

## Job Description: Specialist Teacher

<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Specialist Teacher for Down Syndrome</b>
<b>Category of Staff</b>	<b>Employee</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Downright Special, Bransholme-based, covering Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire</b>
<b>Hours of Work / Working Pattern/Special Arrangement</b>	<b>2.5 days /17 hours per week, Term-time only (39 weeks) Must work Fridays, and have some availability on Thursdays. Other hours worked flexibly to suit.</b>
<b>Pro-Rata Salary</b>	<b>£9800 p.a.+ travel expenses</b>

### Overall Purpose of the Job and its Primary Objectives

Downright Special supports children with Down syndrome in all aspects of their care, education and development. The majority of children with Down syndrome attend mainstream nurseries and primary schools and Downright Special works to ensure these children are successfully included in the classroom by providing early intervention groups, training, and outreach visits. We also provide some support to Special Schools. The Specialist Teacher is responsible for delivering an education intervention programme to children with Down syndrome within small groups. Children attend these sessions with their teaching assistants from school and everything is tailored to the specific learning profile of children with Down syndrome. The Specialist Teacher provides resources for the Teaching Assistants to take back into school to help with differentiating the curriculum. The role also involves some outreach work in schools such as attending Annual Reviews and occasionally providing support on request for specific issues. The Specialist Teacher will also be expected to support the delivery of training courses. The focus of this role is to support children in Key Stage 1 but may also involve working with children in Foundation Stage.

### Key Relationships

- Work directly educating children with special educational needs
- Work in partnership with parents
- Work with teachers, teaching assistants, SENCOs and other school support staff
- Report directly to Downright Special's Charity Manager.
- Work as a member of the Downright Special team and meet together on a regular basis for support and supervision.
- Liaise with other supporting professionals, e.g. Speech Therapists.
- Work closely with volunteers supporting the Charity.

### Key Responsibilities and Duties

- To deliver small group sessions tailored to the specific learning profile of children with Down syndrome
- To be responsible for the implementation and development of all sessions e.g. designing/making resources



- To prepare, set up and tidy away for each of the sessions ensuring appropriate and well-maintained education resources are available.
- To regularly monitor and report on each child's progress.
- To contribute to the formation of Education and Health Care Plans (EHCP).
- Attend Annual Review meetings in schools and to advise and liaise with schools in the development of Individual Education Plans (IEP) or equivalent
- Where required give outreach support to schools on inclusion of a child with Down syndrome in a mainstream primary school setting including differentiating the curriculum, behaviour, social and emotional development, speech, language and communication, the use of sign language.
- Provide input to planning key transition stages such as Foundation Stage to KS1 or KS1 to KS2
- To liaise with other agencies concerned with the support of the child.
- Support delivery of training related to the education of children with Down syndrome
- To liaise with, signpost and refer to other services which may be of benefit to the child and family
- To keep abreast of the latest research, news and training on the education and development of children with Down syndrome.
- To be familiar with Downright Special policies and procedures e.g. safeguarding, health and safety, confidentiality, Data Protection etc.
- To attend any appropriate meetings which are relevant to children on their caseload subject to the agreement of Downright Special

#### **Working Context**

- Travel to and from Downright Special settings.
- Travel to schools across Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire
- All Downright Special posts are subject to enhanced DBS disclosure.
- Hold a driving licence and have use of a vehicle insured for business use.
- Work in accordance with all Downright Special Policy documents.
- To undertake any other duties as required by Downright Special, commensurate with the nature of the post.

## Person Specification: Downright Special Specialist Teacher

<b>Education/Qualifications</b> (Skills attained through education or training)	
<u>Essential</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Qualified Teacher</li> <li>Trained in Makaton Sign Language or local equivalent</li> <li>Computer literate and be comfortable using iPads.</li> </ul>	<u>Desirable</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have attended SEN related training</li> </ul>
<b>Proven Ability</b> (The knowledge, skills and aptitudes needed for the post- holder to perform the required job competently. These attributes will normally have been gained by exposure to work of a similar type)	
<u>Essential</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mainstream experience of class teaching of primary school pupils, including those with SEND</li> <li>Recent and relevant experience working with children with additional needs including communication difficulties and behavioural issues</li> <li>Experience of planning and delivering small-group education sessions</li> <li>Ability to set targets and write reports</li> <li>Ability to advise and support schools on inclusion with an understanding of how schools work</li> <li>Knowledge of current Early Years and KS1 Curriculum</li> <li>Good communication skills with an ability to build effective professional relationships</li> <li>Experience of working both independently and within a team</li> </ul>	<u>Desirable</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proven ability to work with families and children with special needs</li> <li>Experience of working with children with Down syndrome</li> <li>Experience of delivering speech, language and communication interventions</li> <li>Experience of supporting teachers</li> <li>Knowledge of the new SEND Code of Practice</li> </ul>
<b>Personal Qualities</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highly motivated self-starter with ability to work flexibly and on own initiative</li> <li>Ability to engage with children in a firm, calm but fun way</li> <li>Friendly and approachable with an ability to build effective partnerships with adults to achieve the best outcomes for children with Down syndrome</li> <li>Willingness to share knowledge with others and keen to learn new ways of working</li> <li>A passion for inclusion and ensuring children with Down syndrome can reach their potential</li> </ul>	
<b>Other Requirements</b>	
<u>Essential</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean Driving Licence and access to vehicle, insured for business use, during working hours</li> <li>An enhanced DBS check will be required for this post</li> </ul>	