



Hatton School & Special Needs Centre

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

Tel: 020 8551 4131, e-mail: admin@hattonspecialschool.co.uk, website: www.hattonspecialschool.co.uk

Head teacher: Mr Chris Smaling

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

Thank you for your interest in the teacher post 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 where you will receive a warm welcome and quickly feel part of the Hatton family.

Hatton School has a strong track record and we are proud of our achievements; that does not mean we are standing still. We are ambitious for our pupils and are committed to continued improvement and development. Over the last term we have 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. Therefore 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.

We promise to invest in the induction and training of all new staff so that they can be successful. Our curriculum is effective and robust where our team of curriculum leaders support teachers to implement this successfully to our children. We ensure there is time for joint planning to share ideas and reduce workload. We have high standards and are ambitious, but we also realise our staff work best when they feel supported, are appreciated and the workload is reasonable.

We welcome applications from teachers with experience of special education and those who have been successful in mainstream schools and are looking for a new and refreshing challenge. Most of us started in mainstream school but have not looked back since we moved to special schools. Whatever your career background we will support you to develop your skills and interests and empower you to share these with others.

Our website, currently undergoing a redesign, will provide more information about our school. You are welcome 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 this.

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

