TEACHING Assistant

Teaching Assistants work in Primary, Special and Secondary education across all age ranges encompassing special educational needs and emotional vulnerabilities. The primary role of the Teaching Assistant is to support the class teacher to enhance pupils' learning either in groups or individually, ensuring pupils understand the work set, know their learning objectives and stay on task in order to make progress. Promoting self-belief, social inclusion and a high self-esteem play an integral part to pupils' well-being; ensuring pupils thrive in a positive, nurturing, safe environment.

It is an active role supporting the learner to access the curriculum. They are good role models, act with honesty and integrity, take part in team meetings; contribute to planning and class activities. Promoting Fundamental British Values through spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and positive behaviours are crucial in contributing to improved pupil progress and development.

Qualifications

Apprentices without English and maths at Level 2 must achieve these prior to taking the End Point Assessment.

Entry Requirements

Whilst any entry requirements will be a matter for individual employers, typically an apprentice might be expected to have already achieved 5 GCSEs, including maths and English, Grade C or above or 4/5 (new grading). Some employers will accept other relevant qualifications and experience, including a relevant Level 2 qualification.

Delivery method

Various delivery models available to suit your needs. For any enquiries, or to book an appointment with our training consultants, please contact us at solutions@howcollege.ac.uk.

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What apprentices will learn

Skills

Developing strategies for support	 Develop strategies to support and encourage pupils to move towards independent learning. Use appropriately varied vocabulary to ensure pupils' understanding. Embed effective behaviour management strategies using discipline appropriately and fairly in line with the school's policy. Deliver interventions in accordance with training given (RAG rating). Foster and encourage positive, effective, nurturing and safe learning environments inspiring pupils to take pride in and learn from their individual achievements. Recognise, adapt and respond to all pupils encompassing SEN/emotional vulnerabilities, for example, use Makaton, visual timetables.
Communication and team work	 Work closely with teachers to ensure own contribution aligns with the teaching. Ensure regular communication with teachers to provide clarity and consistency of role within lessons. Deliver/lead small group teaching within clearly defined/planned parameters using initiative, sensitivity and understanding. Build appropriate relationships with colleagues, pupils, parents, adults and stakeholders. Comply with policy and procedures for sharing confidential information and know when and where to seek advice. Implement current statutory guidance including 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' Part 1, safeguarding policies, Prevent Strategy. Undertake safeguarding training every 3 years. Support pupils' well-being whilst embedding the importance of online safety.
Working with teachers to accurately assess	 Contribute to a range of assessment processes and use information effectively for example: written records. Use specific feedback to help pupils make progress. Apply good subject knowledge to support accurate assessment.
Using technology	 Use school computer systems, including specialist software eg: online registration, intervention programmes and management information systems. Use relevant technology competently and effectively to improve learning. Ensure pupils use technology safely.
Problem solving/ability to motivate pupils	 Use a range of strategies including scaffolding and open questioning skills to enable pupils to access and engage in learning. Recognise the difference between pastoral and academic issues and model good behaviour for learning.

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What apprentices will learn

Knowledge

Understanding how pupils learn and develop	 Understand the need to provide feedback to support and facilitate an appropriate level of independence. Comprehend appropriate levels of learning resources to identify and help address weakness, consolidate strengths and develop individualised expectations. Recognise different stages of child development through school, eg. transition between key stages.
Technology	 Recognise the importance of using appropriate technology to support learning.
Working with teachers to understand and support assessment for learning	 Understand the need to accurately observe, record and report on pupil's participation, conceptual understanding and progress to improve practice and assessment for different groups of pupils. Understand the school's assessment procedures for benchmarking against targets set by the class teacher. Be familiar with assessment materials.
Curriculum	 An appropriate knowledge of the curriculum and context you are working in.
Keeping Children Safe in Education	 Understand current statutory guidance including 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' Part 1, safeguarding policies, Prevent Strategy. Understand the importance of sharing relevant information, in a timely manner with the designated Safeguarding lead. Understand the importance of first aid procedures, recording/ reporting incidents and a broad knowledge of Health & Safety Policy.

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What apprentices will learn

Behaviours

Building relationships/ embracing change	 Flexibility, trust, professional conduct, confidentiality and being respectful. Promote the school's efforts to build positive behaviour for learning. Promote and exemplify positive behaviour and uphold the school ethos. Be enthusiastic and open to new ideas.
Adding value to education	 Recognise the importance of using appropriate technology to support learning.
Working with teachers to understand and support assessment for learning	 Praise; provide constructive and specific feedback and support pupils, helping them to achieve their maximum potential socially, emotionally and academically through peer marking and reflection.
Promoting equality, diversity and inclusion	 Keep pupils at the centre of everything. Promote community cohesion and cultural diversity encompassing a full understanding of the school's ethos.
Professional standards and personal accountability	 Demonstrate professional relationships in line with Staff Handbook. Be diplomatic, a positive role model and maintain confidentiality. Optimise learning opportunities and reflect on their personal development. Demonstrate a willingness to learn and improve personal skill set.
Team working, collaboration/ engagement	 Work collaboratively and constructively with the whole school team. Engage professionally as appropriate with outside professionals.

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End point assessment

The End Point Assessment (EPA) can only be triggered after 12 months of starting the apprenticeship and is dependent on when the employer and training provider decide the apprentice is ready. EPA is typically expected to conclude within 3 months. The employer has the final decision to progress the apprentice to EPA. The apprentice and training provider should feel confident the learning outcomes have been achieved.

The EPA consists of three elements, all of which may be completed online. All assessment methods need to be passed. Each assessment method should directly assess the knowledge, skills and behaviours of the Standard. The assessor has the final decision.



Knowledge Test

The apprentice undertakes a multi-choice test to last a maximum of 60 minutes and include 50 equally weighted multi-choice questions with four possible answers each. The assessment should typically be passed before the apprentice progresses to the interview and presentation. The test is to be completed online and requires invigilating.



Portfolio-based Interview

The interview is for 30-45 minutes and scored out of 100 by the Independent Endpoint Assessment Organisation. The interview assesses:

- Understanding of the portfolio to validate competence shown.
- Self-reflection of performance, demonstrating knowledge and how appropriate skills and behaviours have been applied.
- Judgement and understanding to explain appropriate examples.



Project Presentation:

The apprentice delivers a presentation to the EPAO on a project they have completed or a process they have improved. The presentation lasts 10-15 minutes, with a further 10-15 minutes for a Q&A session. The presentation is out of 100. The project is completed from month 9 of the apprenticeship and should be completed prior to EPA being triggered. The project is submitted to the EPAO and they provide a question to answer in the presentation, for example:

- How have you improved a process or operating practice?
- What were the steps you took to implement the project?
- What worked well and how would you improve the results in future?

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