

Education Pathways

Apprenticeships and training in schools

Teaching Assistant Apprenticeship Programme

What school leaders need to know

Investing in TA training and improving TA knowledge, behaviour and skills has been found to be one of the most transformative things a school can do to add value to QFT.

As well as a significant proportion of a school budget, TA employment is often the largest investment of Pupil Premium and SEN funding; that specifically aimed at narrowing gaps and improving life chances for underprivileged and vulnerable children.

But typically TAs receive little or no training to carry out their role.

Research evidences, that when TAs have the appropriate training to carry out their roles effectively, their impact on pupil outcomes is significantly improved. The quality of their interactions improves and they can better promote learning and independence.

Through its innovative, high quality TA Apprenticeship Programme, Education Pathways can now provide an opportunity to upskill your teaching assistants, enhance their professional development and increase TA contribution to your school's overall effectiveness.

Our successful programme which has run since September 2018 has received excellent feedback from headteachers, teachers, mentors and apprentices.

Headteachers of existing apprentices report that they have seen significant advancement in TA Apprentices understanding, motivation and contribution in schools.

They describe growth in confidence, an improved quality of interactions and highly effective support for pupils amongst some of the benefits of the training.

Apprentices have grown into new roles, taken on greater responsibilities and even in some cases been asked to model best practice.

Better still for apprenticeship levy payers, this training is usually at no cost to schools or the TAs on the programme!

Our Level 3 Teaching Assistant qualification is aimed at all Teaching Assistants who do not already hold a level 3 qualification in this, or a similar, subject area. It's also suitable for newcomers to the job and applies to Teaching Assistants at both primary and secondary phase.

Education Pathways has been established by Ebor Academy Trust and is working towards providing apprenticeship programmes across the education spectrum. We are accredited as 'main providers'.

When Teachers and Teaching Assistants work effectively together they can achieve 'excellence' within teaching and learning.

If you have any questions and for more information please contact the lead for the Teaching Assistant Apprenticeship Programme, Sue Hinchcliffe: s.hinchcliffe@hm.ebor.academy



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Working as a Teaching Assistant and interested in making the most meaningful contribution you can to teaching and learning in schools? Or perhaps you'd like to become a Teaching Assistant?

Education Pathways can now provide an opportunity to upskill teaching assistants and enhance your professional development – across all maintained schools and multi-academy trusts – through this innovative, high quality TA Apprenticeship Programme.

Our Level 3 Teaching Assistant Qualification is aimed at all Teaching Assistants who do not already hold a level 3 qualification in this, or a similar, subject area. It's also suitable for newcomers to the job and applies to Teaching Assistants at both primary and secondary phase.

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Duration
This apprenticeship will take a minimum of 18 months to complete.

Entry requirements
Apprentices have to hold four GCSEs (Graded A* to C or 9 to 4) which must include English and Maths. If you do not have English and Maths qualifications at this level then you will be required to work towards them during the programme. Support will be offered.

You must work as a Teaching Assistant for a minimum of 25 hours per week; alternatively, if your Teaching Assistant hours are fewer than this and you work in a related capacity, such as in a Breakfast club or as an MSA and the total comes to 25 hours a week or more, this may well make you eligible to join the programme.

The programme is for those who are new to the role, have three or fewer years' experience, or require training to develop the expertise and skills aimed at this level.

What will I be required to do?
You will be required to attend a series of workshops/training events delivered by our in-house experts, carry out observations and assessments, undertake self-directed learning activities, as well as complete evidence based tasks.

It will be necessary to be released from your daily role for 'off the job learning' (20% or 0.2 per week is the requirement), in order that you can successfully complete the programme.

You will be able to meet the 'Apprenticeship Standards' by covering a variety of subjects to enhance your knowledge (such as safeguarding), skills (including supporting teaching and learning, delivering interventions, promoting independence, effective questioning, positive behaviour management and wellbeing), and behaviours (such as promoting equality and diversity, team working and collaboration, personal accountability).

There will also be an opportunity to develop further specialist skills in either Early Years, Reading Development, Speech Language and Communication, Behaviour and Well Being or Support for SEND.

You will receive ongoing support from designated members of staff/mentors throughout the programme.

The times and venue of training events is yet to be confirmed but the training venue is likely to be York-based at our Osbalwick training centre.

Next steps
If you have any questions please contact the lead for the TA Apprenticeship Programme, Sue Hinchcliffe: s.hinchcliffe@hm.ebor.academy

If you are already working in a school, you must first speak with your Headteacher/Head of School to obtain their permission. Then please complete the expression of interest form on our website (www.eboracademy.org) under 'Apprenticeships'.

We look forward to hearing from you!