R A Butler Infant & Junior Academy
South Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3DG
01799 523651
admin@rab.academy
www.rab.academy

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Emma Vincent

The Post of SEND Support Teaching Assistant at RA Butler Academy

School Information

About the school:

RA Butler Academy is a fantastic place to work. Being three form entry, we are the largest primary school in Saffron Walden. As a large school, our teachers really benefit from working as a team. Each year group has three classes, so planning is shared and collaboration is high.

Our Inclusion team is led by our very experienced Assistant Head and SENCo and has support from an Assistant SENCo, pupil and family support practitioner, specialist learning and behaviour mentor and school nurse. As a member of this team, you will receive excellent support in your role, tailored training, a collaborative approach to supporting the children you are with and access to external support.

We are a school with a very good reputation for SEND support and have a growing number of pupils on our role with complex needs. We are currently working with the Local Authority to set up a specialised Resourced Provision which will provide a 'special school' type provision for some children. This role would suit someone interested in/having previous experience of working within a specialist setting.

We maintain a strong family ethos across the school and really value every single child and the contributions that they make. We are a Unicef Rights Respecting School meaning that we ensure that our children have a right to a good education, to develop talents, to have a voice, to have friends and to feel safe and play. Under-pinning these we also base everything we do in school on our values:

- Respect
- Resilience
- Relationships
- Reflectiveness
- Resourcefulness
- Risk-taking
- aRticulate

Our exciting and engaging curriculum has a strong pedagogical base. Aspects of the curriculum that we deliver throughout the school are; a strong focus on the teaching of reading and reading for pleasure, high profile work on vocabulary, active learning techniques, carefully sequenced learning experiences, high expectations and securing learning in the long term memory supported by retrieval practice.

R A Butler is a core school of the Saffron Academy Trust, working alongside Katherine Semar School and Saffron Walden County High School to provide the best educational experiences for our children. Staff CPD is highly valued at the school and our staff are able to take advantage of the many opportunities available to them through collaborative working with local schools. We are also an active part of the Saffron Teaching Hub which enables us to be very outward looking.

A large percentage of our staff are engaged in action research projects and many of our staff are completing National Professional Qualifications and NVQ Level 5 apprenticeship qualifications.

Our support staff benefit from high quality regular training as part of the school's extensive CPD programme. As a large school, there are ample opportunities for new and experienced support staff to collaborate and learn from best practice from each other.

Our children come from the town of Saffron Walden and also from the local villages. The majority of our children are white British, but we have an increasing number of EAL children across the school. The number of disadvantaged children on roll is below the National average. We have a high percentage of pupils who are SEND and who benefit from additional physical interventions to support their development.

Children at this school achieve very well. They consistently achieve above the National average in all areas. They enjoy challenge in their learning and have a great attitude. Our children have a wide range of opportunities to develop their achievements in sport, music, and singing to a National standard.

About the role:

We are looking to appoint enthusiastic and committed individuals who want to work with children with SEND, including those with high and complex needs, to enable them to enjoy school and get the most out of their educational experience. The role involves providing tailored support to pupils who may have significant communication, learning, sensory, behavioural, social, emotional and/or physical needs. Ideally, you should have experience of working with children in some capacity and be a friendly and welcoming presence who can help children feel safe, supported and successful in school.

You will be expected to work in partnership with the Head Teacher, staff and Governors to support the ethos of the school and to implement school policies and expectations. You will be expected to:

- Show a commitment to working within our values framework;
- Demonstrate a willingness to learn and reflect on your own practice;
- Have high expectations of your own professional practice;
- Have high expectations for children's learning and behaviour;
- Be able to motivate and inspire both pupils and parents;
- Demonstrate understanding of individualised education for those with additional and complex SEND needs;
- Have the resilience, patience and adaptability required to support children with high levels of need;
- Work effectively as part of a team;
- Have good interpersonal and communication skills;
- Be sensitive to the needs of children and their families;
- Be a strong communicator who enjoys working collaboratively.

Post details:
Salary: Scale 3 £26,847 to £27,274 (actual salary £20,994.44 to £21,328.36)
39 weeks per year (term time plus INSET days)
Permanent contract
Full-time role 8.30am-3.45pm Monday to Friday (could consider a job share)

Please contact Wendy Zych on admin@rab.academy for more information

Applications by noonMonday 30th November 2026

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R A Butler Academy is committed to the safeguarding, protection and welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Following safer recruitment procedures, the successful applicant will be subject to satisfactory references, medical checks and successful Disclosure and Barring (DBS) checks.