



Hatton School & Special Needs Centre

Roding Lane South, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 8EU

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Head teacher: Mr Chris Smaling

‘PROUD of the Hatton Way; LEARNING, GROWING, ACHIEVING TOGETHER’

Thank you for your interest in the post of Assistant Headteacher at Hatton School.

I joined the school in September 2023 and feel privileged to be working with such an amazing group of pupils and a friendly, committed and talented staff team. I received a warm welcome from staff and families and have been supported to get to know the wider school community.

We have 192 pupils on roll, most with a diagnosis of autism. They are grouped in 26 classes, two of which are co-located in mainstream schools, providing these pupils with inclusion opportunities. We have approximately 170 staff in our school. It is a large but friendly community, you will receive a warm welcome and quickly feel part of the Hatton family.

As Assistant hHadteacher of our school you will be responsible for the oversight of pastoral care and overall curriculum provision for approximately half of the class groups in the school. You will also line manage the teachers of these classes. You will work directly with one of our Deputy Headteachers and be supported in your role by a team leader. Both Assistant Headteachers have a significantly reduced teaching commitment to give you time to achieve this but it is expected you will be accessible and present in classes and around the school. We believe leadership is most effective when it is collaborative and leaders are fully informed about how they can enable and empower others to be successful.

You will also work with the senior team, using your experience and insight to help set the strategic direction to drive school development and innovation. We are a high performing school and are ambitious for our pupils. We want our practice to continue to develop and improve, you will be key to supporting staff on this journey.

The local authority has plans to expand our roll and including moving into additional premises, this is a development that has the potential to further improve our school offer.

We have recently reshaped and re-aligned our curriculum and assessment. As part of this we updated our curriculum purpose, mission and vision. We aim “to light the fire of curiosity and enquiry in the mind of every pupil. By empowering our staff to be ambitious and creative and take risks in learning. Leading to amazing lessons where we learn, grow and achieve; together”. Hopefully that is a vision you can help us realise and the kind of school you would like to join.



Our website, currently undergoing a redesign, will provide more information about our school. You are welcome and encouraged to visit the school if you are able. Alternatively, if you are unable to visit but would like an informal conversation about our school, that can also be arranged. Please telephone the school and ask for Meraph Kiflay, our HR Administrator, who will be happy to arrange an appointment.

We are proud to be an outstanding special school, putting our pupils at the centre of all we do. Joining our team would mean you could join us in making a real difference in the lives of these very special young people.

I do hope you decide to apply, we look forward to learning more about you and what you could bring to our school as a member of the Hatton staff team.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Smaling
Headteacher

