



**THE  
KING JOHN  
SCHOOL**

A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL



## **Job Application Pack Learning Support Assistant**



**ZENITH**  
MULTI ACADEMY  
TRUST

## The Vacancy



**Learning Support Assistant**  
**Required: September**  
**Scale 2-3 (point 3-5)**  
**32.5 hours per week, 8.30am – 3.30pm Monday to Friday**  
**Term Time Only**  
**Actual Annual Salary £13,777 - £14,333**

Are you enthusiastic, inspirational and capable of inspiring students?

If so this could be an exciting opportunity for you to join us on our journey towards outstanding.

We require an energetic and enthusiastic Learning Support Assistant to support pupils with special needs such as autistic spectrum condition, Asperger's syndrome, dyspraxia, dyslexia, PNI and hearing impairment, general learning difficulties as well as those students with social and emotional difficulties. Staff will be required to support students with physical activities; this may include personal care, as well as learning tasks.

Applicants will need to have a minimum of GCSE English & Maths Grade C or equivalent, although a degree would be desirable, a sound academic background, including a working knowledge of ICT. The post would suit someone who is enthusiastic about working with young people and wants to help all students reach their potential.

We can offer you:

- A dedicated and experienced hardworking team of staff
- Enthusiastic, friendly and talented students
- The opportunity to develop within a highly effective multi academy trust

You will need to:

- Be a good and effective communicator at all levels
- Be open minded, creative and inspirational in your style
- Commit to working collaboratively with colleagues and students
- Possess a good working knowledge of ICT
- Have successful recent experience working with children of the relevant age range and previous classroom experience (desirable but not essential)

Completed applications should be submitted via email to [recruitment@zmat.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@zmat.co.uk)

## Applications

To apply for the role please download the application form from the vacancy page on <https://www.zenithmultiacademytrust.co.uk/vacancies/>, completed applications should be submitted to [recruitment@zmat.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@zmat.co.uk). CV's will not be accepted without a completed application form.

You must complete the application form fully and give details of all employment, training and gaps in employment since leaving secondary school to the present day. Any additional information, which you wish to bring to the notice of the selection panel should be included in your letter of application (supporting statement). Please ensure you say why and how you meet the criteria from the person specification in your letter of application. Full job description and person specification can be found at the end of this pack.

### Closing Date: 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022

If you have any queries, wish to discuss the role informally or undertake a visit to the Trust, please do not hesitate to contact us via email [recruitment@zmat.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@zmat.co.uk) or telephone 01702 426744.

**We look forward to receiving your application. You will be notified of your application status within two weeks of the vacancy closing date.**

## Safeguarding Children & Young People

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All staff and volunteers are therefore expected to behave in such a way that supports this commitment. Appointment to this post will be subject to the following satisfactory pre-employment checks:

- Health
- Identity
- Relevant work qualifications
- Right to work in the UK
- Barred List Check (previously List 99)
- Disclosure & Barring Service Check (for all staff and volunteers)
- References
- Childcare Disqualification Declaration Check (relevant Primary School posts only)

# Welcome from the CEO



It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our Trust, and I very much hope this job application pack you gives you a sense of what it is like working in our Trust, including our vision and values.

We are a small, locally-based Trust in South East Essex, currently comprising one primary school and three secondary schools: Laindon Park Primary School and Nursery, The James Hornsby School in Basildon, Castle View School in Canvey Island, and The King John School in Benfleet.

We are intentionally a small local Trust and very much see our role as central to the communities we serve.

As a member of staff within the Trust, you become part of a dynamic network of staff working to achieve a shared vision for all of our children. You become a valued member of a small group of schools, able to shape the education of future generations. In doing so, we hope that you feel really well supported in your career, and that your well-being is always considered.

As a member of our Trust, you engage in a professional learning journey which develops you as a practitioner, and allows you to use your talents to transform lives and make a genuine difference.

## Our Core Purpose

To enhance the life chances of every child and drive social mobility.

## Mission Statement

A quality education and experience for all.

## Values

|         |               |            |            |
|---------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Dignity | Collaboration | Positivity | Aspiration |
|---------|---------------|------------|------------|

## Vision

Zenith Trust will ensure excellence across the pillars of school improvement, governance, and business operations, harnessing the transformative power of collaboration so that all students attend truly outstanding schools.

Regardless of background or need, all students will achieve highly and have high levels of well-being, because they are taught and supported by the very best staff, who are well-trained and supported, buy into Zenith’s vision, and are committed to providing a quality education for all. School leaders act ethically, inclusively, and always with the child’s best interests at heart. Our students will be aspirational for themselves, enjoying their time at school, and flourishing as individuals within a safe, secure and nurturing environment.

All Zenith schools value students’ social, moral, cultural, and spiritual development, building exceptional character so that students are kind, resilient, and inspired to be life-long learners. By working closely with the families and local communities we serve, and listening to students’ voices, students will be well-prepared for life in a modern, tolerant Britain. They will secure outstanding academic outcomes and high quality destinations, always well-prepared for their next steps. As adults, they will lead happy, purposeful, and rewarding lives, and make a positive contribution to the world.

Andy Hodgkinson  
Chief Executive Officer

## Why work for Zenith Multi Academy Trust?

Thank you for considering Zenith Multi Academy Trust as your potential new employer.

If you share our commitment to securing transformational change and sustainable school improvement, and would like to be part of our vision to provide excellence in education, we would like to hear from you.

In return we can offer you:

- A friendly Trust which places staff wellbeing and development at the forefront of everything we do
- School settings with excellent facilities
- Access to high quality and bespoke CPD across the Trust
- A supportive and positive Early Careers program run in partnership with University College London and Chafford Hundred Teaching School Hub
- The opportunity to develop your career with and across the Trust Schools
- The Trust are looking to be early adopters of the new NPQ's

## Staff Wellbeing

The Trust is committed to providing a safe and healthy working environment for all staff and supports management practices that promote good health and wellbeing of all its employees. The Trust recognises that wellbeing and performance are linked. Improving employees' ability to handle pressure and to balance work and home life will ultimately lead to improved individual and Trust performance, including better outcomes for students.

The Trust has adopted a number of policies to support our commitment to staff wellbeing, including:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing policy which focuses on the Trust's commitment to maintaining the health and wellbeing of staff
- The Health and Safety policy which provides a framework for, and measurement of, safe places to work; and
- The staff Recognition and Reward policy which ensures our staff feel valued for the work they do and recognised for the contribution they make.

The wellbeing and training of our staff are seen as critical in creating the most effective and talented staff team. The high calibre of our staff means that we are constantly striving to improve so that we can provide the outstanding level of education that all our diverse and talented young people deserve.

## Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

At Zenith Multi Academy Trust, all staff are encouraged to develop their knowledge, skills, understanding, and attitudes to enhance their professional work, regardless of experience. We work towards 'a culture of excellence', where all staff have the opportunity to continue to improve and sharpen their knowledge and practice.

## Working for Zenith brings other benefits:

- Free Benenden Healthcare Scheme
  - Access to a GP 24/7 hours a day seven days week for you and your immediate family
  - Access to a Mental Health Helpline 24 hours a day seven days a week
  - Access to a care adviser who can provide advice and information on adult care issues
  - Medical Diagnostics
  - Medical Treatment at one of the hospitals in our treatment network for certain procedures.
  - Physiotherapy
  - Mental Health Counselling Support
  - Financial Assistances to a care adviser who can provide advice and information on adult care issues
- Access to Benenden Healthcare rewards and discounts scheme
  - 46% off digital fitness subscriptions
  - 22% off activity trackers from Fitbit
  - Save up to 11% on the cost of gift cards of E-Gifts
  - Lifestyle shopping vouchers – save 6%
  - Home movies rentals – save up to 40%
- Access to Bike2Work scheme
- On site staff counselling programme
- Eye sight tests
- On-site free medical health checks
- On-site flu jab clinics
- Free access to on-site gym facilities
- Generous Teachers' Pension and Local Government Pensions schemes
- Generous annual leave entitlement for full-time support staff up to 29 days + 8 bank holidays per annum



## The Schools of Zenith Multi Academy Trust



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Daniel Steel, is the Headteacher at The King John School, as a parent of two young children himself, he leads the school through the eyes of a parent, with very high expectations and aspirations for his students. The King John School is a popular, oversubscribed school where students' very high attendance and levels of achievement reflect their commitment and enjoyment of school life. The school is a large, mixed comprehensive with a well-established sixth form, and serves the ever-growing communities of Thundersley and Benfleet, as well as welcoming students from further afield.

To enable their students to be happy and successful learners, they strive to create a caring, supportive and aspirational learning community, with high expectations and opportunities for all. They believe in offering a broad and balanced curriculum to enable students to flourish as individuals, and to achieve future success in whatever they choose to become later in life. This includes a strong emphasis on sport and the Arts. Opportunities for extra-curricular activities are extensive for all to support in developing knowledge, skills and cultural capital beyond the classroom setting. These opportunities include enterprise, creative performing arts, and a wide variety of trips and visits. Added to this their sporting expertise which puts them at the top of the county and national championships in a whole range of sports you will see the school has a lot to offer. They strive to nurture and develop global citizens of the future by celebrating success and valuing aspiration. They are determined every student should maximise their potential.

The recruitment, retention, and training of fully-qualified staff play a key part in their drive to secure strong academic outcomes for all students, and to instil a life-long love of learning. They understand the vitally important role of partnerships between families and school, and value their relationships with all members of the community they serve.

They have a thriving sixth form, which has been significantly extended to provide a wealth of additional state-of-the-art facilities. Students achieve well in a wide range of subjects and over a three year trend, the results are in the top 15% of over 2000 schools with 68% A\*, A or B grades at A-level. Students' destinations are very strong, and they progress to Higher Education, including Cambridge and other Russell Group universities, apprenticeships and employment.



Laindon Park is a small school located in a rural unspoilt area. Their building retains a Victorian character with many historical features. The Headteacher of Laindon is Cristina Portoles, who ensures that they are a school where the child is at the heart of everything they do and leads the decisions they make.

As Ofsted said about them "pupils are happy and enjoy school". The school is always aiming to improve, not only the education that they provide to pupils but also the services and goods that they provide to the local community. Their SAT results are consistently good and put them in the top 4% of primary schools in the country.





# Castle View School

Pursue Excellence | Be The Best

Steve Durkin is the Headteacher of Castle View School. The school is a place where students are put first in everything the school does. Their aims are to pursue excellence, to be the best they can be and they achieve this by working together with parents and the wider community to bring out the very best in their young people.

A good education inspires, opens doors and makes a difference to the lives of individuals, their families and the wider community. Therefore, the school takes their responsibilities as educators very seriously, doing all they can to help their students achieve anything and everything they set their minds to. The school also takes great pride in providing a happy and harmonious learning environment – one where every student is known as an individual.

As well as valuing academic success, the school strives for every child to become a well-rounded, caring and confident individual who plays a part in their community, and has the skills and mind-set to contribute positively to our wider society.



## The James Hornsby School

*Together we excel*

The James Hornsby School is an oversubscribed 'Good' school; as rated by Ofsted, where students are at the heart of all we do. We have a strong family ethos where we believe "Together we excel".

The Headteacher Tammy Nicholls firmly believes that these are our key drivers for success not only for our students, but for our staff as well. We welcome the chance to meet with you and discuss your development opportunities as part of the James Hornsby and Zenith family!

We focus on developing independent and resilient learners by removing barriers to success and providing a safe and happy environment that allows young people to strive.

Our curriculum provides breadth to ignite hope, drive ambition and enhance life chances by providing qualifications that open the doors to opportunity.

We believe our community is outstanding and as such we strive to achieve outstanding learners and leaders at all levels, by providing outstanding curriculums and learning opportunities and promote outstanding attitudes and outcomes from all.

As a school we pride our self on our core values of:

A Family ethos

High Expectations

Desire

Hope and Aspiration

Innovation





The King John School



Laindon Park Primary School



The James Hornsby School



Castle View School

## Testimonials

Working at King John for the past six years has provided me with a wide range of fantastic opportunities and wonderful experiences. I was encouraged to attend a middle leaders training programme provided by the trust which gave me the knowledge and confidence to be successful in a promotion to Director of English and media. I was also lucky enough to attend the media department trip to Hollywood with a group of KS4 students and was encouraged to organise my own trip to The Globe theatre for KS3 students.

- Director of Learning, The King John School

Working at the King John School is a privilege. Given the school's reputation I am very proud to be a part of the organisation and enjoy coming to work each day. As a school, King John promotes progression with leaders giving staff their full trust and support in professional development. During my time at King John I have been able to grow and flourish by being exposed to work across the school, within our trust schools also as part of the Benfleet Teaching Schools Alliance. Working at the King John School has certainly progressed my career.

- CPC Director, The King John School

Having worked within Zenith for a number of years I have been afforded so many opportunities to develop. I came to the school as a Head of year and after discussing my drive to be on the leadership team I was given extra responsibilities to ensure the progression was effective and that I was ready to interview for a role. With this in mind I was asked to lead on several faculties and drove the Equality and Diversity within my school. This then led to me being asked to join a school within the MAT to take on the role of associate assistant headteacher. I have now secured a permanent position in this school and couldn't have done it without the opportunities given to me by the Trust.

- Assistant Headteacher, The James Hornsby School

I started working at James Hornsby in January 2012 and began working here as a learning facilitator; almost eight years on and I am now currently the head of mathematics. In this time I have had the opportunity to complete many roles within the school. Working in the behaviour support unit, as an achievement officer and then as a maths instructor, while I was completing my maths degree at university. The leaders within the school identified my skill set and provided me with the support and guidance to move through these positions.

- Maths Teacher – The James Hornsby School

## Job Description

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Job Title</b>                  | Learning Assistant  |
| <b>Grade</b>                      | Scale 2-3   |
| <b>Reports to</b>                 | Headteacher, Class Teacher, SENCO, Senior LSA   |
| <b>Liaison with</b>               | Teaching staff, support staff, Headteacher, pupils.   |
| <b>Job Purpose</b>                | To work in partnership with class teachers to assist pupils' with moderate needs and to support their learning in line with the national curriculum, codes of practice and school policies and procedures.  |
| <b>Principal Accountabilities</b> | <p>Working with individuals or small groups of children under the direction of teaching staff</p> <p>Provide support to pupils with moderate learning, behavioural, communication, social, sensory or physical difficulties.</p>  |
| <b>Duties</b>                     | <p>Interact with, and support pupils, according to individual needs and skills</p> <p>Implement planned learning activities/teaching programmes as agreed with the teacher, adjusting activities according to pupils' responses as appropriate</p> <p>Establish positive relationships with pupils supported</p> <p>Provide feedback to pupils in relation to attainment and progress under the guidance of the teacher</p> <p>Support pupils with activities which support literacy and numeracy skills</p> <p>Support the use of ICT in the classroom and develop pupils' competence and independence in its use</p> <p>To attend to pupils' personal needs including help with social, welfare, care and health matters</p> <p>Promote positive pupil behaviour in line with school policies and help keep pupils on task</p> <p>Participate in planning and evaluation of learning activities with the teacher, writing reports and records as required</p> <p>Assist with the development and implementation of IEPs</p> <p>Monitor and record pupil responses and learning achievements, drawing any problems which cannot be resolved easily to the attention of the teacher</p> <p>Assist the teacher and other staff in the implementation of care programmes</p> <p>To support learning by selecting appropriate resources/methods to facilitate agreed learning activities</p> <p>To assist with the preparation, maintenance and control of stocks of materials and resources</p> <p>Liaise with staff and other relevant professionals and provide information about pupils as appropriate</p> <p>To assist with the display and presentation of pupils' work</p> <p>To supervise pupils for limited and specified periods including break-times when the postholder should facilitate games and activities</p> <p>To assist with escorting pupils on educational visits</p> <p>To assist pupils during activities e.g. swimming, PE</p> |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <p><b>General</b></p> | <p>To understand and apply school policies in relation to health, safety and welfare</p> <p>Attend relevant training and take responsibility for own development</p> <p>Attend relevant school meetings as required</p> <p>To respect confidentiality at all times</p> <p>To participate in the performance and development review process, taking personal responsibility for identification of learning, development and training opportunities in discussion with line manager.</p> <p>To comply with individual responsibilities, in accordance with the role, for health &amp; safety in the workplace</p> <p>Ensure that all duties and services provided are in accordance with the School's Equal Opportunities Policy</p> <p>The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment.</p> <p>The duties above are neither exclusive nor exhaustive and the postholder may be required by the Headteacher to carry out appropriate duties within the context of the job, skills and grade.</p> |
|-----------------------|--|

## Learning Support Assistant

| General heading                        | Detail  | Examples  |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Qualifications &amp; Experience</b> | Specific qualifications & experience          | Successful experience working with children in a school/early years environment<br><br>Educated to NVQ Level 2 in learning support/early years, NNEB or equivalent qualification/experience<br><br>Completion of DCSF induction programme |
|  | Knowledge of relevant policies and procedures | Basic knowledge of First Aid and understanding of School  |
|  | Literacy                                      | Good reading and writing skills   |
|  | Numeracy                                      | Good numeracy skills  |
|  | Technology                                    | Knowledge of basic ICT to support learning  |
| <b>Communication</b>                   | Written                                       | Ability to write basic reports  |
|  | Verbal  | Ability to use clear language to communicate information unambiguously<br><br>Ability to listen effectively   |
|  | Languages                                     | Overcome communication barriers with children and adults  |
|  | Negotiating                                   | Consult with children and their families and carers and other adults  |
| <b>Working with children</b>           | Behaviour Management                          | Understand and implement the school's behaviour management policy   |
|  | SEN   | Ability to understand and support children with developmental difficulty or disability  |
|  | Curriculum                                    | Good understanding of the school curriculum<br><br>Knowledge of literacy/numeracy strategies  |
|  | Child Development                             | Good understanding of the general aspect of child development<br><br>Ability to assess progress and performance   |

|                            |                                 |  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|                            | Health & Well being             | Understand and support the importance of physical and emotional wellbeing  |
| <b>Working with others</b> | Working with partners           | Understand the role of others working in and with the school<br><br>Understand and value the role of parents and carers in supporting children |
|                            | Relationships                   | Ability to establish rapport and respectful and trusting relationships with children, their families and carers and other adults               |
|                            | Team work                       | Ability to work effectively with a range of adults   |
|                            | Information                     | Know when, how and with whom to share information<br><br>Ability to follow instructions accurately   |
| <b>Responsibilities</b>    | Organisational skills           | Good organisational skills<br><br>Ability to remain calm under pressure  |
|                            | Line Management                 | Ability to support the work of volunteers and other teaching assistants in the classroom   |
|                            | Time Management                 | Ability to manage own time effectively   |
|                            | Creativity                      | Demonstrate creativity and an ability to resolve routine problems independently  |
| <b>General</b>             | Equalities                      | Awareness of and commitment to equality  |
|                            | Health & Safety                 | Basic understanding of Health & Safety   |
|                            | Child Protection                | Understand and implement child protection procedures   |
|                            | Confidentiality/Data Protection | Understand procedures and legislation relating to confidentiality  |
|                            | CPD                             | Be prepared to develop and learn in the role   |

