



MEREFIELD SCHOOL

RECRUITMENT PACK

SEN Class Teacher

Southport
Learning
Trust



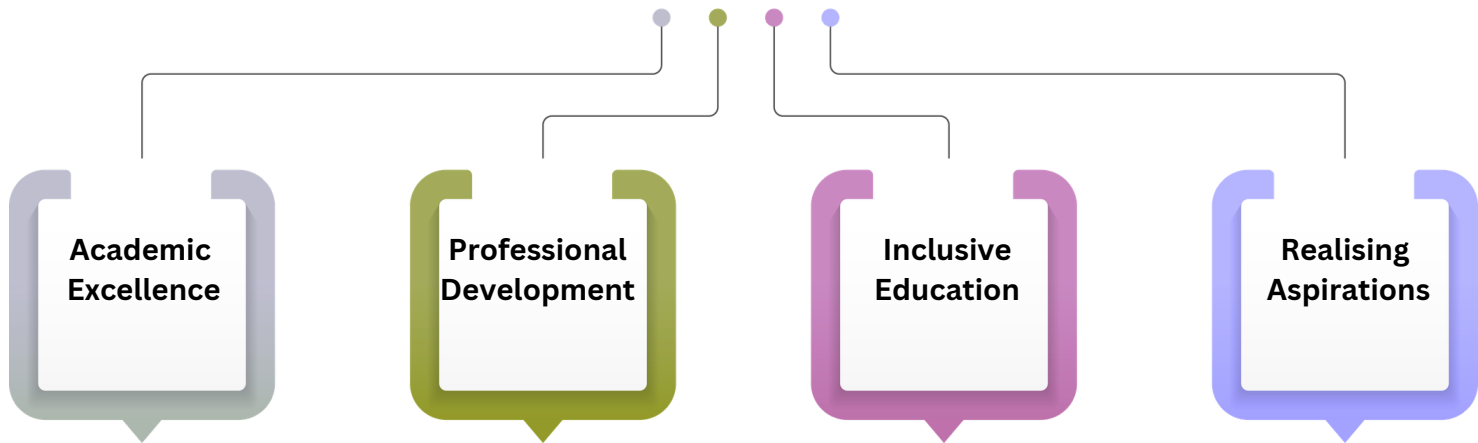
WHY JOIN SOUTHPORT LEARNING TRUST?

Southport Learning Trust is an inspirational multi academy trust that stands at the forefront of educational excellence and community engagement. Southport Learning Trust is one of the largest employers in Southport and surrounding areas thanks to our collaboration of schools which include *Birkdale High, Greenbank High, Meols Cop High, Range High School, Stanley High, Maghull High, Kew Woods Primary, Bedford Primary School and Merefield School*



Each of our schools are unique beacons of aspiration in their communities, our connectivity as a Trust makes us even stronger.

The trust is the heartbeat of the local community and its network spans over 6,700 pupils and over 800 employees. Southport Learning Trust is built on its four pillars which enables students to have access to the highest quality of education.



Focus directly on school improvement. We are aware of the exceptional practitioners we have in the schools across the Trust. Utilising an Implementation plan focus we will liberate colleagues to prioritise collaboration as a catalyst to sustainable improvement.

‘Professional Improvement is school improvement’. Creating cultures across our family of schools in which professional development is central, will ensure that we are investing in the area that research tells us has the biggest impact on student progress.

Our family of schools are all committed to inclusive education that is ambitious for all. We are driven to remove all barriers for our children and ensure they have equity in access to all areas of our curriculums and wider school life.

Committed to not only raising the aspirations of our students but importantly ensuring those aspirations are realised. Working in true partnership with our communities we will ensure our students are visionary thinkers, ambitious innovators and pioneers of the future.



EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITIES TO POSITIVELY IMPACT THE WORLD



WHY SOUTHPORT?

Beautiful coastline: Sandy beaches and long promenade provide plenty of opportunities for relaxation and outdoor activities.

Affordable Property: Compared to larger nearby cities, Southport offers more affordable property prices.

Victorian Architecture: The town boasts a wealth of historic buildings, giving it a unique charm and character.

Green Spaces: Southport is home to a number of beautiful parks and gardens, including the Botanic Gardens and Victoria Park.

Proximity to major cities: easy access to nearby cities such as Liverpool and Manchester, making it convenient for work or more urban entertainment.

Health & Wellbeing: The coastal environment is often associated with a better quality of life, including fresher air, lower stress levels, and opportunities for outdoor fitness activities. The beach, parks, and overall tranquil setting contribute to a healthier lifestyle.

Community: The town has a strong sense of community, with various events and festivals throughout the year, such as the Southport Flower Show and Air Show. It's a family-friendly place with good schools and activities for children.



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EMPLOYEE BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Continuous Professional Development and Learning:

At Southport Learning Trust, continuous professional development (CPD) and learning are integral to enhancing a culture of growth and excellence. We will support your career aspirations and support you to thrive in your role.

Generous Pension:

Employees benefit from a generous pension scheme, with Southport Learning Trust offering a competitive contribution, ensuring that staff are well-supported in planning for their retirement. We are part of the Teachers' Pension Scheme for teaching staff and Merseyside Pension Fund for support staff.

Cycle to work scheme:

At Southport Learning Trust, the Cycle to Work Scheme offers employees a fantastic opportunity to promote healthier lifestyles while saving money. Through the scheme, staff can purchase a bike and cycling equipment tax-free, making it more affordable to commute to work sustainably.

Collaborative Working:

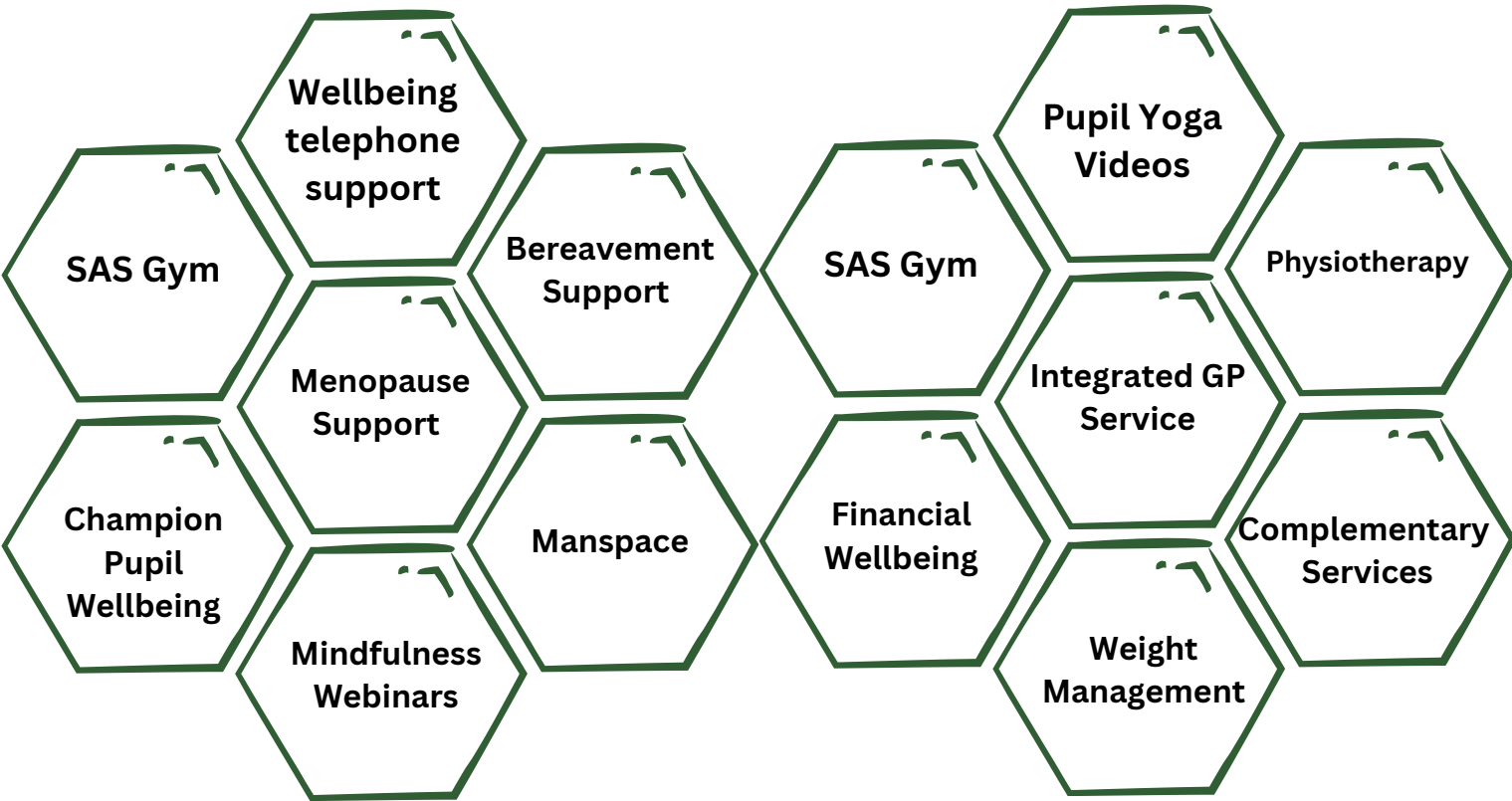
Collaborative working is at the heart of its culture, offering employees the opportunity to thrive in a supportive, team-oriented environment. By working together across schools and departments, staff can share expertise, best practices, and innovative ideas, enhancing both personal and professional development.



School Wellbeing

LEARN MORE

As a trust, we buy in an employee assistance programme 'School Wellbeing' (SAS). This programme gives all employees access to an array of wellbeing support, which includes



EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITIES TO POSITIVELY
IMPACT THE WORLD

ABOUT MEREFIELD SCHOOL

At Merefield School, we believe that it is every child's entitlement to achieve all that they are capable of achieving. We will strive to create opportunities for all our pupils to shine, to show us what they can do and hopefully to surprise themselves by discovering new talents and abilities. Merefield School is built on shared values of respect, fairness and hard work.

We have the highest possible expectations for all our children and young people and through providing the appropriate care, support and challenge, seek to help every child to meet them.

We want all our pupils to aspire to be the best that they can be and to discover more in themselves than they thought possible. We offer a rich and varied curriculum to cater for the wide variety of interests and needs within the school, which promotes independence, self esteem and achievement for all.

You would be joining the Southport Learning Trust, a family of nine schools which includes six secondary schools and two primary schools in the locality. Schools in our Trust include Birkdale High School, Bedford Primary School, Greenbank High School, Kew Woods Primary School, Maghull High School, Merefield School, Meols Cop High School, Range High School and Stanley High School.

Being part of a Trust would give you the opportunity to share and be involved in developing practice across multiple schools. You would benefit from an excellent Employee Assistance Programme and a commitment to your well-being and professional development.

Merefield School is seeking to appoint a creative and inspirational teacher to join our team.

If you want to make a difference to young people's lives, you have a child centred approach, are highly motivated and hard working, we look forward to receiving your application. The successful candidate will join a workforce with shared values that puts our pupils at the heart of everything we do. We provide excellent CPD opportunities to our staff that help them meet the varied needs of our children.

The ideal candidate will:

- Be an outstanding classroom practitioner with recent experience teaching pupils with special educational needs.
- Be dedicated to the welfare, safeguarding and achievements of every child
- Be able to inspire, challenge and motivate all students and lead by example
- Be creative, innovative and have a passion for school improvement
- Be forward thinking and committed to raising standards
- Be organised and have highly developed communication skills
- Demonstrate they can deliver educational progress and outcomes for SEND children.
- Communicate effectively with colleagues, families and other professionals
- Have knowledge and experience of a range of learning needs and strategies to remove any barriers to learning.
- Be a reflective practitioner who is committed to personal development and willing to learn
- Be able to demonstrate their commitment to child centred values

Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to visit us, meet our team and most importantly, get to know our incredible students. Pre planned tours are available, to organise a tour ahead of application, please contact **Gemma Parker, 01704 5771663 or email: recruitment@merefieldschool.co.uk**



Joanne Sharpe
Headteacher

OUR VISION FOR MEREFIELD SCHOOL

Together, we are building a progressive, beacon learning community. We provide an outstanding holistic curriculum centred on the individual needs of every pupil, ensuring they are challenged, encouraged, and safe. At Merefield, every voice is valued, every difference is celebrated, and every child is empowered to reach their full potential.

Our Motto

"Working together to provide an exciting place where every child can achieve success."



Our Core Values

1. Respect

- **For the Individual:** We treat every child and young adult with dignity, ensuring equality of opportunity for all.
- **For the Voice:** We listen to our pupils, whether their communication is subtle or loud.
- **For the Community:** We value, consult, and support our parents, carers, and staff as equal partners.

2. Grow

- **Holistic Development:** We nurture the "whole child," focusing on their well-being and life skills as much as their academic journey.
- **Independence:** We encourage pupils to exercise control over their lives and make meaningful choices.
- **Through Partnership:** We grow stronger by working closely with families, offering home visits, workshops, and open communication.

3. Inspire

- **High Expectations:** We are passionate about progress and maintain an unwaveringly positive ethos.
- **Innovation:** We embrace new ideas and creative thinking to meet the complex needs of our learners.
- **Success for All:** We celebrate every contribution, ensuring our school is an exciting place where achievements are recognized and shared.

Family Involvement: A Positive Choice

We invite parents, carers, and family members to be active participants in the Merefield journey. Our school is a community built on open, honest, and transparent communication.

- **Connect with Us:** Join us for Coffee Mornings, Family Forums, and Annual Reviews.
- **Open Lines:** You are welcome to phone class teachers to discuss your child's education (preferably after 3:45 PM).
- **Community Events:** From Summer Fairs and drama productions to workshops and Carol Services, we provide frequent opportunities to celebrate together.



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THE MEREFIELD CURRICULUM

Merefield School Curriculum Intent

Our pupils are aged 3-19 years. All pupils have an EHCP (Education Health and Care Plan) and each has a primary need identified within their EHCP as Severe or Profound Learning Needs. At Merefield School, we recognise that every child is unique and is on a personalised learning journey.

Their EHCPs outline a range of learning needs, including medical and sensory needs. The curriculum is tailored to match individual pupil needs and their aspirations and goals for the future. We have high expectations of all pupils and we believe it is every child's entitlement to achieve their full potential.

Curriculum Framework

Merefield School provides a sequenced and ambitious curriculum that includes all statutory frameworks, including the EYFS early learning goals, and the National Curriculum which are suitably adapted to give all learners the knowledge, skills, understanding and cultural capital they need to succeed in life. We provide a curriculum that promotes reading, communication, independence, resilience and self-help skills.

Our curriculum takes into account that our learners require deeper differentiation and adaptations and is therefore designed to provide many exciting opportunities for skills to be learned, revisited and generalised over time, at a pace that is appropriate and challenging for each learner.

The Merefield curriculum model is organised into six strands and is based on developing functional skills that allows young people to prepare for everyday life. Each area of the curriculum has a range of programmes of study that include a sequential ladder of learning outcomes.

My Communication			
Core Communication	Interaction	Functional Reading	Physical Communication
My Thinking and Problem Solving			
Work it out		Patterns in Everyday life	Functional Maths
How My World Works			
Developing Independence		Investigating and Exploring	Technology
My Community			
Preparing for my next stage		Citizenship	Community Participation
My Physical Development			
Self-Awareness		Looking after my body	Moving and using my body
My Emotional Wellbeing			
All about me		The World I Live In	Relationships

“Pupils enjoy a wide variety of opportunities that promote their wider development”
Ofsted, February 2025.



APPLICATIONS

POSITION: SEN CLASS TEACHER x 2

CONTRACT: Full time, permanent PLUS 5 INSET DAYS

CLOSING DATE: 12th October 2026, 9am

INTERVIEW DATE: 16th October 2026

SALARY: MPS - UPS plus 1 SEN point

START DATE: 1st January 2027

Enclosed in this pack is:

The job description and person specification for the role.

Applications:

The Trust is required under law and guidance to check the criminal background of all employees. Decisions to appoint will be subject to consideration of an Enhanced Disclosure, including a Barred List check from the Disclosure and Barring Service. Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying this post is except from the rehabilitation of offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013 and 2020).

Successful applicants will be required to complete a confidential medical questionnaire and may be required to undergo a medical examination.

The Trust may carry out an online search on shortlisted candidates as part of our due diligence and in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education. This may help identify incidents or issues that have happened and are publicly available online, which we may wish to explore with you at interview.

Prospective candidates are encouraged to submit their applications at the earliest opportunity. All applications must be completed online via the designated application portal. Please note that paper applications will not be accepted.

Applicants should select the “**Apply Now**” option and ensure that the online application form is completed in full. It is essential that all details are accurate and that all required declarations are appropriately signed.

Candidates are required to complete a supporting statement within the online application form. This statement should clearly and concisely outline your relevant experience, the contributions you can make to the role, and any particular strengths or areas of expertise you wish to highlight. The supporting statement must be tailored to the specific post and should be a minimum of 1,000 words.

Please ensure that your employment history is fully accounted for, with no unexplained gaps in your career timeline.

You must provide the details of two professional referees. One referee must be your current or most recent employer, where applicable. If you are currently employed within a school setting, one of your referees must be your Headteacher.

CVs will not be considered

PERSON SPECIFICATION

SEN Class Teacher

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications and training	• Qualified teacher status • A degree with SEN focus • Evidence of CPD within the last 2 years	• Further qualifications related to special educational needs • Primary QTS
Experience	• Experience of teaching children with a wide range of special education needs • A deep understanding of national curriculum for SEN and adaptive teaching • Experience of implementing and reviewing EHCPs.	• Experience of teaching children with SLD and Autism • Experience of teaching in a multi-disciplinary environment
Knowledge and skills	• Outstanding classroom practitioner • Ability to plan, implement and evaluate individual teaching programmes for children with special education needs • Ability to motivate, manage and develop staff • Ability to communicate well and develop effective relationships/partnerships with parents • Good organisational skills • Confident and competent user of ICT • Ability to consistently provide a total communication approach in the classroom suitable for the needs of all pupils.	• A wide knowledge of the continuum of need at all age levels • Ability to set up and monitor TEACCH programmes • Knowledge of PECS • Knowledge of sign supported language (Makaton or BSL) • Specialist knowledge in one or more of the NC subjects • A knowledge of augmentative and alternative communication systems (AAC) • Knowledge and understanding of the SEND code of practice
Personal Qualities	• Excellent communication skills • Flexible and positive approach • High expectations of teaching and learning • Ability to work as a team • Sense of humour • Willingness to undertake further training as required • A commitment to support learning across all subjects including PE and Swimming, this includes getting into the pool with pupils.	• Commitment to out of hours learning
Behaviour Management	• Manage classes effectively, using approaches which are appropriate to pupils' needs in order to involve and motivate them. • Maintain good relationships with pupils, exercise appropriate authority, and act decisively when necessary. • Ability to promote positive behaviour management in the classroom	
Assessment and Progress	• An understanding of assessment for learning • Ability to assess student work accurately and precisely • Ability to motivate, engage and enthuse learners • Ability to plan and assess work which results in learners making at least expected progress • An understanding of the importance of data in relation to pupil progress.	• Knowledge of entry level qualifications • Previous experience of using online evidence reporting systems

PERSON SPECIFICATION

SEN Class Teacher

	Essential	Desirable
Professional values and practice	• To comply with School policies, routines and protocols as written and intended. • To communicate effectively and willingly with all School stakeholders. • To demonstrate awareness of the need to promote and protect the School's culture and reputation • Commitment to continuous professional development • Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people	



“This is an **OUTSTANDING** school.”

Ofsted, June 2019

“Merefield School has taken effective steps to maintain the standards at the previous inspection.”

Ofsted, February 2025.



JOB DESCRIPTION

SEN Class Teacher

Job Purpose	To teach all subjects across the all ages and ability ranges including Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form as applicable. To ensure students make outstanding progress based on their individual starting points, aspirations and academic goals. To coordinate a subject across the school, subject to be negotiated based n personal strengths and experience.
Class Teacher Role and Responsibilities	The class teacher will: • Use knowledge and skills to teach pupils and students within a class/ Key Stage. • Plan and deliver a range of ASDAN awards and qualifications. • Use technology to support engaging and exciting teaching. • Plan lessons which match the full range of learners' needs. • Use regular, thorough and accurate assessment that informs learners how to improve that will contribute to student progress. • Plan and deliver well informed and engaging lessons according to the Merefield School Teaching and Learning policy. • Devise, implement, review and monitor personalise learning intentions for class pupils and to communicate contents to parents. • Be responsible for the health and safety of students who are in your care. • Manage the learning of students in a secure and friendly environment in which they can thrive. • Use data to monitor and evidence student progress. • Provide data on the progress of students taught. • Ensure all students assigned make at least the expected level of progress due to good teaching. • Motivate, support and challenge students to ensure that they have good attitudes to learning. • Contribute to extra-curricular provision. • Maintain equipment to ensure it is in working order for lessons / shows. • Actively support the ethos of the school, 'where pupils and students can reach their full potential'. • Demonstrate professional characteristics at all times with all stakeholders, colleagues, students and parents. • Contribute to the School's continuous improvement. • Work openly within the framework of best practice identified in the school safeguarding policy. • Report any concerns regarding pupil safety or staff working practices to the designated safeguarding officer(s). • Keep up to date with local and national CPD training and training requirements. • Support and take part in coaching/ mentoring programmes to develop self and others. • Attend meetings and professional development and professional development activities as required. • Work in partnership with classroom support staff, involving them in planning and evaluation in line with the school code of conduct. • Facilitate any transition within or outside school. • Undertake any other task required by the Headteacher that is reasonable and possible within directed time.
Subject Coordinator Responsibilities	• To produce and circulate basic documentation including policies and schemes of work. • To ensure that the aims, principles and practices are based on pupils' needs and regard for national guidelines. • To monitor continuity, progression, standards and assessments in subject areas and ensure that appropriate means of moderating judgements are developed. • To prepare an annual subject development plan including a spending plan. • To stay abreast of current developments, maintain training and skills and to provide advice and support to help other staff maintain such standards. • To identify school training needs. • To ensure resources are of a high standard and sufficient for school needs. • To consult with LA Inspectors and advisers and seek regional advice if necessary. • To contribute to the School Improvement Plan.

JOB DESCRIPTION

SEN Class Teacher

Teachers' Standards Part One: Teaching	A teacher must: 1. Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge pupils 2. Promote good progress and outcomes by pupils 3. Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge 4. Plan and teach well structured lessons 5. Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils 6. Make accurate and productive use of assessment 7. Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment 8. Fulfil wider professional responsibilities
Teachers' Standards Part Two: Personal And Professional Conduct	A teacher is expected to demonstrate consistently high standards of personal and professional conduct. The following statements define the behaviour and attitudes which set the required standard for conduct throughout a teacher's career. • Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by: ◦ treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position ◦ having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions ◦ showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others ◦ not undermining fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs ◦ ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law. • Teachers must have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school in which they teach, and maintain high standards in their own attendance and punctuality. • Teachers must have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.



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