

Please find below the Specialist Support Worker Job Description along with the Person Specification and Standards, which will help you fill in the Specialist Support Worker Application Form.

Please return your completed application form and CV to us as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at recruitment@time-specialist-support.com



Job Description – Specialist Support Worker

Hours

- We recommend choosing to work at least 20 hrs per month to help you gain confidence, although you can choose to work less

Salary

- From £9 - £12 per hour

About the role

This is an exciting opportunity to work with autistic children and young people. We understand not everyone has experience working with children and young people so this is not essential but we want to see passion!

At times you will be required to work as part of a team, 2:1 or 1:1 supporting young people either within their home environments or within local communities, enabling them to enjoy a positive, fun experience promoting social inclusion to access everyday opportunities and community participation.

Flexibility and availability to work a variety of shifts, mainly after school, evenings, and weekends. Day shifts are available but limited.

Key Tasks

- To support and assist children and young people needs, including their personal, emotional and social needs.
- To use communication that is most relevant and specific to the individual you are supporting.
- To liaise with families to arrange on going sessions and activities and act as a facilitator.
- To give one months' notice of availability to both Booking HR and families and submit by date stated from HR.
- To report to line manager any issues, concerns and incidents that have occurred during sessions.
- To ensure that personal interactions are equitable, supportive and promote independence.
- To support children and young people to maintain safety and security within their home, cars and community.
- To support children and young people to access mainstream activities or specialist groups.
- To support children and young people with activities within their own home environment.
- To attend mandatory training and induction, and complete trial sessions to prepare you for paid work.
- To support the running and organisation of social clubs, play schemes and of events throughout the year that are organised by Time Specialist Support.
- To follow safeguarding policies and procedures.

Key Skills

- Understand the challenges that children and young people with autism face
- Build effective relationships with both the young people and their families
- Communicate effectively with the young people, families and Management
- Flexible and creative in offering activities suitable for the young person
- Organised and independent in arranging sessions
- Able to problem solve and show initiative
- Able to use and have access to email on a regular basis

Desirable

- Full UK Driving Licence with access to a car to take out a child during their session if required. *
(Some children struggle with public transport or may not have activities close by)
*Valid Business Insurance, along with a check on driving convictions, is required in order to safeguard our children.

Training

Once your application has been processed, you will be invited to attend an interview, if successful you will then be invited to complete our training. This consists of a combination of e-learning courses and a 2-hour training session, which includes an introduction to Autism and practical strategies and techniques that may be useful when working with individuals with an autistic spectrum condition. During this session you will also learn more about Time Specialist Support and how the company works.

After this, you will take part in two trial sessions, usually lasting around six hours in total. Here you will work with a young person/child alongside an experienced member of staff from Time Specialist Support. This is a great opportunity to meet some of the individuals that we support on a weekly basis but also an opportunity to ask any questions or concerns that you have related to your job role. During this time you will see how staff will liaise with families and facilitate future sessions.

Throughout the year, we may put on specific training days and events, which you will be invited to attend. Training is an important part of your development as a support worker, to ensure that we, as a service provider continue to provide a service within the local and national legislation, but also that we continue being a specialist provider.

Further Requirements

Disclosure and Barring Service Check

You must have a current valid Enhanced DBS check when working with vulnerable children. We can provide you with an Enhanced DBS check which will cost you £60.00. However, once you have completed your first 50 hours, you will be refunded £30.00. After a further 50 hours, you will receive the final £30.00.

PERSON SPECIFICATION: SPECIALIST SUPPORT WORKER

Category	Essential	Desirable
Values	<p>Commitment to the provision of high quality person-centred support to empower children with autism and/or other disabilities.</p> <p>Understand the importance of choice and rights for children</p>	
Previous Experience	Being able to work alone	<p>Current or previous experience of supporting/caring for children/young in a paid capacity.</p> <p>Enabling children/young people access new experiences</p> <p>Working within a team.</p> <p>Behaviour management</p> <p>Basic understanding of the autism spectrum</p>
Knowledge	Basic knowledge of the needs and rights of children/young people with a disability and an understanding of the issues which people may face.	Knowledge of Health and safety and Risk assessments
Skills	Communicate effectively and sensitively with different people in all situations.	Able and interested in using IT to support alternative communication methods

<p>Skills (continued)</p>	<p>Good standard of written English.</p> <p>To be able to report and record accurately.</p> <p>Support children/young people in a creative way that respects choice, dignity, respect and privacy.</p> <p>Form and maintain effective working relationships with children/young people, alongside their families, colleagues and partner organisations</p> <p>Complete and maintain accurate written records and follow policies and procedures.</p>	
<p>Equal Opportunities and diversity</p>	<p>Awareness of and commitment to promoting equal opportunities for all</p>	<p>Training and qualifications in related subjects such as health and safety and communication methods</p>
<p>Training and development</p>	<p>Willingness to undertake training as required and to learn and develop new skills</p>	
<p>General</p>	<p>Able to work flexibly to meet the needs of individuals, the service and Time Specialist Support.</p> <p>Confident to work alone.</p> <p>Have a positive outlook.</p>	<p>Car owner insured for business use and a current driving licence</p>

Standards

Key points for employees:

DRESS CODE:

It is expected the support workers will dress appropriately for their sessions. As we are involved in play times with children, being dressed casually is acceptable. However, the clothes still need to be suitable for working with children and the fact that you may have to do physical activities. This means:

Your clothes should be comfortable, safe and weather appropriate.

No flip flops or high heels should be worn but gym shoes, trainers or other sensible shoes are fine.

No flimsy, see-through or clothes that are too revealing – we must think of the different cultures of our children and many parents would not approve of inappropriate clothing.

Also if you have long hair it would be advisable to tie it back so it is not tempting to pull!

No long hanging earrings unless you are certain all people you are supporting that day will not pull them, wear at your own risk.

Reasonable adjustments must be made for disabled people when dress codes are in place.

PERSONAL HYGIENE:

Workers are in close contact with children, parents and fellow staff members while at work and are expected to practice good hygiene.

This includes:

Showering regularly, brushing teeth regularly, and non- perfumed deodorant. Support workers should ALWAYS avoid strong smelling cologne and perfume as many people with autism find it overwhelming to their senses.

If employees do not comply with the standards it may result in a discussion with the office team to address this.

RELIABILITY:

You must always inform either the office or your families if you cannot make a session. If it is a matter of lateness, please keep the family (and your co-worker where appropriate) informed. It is part of providing a professional service and if you are continually late it will need to be addressed.

CO-OPERATION:

We expect you to accept any new policies and procedures that are put into place and use them accordingly.