Gateshead Council – Learning and Schools

Job Profile

**Job Title:** Liaison Teacher – Vision Impairment

**Responsible to**: Team Manager – LINT

Responsible for: No line management responsibilities. Some administrative responsibility for Specialist Sensory TAs

Purpose of the role: To work as a member of LINT in order to provide high quality and effective intervention for babies, children and young people aged 0-25 who are vision impaired in partnership with parents/carers and families, schools/settings, and health and other external partners.

Main Duties;

1. To manage a caseload of babies, children and young people who have a need for assessment, teaching and intervention by a specialist teacher in line with the agreed arrangements for SENIT delivered services.
2. To carry out specialist individual assessments of appropriately referred children in order to identify and implement effective strategies for the removal of barriers to learning to maximise individual children and young people’s achievement.
3. Inform, manage and develop the learning outcomes of babies, children and young people with a vision impairment by recommending specialist programmes and activities that match children and young people’s needs and potential.
4. To plan, develop and provide specialist, individualised programmes/IEPs for babies, children and young people with a vision impairment, in collaboration with families, school staff and multi-professional contacts.
5. To provide educational advice when requested in order to assist with the Education, Health and Care Planning process as well as providing assessment and recommendations at early years/school action plus.
6. To engage with the annual review process for individual children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans in order to report on progress and effectiveness of intervention and inform future targets and strategies.
7. To ensure that schools and settings are challenged and supported in order to ensure high standards of inclusive practice for children with vision impairments and that effective teaching and learning strategies are promoted.
8. Inform, develop and enhance the practice of others in early years, schools and post-16 settings in relation to Vision Impairment through specialist coaching and modelling and promoting improvement strategies in order to secure effective learning.
9. To provide training and development to Specialist Sensory Teaching Assistants in relation to their work with individual children and young people with a vision impairment and to monitor and review the effectiveness of the interventions provided in order to ensure effective outcomes for children and young people.
10. To review progress and outcomes for babies, children and young people with a vision impairment in order to demonstrate effectiveness and value for money.
11. To maintain all necessary records as directed by the LINT Manager to enable monitoring of quality, caseloads, delivery and outcomes and provide additional information as required for regional and national reporting and monitoring.
12. To provide training and development to families, schools, settings and other professionals in order to build their capacity to meet the needs of individual children and young people with vision impairments.
13. To maintain an up to date knowledge of national policy and developments in professional practice including attendance at specialist meetings in order to provide information and advice to the LINT Manager on vision impairment issues.
14. To maintain effective internal and external relationships, including acting as Lead Practitioner where appropriate, in order to co-ordinate the requirements of children with vision impairment and their families.
15. Research, identify and source specialist resources and/or low vision aids to facilitate curriculum access and raise pupil achievement.
16. Assist in contributing to local, regional and national initiatives to identify ‘best practice’ in relation to vision impairment intervention.
17. Work within a multi-agency framework to support inclusion and access in accordance with the relevant legislation, guidance and local policies.
18. Promote the effective use of ICT applications, specialist equipment and low vision aids to facilitate curriculum access for pupils with a vision impairment.
19. Provide guidance and advice to young people with a vision impairment in collaboration with appropriate agencies on further education/career opportunities.
20. Work within the agreed Quality Standards framework for Vision Impairment.
21. Teach and advise on mobility and independent living skills as required and in liaison with the Habilitation Officer.
22. To understand, attend appropriate training and operate in accordance with safeguarding and child protection requirements.
23. To conduct, as required, any other tasks deemed appropriate to the post.

**Person Specification**

**Specialist Teacher for Vision Impairment**

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| **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Qualifications** |  |
| * Qualified Teacher Status |  |
| * Mandatory qualification in Vision Impairment including Grade 2 Braille (or be willing to work towards) |  |
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| **Knowledge** |  |
| * In depth knowledge of the strategies and technologies used to remove barriers for babies, children and young people with vision impairment | * Knowledge of LA structures, systems and procedures |
| * Knowledge of current SEN policy and practice especially as it affects teaching and learning within vision impairment provision | * Training schools and other setting to support learners who have vision impairment needs |
| * Requirements for Safeguarding and Child Protection | * Knowledge of CAF process and lead practitioner role. |
| **Experience** |  |
| * Successful experience of teaching in an educational setting |  |
| * Experience of working with families and settings to support children and young people who have a visual impairment | * Experience of working as a Lead Practitioner |
| * Experience of multi-agency working * Delivery of staff development sessions/presentations | * Experience of working in mainstream and special provision |
|  | * Experience of working across all age ranges from 0-25 |