



Teaching Assistant

ACE Schools – North Hill & Ford Bases



ACE Schools

Dear prospective candidate,

Thank you for taking the time to look at our advert for Teaching Assistant based at any one of our Plymouth bases supporting Primary through to Secondary aged pupils.

As part of our staff you will have the opportunity to work within a number of our bases giving you an excellent range of experience for people looking to move full time into our sector, this position would also suit someone who has worked in schools previously and is now looking for a more flexible working approach over short periods of time.

As our Teaching Assistant you will support the learning of our pupils in care across our bases. The successful candidate should have experience of working with young people who have complex needs as well as their own resilience to support our young people on a daily basis.. You will be professional in your approach and organised in your working.

You will be supporting teaching specialists in delivering high quality teaching and learning by providing care and support enabling young people to thrive, behavioural coping mechanisms that help our young people make good choices and reflect on their actions and you will provide academic support for the group or young person of young people you will be work with.

You will be at the forefront of making life changing differences to a group of young people who deserve the same high level of education as their peers.

This is a unique and rare opportunity to join an incredible team of staff and young people and if you believe that you have the vision, skills and experience can form great relationships to help shape the lives of the young people we serve we would love to hear from you.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Matt Bindon
Head
ACE Schools 01752 396100
(Plymouth base)

ACE Schools

Who we are;

ACE schools is an alternative provision based across Cornwall, Plymouth and Devon. We support up to 500 pupils each year ranging from Year 1 to Year 11. Pupils that we work with often have complex needs and as a result of this don't currently attend mainstream or special schools' settings. Our aspiration for all pupils is that we can support them to return to a specialist or mainstream settings and our focus is providing our young people with the skills necessary to make this transition successful.

The school is based on 11 sites across the three localities and these sites are divided into three primary areas of need. These include bases to support young people's health and welfare and this can include mental and physical illness that prevents them from attending school, reintegration and intervention bases to support young people with challenging behaviour and social emotional needs back into school; WRAP bases where we provide one to one support for pupils with EHCP plans.

We currently employ over 200 members of staff across the school in a range of positions. At present in the school we have 23 different roles and responsibilities across the team ranging from welfare, curriculum and professional development leads.

In February 2019 Ofsted inspected the whole school rated us as a 'good school' and we are incredibly proud of the report. Below are some of the highlights.

This is a good school

- Leaders are passionate that every pupil, whatever their previous education history, deserves another chance to succeed. As a result of their commitment to providing high-quality provision, pupils do well.
- Leaders have developed strong systems of management across sites. There are common expectations and systems of accountability. Individual sites are, therefore, well organised.
- Leaders work very hard to safeguard pupils. They are very aware of the many risks to their pupils. They have established good relationships with outside agencies. There is a very strong safeguarding culture throughout ACE.
- Teaching is of high quality on most sites. It is tailored precisely to individual needs and underpinned by very strong relationships between adults and pupils. This quality is not as consistent on the Bretonside site.
- Leaders offer a bespoke curriculum tailored to individual needs and aspirations. This means that pupils are much more likely to engage and succeed.
- Pupils' attendance improves considerably. Pupils learn to manage their emotions and behaviour. Pupils develop pride in their work.
- Pupils make good progress. They frequently gain a range of qualifications and leave ACE for a variety of appropriate destinations. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), including those with mental health needs, do well.
- Trustees have overseen the successful establishment of the multi-academy trust and a period of expansion. They identified themselves that governance required strengthening. They have taken appropriate action but there is still work to do to ensure that leaders are rigorously held accountable for all sites.

Working for us

At Ace there are a number of benefits for all employees that work with us.

1. Health shield



Health shield provide our employees with a range of benefits including paid for Physiotherapy sessions and counselling sessions, member discounts, great deals and cashback on shopping, travel, and restaurants and free eye tests.



2. IT equipment

Every teacher that joins ACE will be provided a work laptop and work phone as part of their package on joining the school.

3. Well-being activities



Once each term staff are given opportunities to take part in well-being activities ranging from group sporting, cultural or social activities, through themed activities such as creative afternoons to individual activities such as beauty therapy and massage.

4. Training and induction



All members of staff have CPD sessions that take place on a Friday afternoon that are finished by 3:30 meaning that none of our training take place after the school day. When you join ACE you will be given an initial 3 day induction to our school and provided with MAPA (physical intervention training) as part of this induction. This induction will continue with a comprehensive package which may include first aid certificates, activity leadership as well as a thorough explanation in our systems, trauma informed practice and an in-depth safeguarding training.

5. Staff supervision



As a school we purchase the support of psychologist so that all members of staff can receive support from trained professional when staff need support for issues inside and outside of school.

About Plymouth

Our Bretonside base is situated in Plymouth's town centre 5 minutes from the A38, 2 minutes from the Barbican harbour and 5 minutes from the Plymouth Hoe. The base has 12 teaching spaces including 2 science labs, a technology room, onsite catering facilities and a small outside space. The base also houses a large meeting and training space that is currently under review of how it can be best used. Below is a view from the outside of our Bretonside, Dover Road and North Hill bases.



ACE Schools Plymouth AP Academy (part of Transforming Futures Trust) was formally set up on 1st June 2016 with the aim of building on the solid foundation established by the previous PRU. ACE Schools Plymouth operates from at least twelve different locations within Devon and Cornwall which provides education and support services throughout the community to support pupils to access education in schools, community centre's, medical facilities or their own homes.

Every child has a high level of support often including one to one support and bespoke timetables following thematic learning experiences. A wide range of personalised learning in and out of the classroom is designed to engage the student, build resilience and provide the foundation for rapid academic progress. We work very closely with parents and carers and many other support agencies to ensure that the child's education is paramount.

Bretonside: Martins Gate

The main secondary teaching base for pupils aged 11 to 16 who have been excluded from school or who are at risk of exclusion. Some pupils are placed with us via the Local Authority others by referral from their main school.

ACE Health and Welfare: Dover Road

Dover Road is the base for secondary aged pupils with health and welfare referrals to ACE. Pupils could be too ill to attend mainstream school due to both physical and mental ill-health. Some pupils demonstrate other behaviours such as long term refusal to attend school on emotional grounds or an autistic spectrum diagnosis.

ACE Health and Welfare: Outreach Tuition North Hill

The outreach tuition service is for pupils whose physical and/or mental health mean that they are unable to receive mainstream education in school. Outreach sessions are often run in the home or from our base at North Hill. These pupils receive education in the core subjects from a teacher or teaching assistants.

ACE Primary: Auckland Road (Ford)

ACE Primary is in the Ford area of Plymouth and is the main Primary teaching base for ACE. The pupils are referred from the Local Authority or direct from Plymouth Primary Schools. Our pupils are excluded or at risk of exclusion so often display challenging behaviours. Children are taught in a personalised thematic curriculum designed to re-engage them into education. Our programme is heavily centred on Trauma Informed Practice and enabling a pupil to be able to manage their emotions. Pupils have a high level of support but the ultimate aim is that our pupils can return to education with improved personal skills and strategies to support them.

All pupils have opportunities to be involved in alternative curriculum activities, ranging from all day learning outside the classroom to vocational work based training.

This is an exciting opportunity for a confident and motivated individual to work under the guidance of teaching/senior staff within the school. We can offer you a role that will genuinely make a real difference to the lives of our children and their families, but it will be hard work, requiring creativity, resilience and perseverance. The successful candidates should have experience of working with young people who have complex needs as well as their own resilience to support our young people on a daily basis. They will be professional in their approach and organized in their working.

Useful Information

We would require an element of flexibility to work out of different bases and will need to have a full driving license and access to your own vehicle as well as being comfortable to transport your student.

You will also be able to attend whole school training and development activities. A typical working day is 08:30 to 15:30 with a 30 minute lunch break.

Keen to Apply?

If you have understanding and capacity to support young people with learning and/or behavioural difficulties and you have a desire to help make a difference to young people's lives then we would like to hear from you.

For more information about this role and for an application form visit [Current Vacancies - Transforming Futures Trust](#)

Apply by sending your application to TFTrecruitment@deltaservices.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.