



Westhaven School

Our vision

Valued, Inspired, Prepared

Our values

We shape our learners to be:

safely independent

confident communicators

respectful citizens

resilient learners

inquisitive thinkers

Our ethos

The Westhaven Way



About Us:

Westhaven is a dedicated Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) school, committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive learning environment for children with a range of learning difficulties, primarily moderate learning difficulties with additional associated needs. We are situated in the beautiful village of Uphill, nestled near the beach and golf course near Weston-super-Mare.

Our learners have varying aptitudes and abilities; we are extremely proud of all their achievements and progress. They have a range of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) including: Autism (ASC); Cognition and Learning needs; Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN). We seek to ensure that, by the time they leave us, our learners emerge as self-confident individuals; equipped with the skills and competencies to successfully take the next steps in their lives.

We are a friendly, happy and caring school, providing a positive, inclusive and enriching educational experience for our young people. We view each of our learners as unique and shape our provision to meet their individual needs and accelerate their progress in a variety of areas e.g. personal, social, academic and well-being. Our commitment to supporting the 'whole' child and their development is underpinned by our strong pastoral systems and our committed and trained staff. At Westhaven, we promote inclusion and equality and celebrate diversity.

The learning strands within the school are split to enable all learners to succeed and each has a slightly different curriculum. These are:

- **Encounter and Explore** : a strand for learners who have more severe needs and are working towards EHCP outcomes
- **Connect and Grow** : a strand for learners who can access the national curriculum at their academic level but need sensory, S&L and regulation support
- **Aspire and Excel** : a strand for learners who are more able to advocate for their own needs and self-regulate but continue to need the support of their EHCP
- **Engage and Respond**: a small strand within the school for learners whose SEMH needs have become more significant than their cognition and learning needs
- **Develop and Empower**: Our 6th Form provision for learners who are not quite ready for larger post 16 settings

Westhaven School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to DBS Barred List and Enhanced DBS Disclosure check and satisfactory references. You can find our safeguarding policy on our school website.

About You:

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	QTS status (ECTs welcome to apply)	Primary or SEND teaching qualification Makaton qualifications
Experience	Experience of working with learners with SEND including ASC / Speech and Language. Experience of working with learners of primary level ability	Experience working with Evidence for Learning. Experience of working in a specialist school Experience with Unlocking Letters and Sounds phonics programme Experience of SALT specific strategies such as AAC devices, colourful semantics, shape coding etc. Experience of monitoring EHCPs and running annual reviews. Experience with working with learners to develop emotional literacy, positive mental health and social skills.
Knowledge and understanding	A strong understanding of differentiated learning and curriculum adaptation. Commitment to and promotion of safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and an understanding of the safeguarding practices applicable to working within a school environment An understanding that "Behaviour is communication" and willingness to adopt a trauma-informed and SEND-informed approach to behaviour	Knowledge of needs of learners with ASD, MLD, SL&C needs and strategies for these learners
Skills	Excellent communication skills and the	Experience of using Google Drive.

	<p>ability to lead a small team of support staff</p> <p>Good organisational and time management skills</p> <p>Good ICT skills</p>	<p>The ability and willing to teach across varying key stages and groups of mixed-ability learners.</p>
Personal characteristics	<p>A commitment to foster communication between parents/carers and to engage in regular communication.</p> <p>A commitment to self-development and learning in order to upskill and meet the growing needs of the learners.</p> <p>Persistent and resilient approach to work</p> <p>High standards for learners and staff</p> <p>Reliable</p> <p>Resilience under pressure</p>	<p>Motivation to learn new skills</p>
Other	<p>Satisfactory enhanced DBS disclosure certificate (relevant applications and checks will be carried out before any job offer is confirmed)*</p>	<p>Experience with supporting personal care (some aspect of this role may require some support with personal care)</p>

What we offer:

- A supportive and experienced team in a school with a low turnover of staff
- Opportunities for professional development and SEND-specific training
- A rewarding teaching environment where you can have a lasting impact
- Competitive salary with additional benefits, including private Health Care after a year of service.

If you are passionate about inclusive education and want to be part of a school that truly makes a difference, we would love to hear from you!

For further information or an application pack will be available on our school website or please contact Trudy Hudson, PA to the Headteacher.

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