



Southfields Primary School

Believe in Yourself
Value Others,
Be proud of your achievement
Smile, Shine, be happy

Teaching Assistant Application Pack

October 2026





Southfields Primary School

Dear Applicant,

Appointment of Teaching Assistant

Thank you for your interest in our Teaching Assistant post at Southfields Primary School starting as soon as possible.

Southfields is a large primary school with 630 pupils (PAN) and 100 staff. We have a Hub of Excellence for Speech and Language, and endeavour to provide an exceptional education in a vibrant environment for children aged 4 to 11.

We are looking for an inspirational and highly motivated TA who will build upon the strengths of the school and work in partnership with all stakeholders and staff to take it forward into its next phase of development. Applications are welcome from highly experienced Teaching Assistants.

Visits to the school are strongly encouraged, please contact Mrs Dale (my PA) to arrange a suitable date and time. Additional information is available on the school website www.southfieldsprimary.co.uk

All applications must be emailed to vacancies@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk

I hope you find the attached information useful and look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Mathlin".

Mrs Sarah Mathlin
Headteacher



Southfields Primary School

A letter from the children of Southfields

We would like to help Mrs Mathlin, our Headteacher, find a Teaching Assistant for our school. We are loveable children who need a kind, funny, clever, fair and patient Teaching Assistant who has high expectations of themselves and us.

We would like someone who enjoys coming to school every day and loves spending time with us. We believe in kindness and the positive power of communication.

Mrs Mathlin believes that our opinions count. We have a great school council which provides us with a positive voice in the school community. We would like our new Teaching Assistant to have fun with us, make us work hard and take an interest in us, as well as support trips, visits and residential to interesting places.

We want to learn and try really hard at school, so we want someone who will expect the best from us as well as support us to learn in creative and exciting ways. In return we will make you smile; we will make you happy with our little notes, pictures and 'special homemade gifts', and make you proud.

We look forward to meeting you soon,

The children of Southfields xxx



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Teaching Assistant Level 2 Grade 6 point 7

Hours of work are 8:45am – 3:15pm, term time only including 5 training days, with a 30-minute unpaid lunch break.

Salary after pro-rata approx. £21,700 (gross)

November 2026 start

Come and Make a Difference at Southfields Primary School!

Could you be the person who brightens a child's day, helps them believe in themselves and celebrates their successes, whatever challenges they may face? At Southfields Primary School, we are looking for a passionate, caring and enthusiastic Teaching Assistant to join our dedicated team in Year1/2. This is a fixed-term position until 31st August 2027.

We would love to hear from experienced Teaching Assistants, as well as individuals who have the skills, qualities and ambition to develop their career and become a Teaching Assistant.

This is a fantastic opportunity to become part of a welcoming school community where every child matters and every adult has the opportunity to make a real difference.

You will work closely with teachers and other members of our dedicated team to support children in their learning, helping them to build confidence, develop independence and enjoy their learning journey. As part of the role, you will also work as a Midday Supervisor each day, helping to create a safe, happy and positive lunchtime experience where children can relax, play and enjoy their time together.

We are looking for someone who is:

- Positive, enthusiastic and self-motivated, with a genuine desire to make a difference
- Caring, patient and sensitive to the individual needs of children and families
- A supportive and committed team player
- Able to use their own initiative and bring ideas to the role
- Skilled and confident in supporting children to learn and thrive
- An effective communicator who can build positive relationships with children, colleagues and families
- Understanding of the emotional aspects of learning and the importance of nurturing children's wellbeing
- Professional, reliable and confident
- Committed to their own professional development, CPD and training
- Enthusiastic about contributing to the wider life of our school

Come and meet us!

We believe that the best way to discover what makes Southfields special is to come and see us for yourself.

We warmly invite prospective applicants to visit our school, meet our team and look around our fantastic learning environment and grounds. You will have the opportunity to see our school in action and find out more about the role and our wonderful children.



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Could Southfields be the next step in your career journey?

If you are enthusiastic, caring and ready to make a difference, we would love to meet you!

To arrange an informal visit, please contact Mrs Dale, PA to the Headteacher:

☎ 01733 562873

✉ vacancies@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk

Come and join our team – we can't wait to meet you!

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, working closely with families and the local community. All appointments are conditional and subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure and two satisfactory references.

Closing date for applications is 12 noon Friday 16th October 2026

Interviews will take place on Wednesday 21st October 2026



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Teaching Assistant Level 2 Grade 6 Job Description

This job description may be amended at any appropriate time, following consultation between the Headteacher and member of staff.

Core purpose of post

- To carry out the professional duties of a Teaching Assistant as circumstances may require and in accordance with the school's policies under the direction of the Headteacher and Line Manager.

1. General Roles and Responsibilities

1.1 To support the teachers with planning, teaching and class management

Support allocated pupils by assisting with planning their learning to achieve progression:

- identifying clear teaching objectives and specifying how they will be taught and assessed;
- setting tasks which challenge pupils and ensure high levels of interest;
- setting appropriate and demanding expectations;
- setting clear targets, building on prior attainment;
- identifying SEND, Pupil Premium, Able pupils or any other groups or individuals identified by the school for targeted support;
- Support clear structures for lessons maintaining pace, motivation and challenge;
- making effective use of assessment and ensure coverage of programmes of study;
- ensuring effective teaching support and best use of available time;
- maintaining discipline in accordance with the school's procedures and encouraging good practice with regard to punctuality, behaviour, standards of work and homework;
- using a variety of teaching support methods to:
 - match approach to content, structure information, present a set of key ideas and use appropriate vocabulary;
 - use effective questioning, listen carefully to pupils, give attention to errors and misconceptions;
 - select appropriate learning resources and develop study skills through library, computing and other sources;



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- ensuring pupils acquire and consolidate knowledge, skills and understanding appropriate to the subject taught;
- evaluating own teaching critically to improve effectiveness;
- ensuring the effective and efficient deployment of classroom support taking account of pupils' needs by providing structured learning which develop the areas of learning identified in national and local policies and particularly the foundations for English and Mathematics;
- encouraging pupils to think and talk about their learning, develop self control and independence, concentrate and persevere, and listen attentively;

1.2 To support the teacher to monitor, assess, record, and report pupils within the class

- support assessing how well learning objectives have been achieved and used to improve specific aspects of supporting teaching;
- mark and monitor pupils' work and set targets for progress;
- assess and record pupils' progress systematically and keep records to check work is understood and completed, monitor strengths and weaknesses, inform planning and recognise the level at which the pupil is achieving;
- undertake assessment of students as requested by examination bodies, departmental and school procedures;
- support teachers to prepare and present informative reports to parents.

1.3 To support a Co-ordinator to develop an area of the curriculum

- To support subject or aspect of the school's work and develop plans which identify clear targets and success criteria for its development with the guidance of the Teaching Staff.
- Contribute to the whole school's planning activities;
- Have a commitment to the wider aspects of school life, such as educational visits, clubs etc.

2. General Professional Duties

- To respond to such reasonable requests as are made by the Headteacher of the school, or her representative.
- To support the school to deliver the Hub of Excellence in Speech and Language and Communication.
- Contribute to the overall life and work of the school.



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- To support the ethos of the school and to contribute to the general wellbeing of all the members of the community: e.g. colleagues, pupils, parents, governors etc.
- To work as a member of the staff team in ensuring the delivery of whole-school policies.
- To be aware of the school's policy and procedures for health and safety.
- To keep up to date with current government and school safeguarding policies.
- To report any disclosures or concerns regarding child protection issues to the Headteacher immediately.
- To share responsibility for the expected standards of tidiness and to respond to needs as they are perceived around the school.
- Set appropriate standards of dress, language and behaviour
- Have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school.
- Have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.
- Follow procedures for visitors in school – the Headteacher must be informed in advance.
- Maintain high standards in their own attendance and punctuality.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified.

Southfields Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects its staff and volunteers to share this commitment. As part of your professional duties you must attend Staff Safeguarding training annually.

Variation

This job description will be reviewed and updated periodically in order to ensure that it relates to the job performed, or to incorporate any proposed changes. This procedure will be conducted by the Headteacher in consultation with the postholder. In these circumstances it will be the aim to reach agreement on reasonable changes, but if agreement is not possible the Governing Body reserves the right to make changes in the job description following consultation with the Headteacher and the school's personnel provider.



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Teaching Assistant Person Specification

		Essential	Desirable	Ascertained by
Qualifications	Education to level 3		✓	• Application • Interview
	Minimum of Level 4 (GCSE/O-level or equivalent) qualification in English and Mathematics	✓		• Application • Interview
	Evidence of continuous professional development	✓		• Application • Interview
	First Aid qualified		✓	• Application • Interview
Experience	Experience of coaching young people	✓		• Application • Interview
	Experience working within a school setting		✓	• Application • Interview
	Experience of using strategies to manage challenging behaviour	✓		• Application • Interview
	Experience of supporting young people of all abilities including those with SEN, EAL and /or who are Gifted and Talented	✓		• Application • Interview
	Experience of delivering specific intervention programmes	✓		• Application • Interview
	Experience of developing and delivering consistently effective monitoring and tracking of pupils' successes and areas for development		✓	• Application • Interview
Knowledge and Skills	Understanding of how to monitor and track the progress of pupils			• Application • Interview
	Understanding of how, as an adult in an education environment, you can create a culture of high expectations	✓		• Application • Interview
	An understanding of the complex lives that some young people lead	✓		• Application • Interview
	Understanding of safeguarding and ability to apply it to their role	✓		• Application



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		Essential	Desirable	Ascertained by
				• Interview
	Knowledge of child learning processes and Special Educational Needs	✓		• Application • Interview
	Proven ability to manage a demanding workload, work under pressure and deal with conflicting demands		✓	• Application • Interview
	Ability to overcome communication barriers with children and adults	✓		• Application • Interview
	Ability to understand and implement the school's behaviour management policy	✓		• Application • Interview
	Good understanding of the school's curriculum	✓		• Application • Interview
	Experience of working with collaborative partnerships		✓	• Application • Interview
Personal Attributes	Resilience – the ability to remain calm and work well under pressure	✓		• Application • Interview
	Proven ability to think both strategically and creatively	✓		• Application • Interview
	Ability to use initiative to respond to unexpected problems using recognized procedures and policies as a guide	✓		• Application • Interview
	Excellent communication skills (including written, oral and presentation skills)	✓		• Application • Interview
	A commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people	✓		• Application • Interview
	Ability to work creatively and collaboratively	✓		• Application • Interview
	Demonstrably professional, honest and loyal	✓		• Application • Interview
	Flexible and open to continuous change	✓		• Application • Interview



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		Essential	Desirable	Ascertained by
	Commitment to our pupils and their learning, wellbeing and safety	✓		• Application • Interview
	Committed to equality	✓		• Application • Interview
	Able to build and maintain successful and purposeful relationships	✓		• Application • Interview
	Ability to work effectively within a team	✓		• Application • Interview