helping them to become independent learners.

Reporting Relationships

Responsible to: The Deputy Head STSS Team (Lead VI)

Responsible for: Caseload of pupils with vision loss, Communication Support Workers

Key Accountabilities:

For qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification to teach visually impaired children, the key responsibilities would all be prefaced with 'to assist with'.

1. To have day to day responsibility for a designated caseload of visually impaired children / young people within a variety of settings which may include resourced schools.
2. Identify pupils on caseload requiring alternative access to the curriculum using preferred formats e.g. Braille, tactile learning aids, large print or electronic files.
3. To manage specialist equipment and provision of advice regarding its effective use in school and home settings.
4. To teach the relevant skills required (which may include individual teaching, support teaching, advisory, preparation of learning materials) ensuring maximum curricular access.
5. Organise the provision of suitably adapted materials.

6. To work closely with agencies / other professionals to plan support, monitor and adapt the curriculum and set targets for individual pupils to promote inclusion.
7. To provide assessments of children, including the provision of advice for statutory assessment, annual reviews and monitoring progress through IEP targets.
8. To assist in ensuring the social and emotional needs of the VI child are appropriately managed by supporting pupils, schools / settings and parents / carers.
9. To promote inclusion of VI children by being involved with extra-curricular activities (e.g. pre-school and other parents' groups).
10. To direct and supervise the Communication Support Workers (specialist TAs) involved with individual pupils.
11. To promote and build capacity by delivering training for schools and other settings and agencies.
12. To support the Deputy Head (Lead VI) and Head of Sensory and AOT in the development and delivery of commissioning and traded aspects of the service delivery.
13. To assist the Deputy Head (Lead VI) and Head of Sensory and AOT with any other duties that may arise.

Person Specification

Qualifications/Professional membership

- Qualified and experienced teacher
- Qualified Teacher of the Visually Impaired (or willingness to train)

Knowledge and Experience

- Knowledge and experience of working in mainstream and / or special schools
- Knowledge and experience of working with children with a visual impairment
- Experience of multi-agency working practices
- Evidence of continuing professional development

Skills

- Good communication and listening skills
- Ability to positively influence the teaching practice of others
- Good organisational skills
- Flexibility to work in a variety of locations across Staffordshire
- Ability to establish rapport with a wide variety of people
- Competent and confident in utilising ICT programmes
- Self-motivated and able to work independently
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Current driving licence (special arrangements can apply for people with disabilities)

This post is designated as an Essential Car user

The content of this Job Description and Person Specification will be reviewed on a regular basis.