

Job Description: Communication Support Worker

MAIN AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

To improve outcomes for children and young people who are Deaf

**The terms deaf / deafness refer to all levels and types of hearing loss*

The main duties or tasks that are part of the role include:

Supporting deaf children and young people to access the teaching and learning environment and to achieve their objectives on their Education, Health and Care Plans.

Drawing on a knowledge of deafness to develop an understanding of the specific needs of deaf pupils, to provide targeted communication support reflecting the pupil's level of language development and mode of communication to facilitate access to the curriculum.

Establish a productive working relationship with the children and young people, acting as a role model and setting high expectations for engagement, learning and behaviour.

Support may include:

Communicating, modifying and clarifying language within the classroom environment.

Following up the introduction of key concepts and new vocabulary, checking understanding – reinforce language.

Notetaking; modifying and summarising ideas and information in note form either manually or electronically.

Working closely with class teachers/teacher assistants for lesson sharing and sharing of good practise.

Working collaboratively with the Qualified Teacher of Deaf Children & Young People (QTtoDCYP) to ensure reasonable adjustments are implemented where required both in accessing the curriculum and the environment, including any visits outside of the school setting.

Supporting deaf children and young people in relationships with peers, facilitating communication whilst recognising the need to be sensitive; helping to build self-esteem and confidence.

Establishing a productive working relationship with the class teacher/school staff i.e. planning/training and promoting a Deaf friendly environment.

Sensitively negotiating deaf friendly teaching strategies with individual teachers should access issues arise.

Supporting the development of communication and language skills; demonstrating good language models when required, including fluent sign language in conjunction with good spoken and written English language

To have a knowledge of Cochlear Implants and personal assistive listening devices including management and troubleshooting of equipment and to undertake daily visual and listening checks - under the guidance of a QToDCYP.

Communicating effectively with other supporting specialist agencies and professionals under the guidance/consultation of the SENCo /class teacher.

Preparing work and learning materials following guidance from the specialist teacher, class teacher taking account of the child or young person's interests, language ability and cultural background.

Contributing to reports, attend review meetings/parents' evenings as requested.

Recording support as directed by Line Manager.

This job description is not intended to be either prescriptive or exhaustive. It is issued as a framework to outline the main areas of responsibility; there may also be additional duties that are required to support the Deaf pupil accessing their education.