



ASHLYNS SCHOOL

Teaching Assistant
Information for Candidates



Welcome from the Headteacher

Ashlyns is a popular and oversubscribed school with in excess of 1500 students including a growing and successful Sixth Form.

The school was rated 'Good' by Ofsted in October 2023, with an 'Outstanding' Sixth Form.

It's our aim that work and study should be joyful; the staff and students at Ashlyns help to create the atmosphere for this to happen. There is a palpable sense of community, professionalism and a culture of high expectations, all of which are underpinned by ethical leadership.

We are a thriving school with a rich heritage. Originally established for the most vulnerable in society, our focus on helping all students to be the very best versions of themselves is central to all we do.

I hope the information here and on our website will give you an insight into our school – the high aspirations, excellent support and opportunities for our students and staff, the scope of the role and the kind of person we are looking for.

If you want to provide outstanding learning opportunities and exceptional pastoral care for students within a forward-thinking, hard-working school community, we would like to hear from you.

We welcome visits from prospective candidates prior to application. We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you to our school.

James Shapland, Headteacher

Independence

Inclusivity

Integrity



Character Education at Ashlyns School

We have a commitment to character education and we put our values of Integrity, Inclusivity and Independence at the heart of all we do.

Integrity: we act with respect, honesty, courage and justice

Inclusivity: we play our part in the social contract with kindness, service, empathy and gratitude

Independence: we strive to meet our potential with resilience, determination, self reflection and self discipline

All members of the Ashlyns' community are expected to demonstrate these values and play their part in fostering a positive and enriching environment for everyone. We look forward to welcoming staff members who will exemplify these values in their and serve as genuine role models for our students.



Working at Ashlyns School

Ashlyns School is located in the market town of Berkhamsted in south west Hertfordshire. The town is surrounded by Chiltern countryside and within easy reach of London and commutable from many nearby towns including Aylesbury, Hemel Hempstead, Luton, St Albans and Watford.

Our school is a well resourced, exciting environment. Our systems provide flexible working and a truly collaborative culture. As well as joining an experienced and close-knit team, there are other benefits that come with working at Ashlyns:

Health

- Free use of on-site gym with weekly staff fitness sessions
- Wellbeing (free access to mental health support, physiotherapy etc.)
- Free annual flu jab
- Dedicated and active Staff Wellbeing/Social Team (with leadership focus on teacher workload)

- Excellent staff facilities (ample on-site parking, large staff room, departmental offices)
- Staff Occasional Day (school usually schedules this annually)

Wealth

- London fringe allowance payscale
- Paid lunch duty available plus lunch allowance
- Herts Reward Scheme (savings at supermarkets, on leisure activities etc.)
- Cycle to work scheme

Family

- Children of Staff Admission Rule

Support

- A talented team of support staff who provide expert, whole school support (including Administrators, TAs, Premises Staff, Mentors and Technicians)



Personal and Professional

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment:

- To support the school's aims, ethos and values
- To set a good example in terms of professional dress and appearance, punctuality and attendance
- Take responsibility for personal development making full use of the school's professional development opportunities and training
- To attend team and staff meetings as appropriate, contributing actively whenever possible
- To provide courteous, prompt and polite service to all members of the school's community including parents, students, all staff and visitors
- To actively contribute to the school's mission statement by forming positive relationships within the school community and working collaboratively and in good humour with other colleagues as appropriate or when directed
- Be aware and comply with all relevant policies and procedures within the school, particularly those relating to child protection, equality, health and safety, staff code of conduct and confidentiality. It is the duty of all colleagues to report breaches of school policies or procedures to the Headteacher.

Job Description

Teaching Assistant (with personal care)

Grade:	H3 plus fringe allowance
Reporting to:	SENCO
Date:	December 2024
Time/Hours:	18 or 30 hours per week (term time plus one week)

Purpose of Role: To support individual students on a one-to-one basis as well as leading small group work and being part of the Team around the Child. ([Please view the full description with person specification here](#))

Additional Personal Care Duties and Responsibilities

- To support students with physical disabilities including personal care
- Attend to students' personal needs including toileting, hygiene, dressing and eating, as well as help with social, welfare and health matters.
- To ensure the health and safety of students who require intimate personal care

Duties Specific to the Post Holder:

- To assist a student or group of students to access all areas of the curriculum as effectively as possible
- To support students with college placements and to liaise between the school and the college.
- To assist with the development and implementation of Individual Education / Behaviour Plan
- To be part of relevant statement reviews
- To monitor and evaluate student performance
- To support specific learning needs as required; to deliver individual interventions as required
- To provide support and challenge to enable learning within group and individual learning situations
- To establish a positive working relationship with students
- To encourage positive learning behaviour
- To act as a skilled supporter to enable effective learning
- To assist students learning by preparing materials in advance and modifying where necessary
- To encourage inclusion and acceptance of all students and their special needs
- To provide praise and promote the development of a student's self esteem
- To facilitate and actively encourage independent communication with other students
- To encourage the development of independence and self-reliance
- To support the teaching staff and other professionals in the development of a suitable programme of support
- To assist with the planning of learning activities
- To work together with teaching staff and/or other professionals to contribute to a system for recording progress
- To contribute to the maintenance of the student's progress records in accordance with the SEN Code of Practice
- To participate in the review of the Individual Education Plan
- To provide clerical/admin support e.g. photocopying, filing, administer coursework etc. when required to do so by their line manager

Application and Next Steps

Please complete the online application form via the 'apply for this job' button on [Teach in Herts](#) (you will be required to set up a profile and also submit a covering letter).

We do not accept CVs. Prospective candidates are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible as the school reserves the right to make an appointment before the closing date.

If you have any queries about the application process, or if you would like to arrange a visit to look around the school, please do not hesitate to contact Clare Richardson, HR Officer: hr@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk.

If you are shortlisted, your references will be taken up before the interview day. We will carry out an online search as part of our due diligence on shortlisted candidates. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974; shortlisted candidates will be asked to complete a Criminal Records Self-Declaration Form.

Ashlyns School is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service, along with other relevant employment checks, including overseas criminal background checks, where applicable. All new employees and volunteers will be required to undertake safeguarding training on induction which will be updated regularly in line with statutory guidance.

Please view our [Safer Recruitment Policy](#), [Child Protection Policy](#) and [Staff Code of Conduct](#).

As an equal opportunities employer, Ashlyns School is committed to the equal treatment of all current and prospective employees and does not condone discrimination on the basis of age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, gender identity, or marriage and civil partnership.

We aspire to have a diverse and inclusive workplace and strongly encourage suitably qualified applicants from a wide range of backgrounds to apply and join Ashlyns School. We operate an anonymised shortlisting process.



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