

MIDDAY CARER

INTRODUCTION

Frank Wise School caters for 120 students aged between 2 and 19 years with severe and profound and multiple learning difficulties. We serve a growing community within a mixed catchment area extending over 15 miles across much of North Oxfordshire.

SCHOOL STRUCTURE

Currently, the school has 12 broadly chronologically-based classes, including an Assessment Nursery class and a Post-16 class. Students are grouped by age to enable every child to develop within a socially diverse Family Group in which each child is valued as a unique individual. Each class of around 9 children is led by a teacher supported by three full-time Classroom Support Officers.

THE CURRICULUM

The school enjoys an excellent reputation for curriculum innovation and was graded outstanding by Ofsted in May 2019 for the fourth consecutive time. We are a Teaching School, one of the Lead Schools of the Oxfordshire Teaching Schools Alliance, working to support and improve pupil outcomes in schools across the county. Through whole staff involvement, we have developed an exciting and evolving curriculum framework.

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

The Friends of Frank Wise School actively support our work by financing the costs of our three mini-buses and by underwriting the costs of staff involvement for day and residential trips. Through major fund-raising initiatives they have also provided the school with a superb hydrotherapy pool, a classroom block and music room, improved playground facilities, the complete refurbishment of our Drama Room and the recent resourcing of our post-16 block with specialist equipment, furniture and integrated technology.

INCLUSION WITH MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS

The school's policy of strong associations and links with mainstream schools manifests itself at present by all our pupils up to the age of 16 spending at least half a day per week in nine different local primary and secondary schools for joint curricular activities.

We also see inclusion as a two-way process, therefore, we augment our mainstream links by offering cross institutional curricular work based at our school. As a Teaching School we are closely involved with a wide range of partner schools, and our outreach work has historically helped to support a range of children who remain in mainstream placements, as well as providing training across many areas of SEND.

RECENT AND CONTINUING DEVELOPMENTS

As a Teaching School we are a resource for other schools and pupils with special needs in the area and contribute to national projects and discussions. This highlights exciting challenges and the need for applicants committed to an integrated approach to the education of children with learning disabilities. A variety of links and support networks are already established with most local schools. Courses and meetings are often held at the school and we have previously provided professional advice and expertise to mainstream colleagues on an outreach basis and would hope to do so again in the future. The school is proud of its high profile within the local community and beyond. Staff are committed to further developing their skills and promoting our common aims and purpose outside of the immediate school environment.

We are totally committed to extensive staff development programmes. We regard access to high quality in-service training and continuing professional development opportunities as a right for all staff. We are committed to an extensive induction and ongoing training programme for staff.

JOB OUTLINE

Conditions of service will be in accordance with the Oxfordshire County Council's 'General Terms and Conditions of Employment for all Employees' and the 'Terms and Conditions for 'Green Book' staff'.

The person appointed will be expected to:

Work under the direction of the teaching staff, to ensure the safe supervision of children during the school lunch break. This will include:

- Providing support with feeding and toileting some of our more physically disabled pupils.
- Initiating and supervising play activities.
- Working flexibly alongside staff, as tasks and responsibilities will vary.
- Facilitating the smooth running of the school at lunchtimes.

SALARY

OCC Grade 2, 7.5 hours a week, term-time only - actual salary £3,019.99.

THE APPLICANT

The qualities we are looking for are:

- energy, enthusiasm, warmth and a sense of humour
- an appreciation of the importance of encouraging independence in our pupils
- commitment and positive attitude towards the education of pupils with disabilities
- common sense, flexibility and a willingness to learn
- someone who is highly motivated, fit, healthy and ready to work as a member of a lively, committed and hard-working team
- passion for excellence and the capability to enjoy the challenges associated with a motivated school committed to high professional standards in all aspects of its work

We are looking for people who will fully support the stated purpose, values and aims of the school and will be able to play a major part in all aspects of its future development. We believe that the relevant skills for this post can be taught, but the positive attitudes required cannot. Therefore, previous experience and additional specialist qualifications would be an advantage, but are not essential as full training will be given.

In addition:

Applicants must respect the need for confidentiality and professionalism which this post demands. The person appointed should enjoy the challenges that are associated with a school motivated and committed to high professional standards.

APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES

We would warmly welcome applicants who wish to visit the school before they apply. Visits can be arranged by phoning (01295) 263520 or by emailing office@frankwise.oxon.sch.uk.

Completed application forms should highlight any previous experience, professional interests and skills and please ensure we have an email address and contact telephone number for confirmation. Dates for application and commencement dates are set out in the advertisement for this post.

Please note that, if you are successful in your application, you will be required to provide information (including details of any previous convictions/cautions, including spent convictions) which will be checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service in accordance with the DfE Guidance on Child Protection.

All shortlisted candidates will be asked to visit the school (if they have not done so already) to meet with children and staff prior to or as part of the interview process.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Frank Wise School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the best interests of our students and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointments are made subject to a 6 month probationary period and an enhanced DBS check.

Frank Wise School is a committed equal opportunities employer.