



HOLMWOOD HOUSE SCHOOL

I am delighted to welcome you to Holmwood House School and Nursery, where I believe we provide a truly inspiring learning environment and boundless opportunities for discovery and exploration, that enables our pupils to develop their individuality, confidence and tenacity.

Holmwood House is an independent co-educational school with thriving Nursery, Early Years, Pre-Prep and Prep departments and has recently announced its expansion to 16. The school is set in beautiful grounds a few minutes from the centre of Colchester, giving over 300 boys and girls access to a huge range of academic, sporting, creative and scientific facilities.

We believe that the quality of our teaching, nursery, boarding and support staff is paramount. At Holmwood House we pride ourselves on having excellent staff who ensure our pupils are provided with the very best learning environment during their time here.

Thank you for taking the time to prepare your application and for your interest in Holmwood House. Further information can be found on our website: www.holmwood.house

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexander Mitchell".

Alexander Mitchell
Headmaster

Job Description and Person Specification

Job title:	Teaching Assistant in the Pre-Prep (initially Year 3)
Reporting to:	Class Teacher, Head of Phase, Headmaster
Hours:	Monday to Friday, 8.00am to 4.15pm
Start date:	September 2021

Job description

- Responsible for the educational, social, physical and emotional wellbeing of each individual child within a year group as directed by the class teacher.
- Organising phonetic and other reading schemes under the guidance of the teacher and hearing each child read regularly as a priority;
- Helping in the classroom, either taking the class in the absence of the teacher or assisting with groups or individuals;
- Leading and planning for small group interventions, under the guidance of the class teacher in areas of literacy, numeracy, handwriting, motor skills and focus as needed;
- Being available to assist the class teacher with preparation, clearing up, mounting displays, etc;
- Undertaking duties at playtime, lunchtime and after school;
- Assisting at assemblies and hymn practices as required;
- Attending open days and other events as agreed with the Headmaster;
- Attending staff meetings and in-service training where appropriate;
- Preparing for/being involved in staff appraisal.

Person Specification

- Enthusiastic, energetic, flexible and hard-working
- Experience of working with young children an asset
- Teaching Assistant or Practitioner Qualification not a requirement but an asset
- Good communication skills
- Ability to get on with colleagues and pupils
- Energy and commitment
- Good organization
- Good sense of humour!

How to Apply

If you would like to apply for the position of Teaching Assistant you will need to complete an application form. The information you provide will be used as the first stage of the selection process to decide whether or not you will be shortlisted for an interview. It is very important that you complete your application as accurately and fully as possible, including all the information you think is relevant.

Completing an application form

- Please read through all information provided before completing your application form;
- We require information about all applicants to be presented in a consistent format: **Please do not submit a CV**;
- Complete all sections; do not leave any blanks. Enter N/A if not applicable and provide as much information as possible;

References

All offers of employment are subject to the receipt of a minimum of two satisfactory references. One of your references must be from a current or most recent employer. Neither referee should be a relative or someone you know as a friend.

- Shortlisted applicants are advised that references may be taken up prior to interview. Unless you ask us not to, we will assume it is acceptable to contact your referees at any time.

Holmwood House School is an equal opportunities employer. A copy of the School's equal opportunities policy is available on request.

Submitting an application

Applications should be submitted via the school's online application form by **12pm on Wednesday 14 April 2021**.

Application forms received electronically will be required to be signed by the candidate if they are selected for interview.

Please be aware that if you have not heard from us within 21 days, unfortunately your application has been unsuccessful. Due to the response to advertised vacancies, we provide feedback only to those applicants who are interviewed.

The application forms of unsuccessful candidates will be held confidentially by the School and destroyed after three months.

Interviews

We will contact shortlisted candidates with further information about the exact format of the interview process but candidates should expect to be interviewed by several members of staff and may be required to undertake some form of practical assessment. Interviews will take place on week commencing **26 April 2021**.

If you are invited to attend an interview you will be required to provide the following:

- Evidence of eligibility to work. For all posts, we are legally obliged to confirm that the appointee is eligible to work in the UK before they start working with us.
- Original documents confirming any educational and professional qualifications referred to in your application form.

Conditional offer of appointment

Your employment with the school will be subject to the school being satisfied with the following:

- an enhanced disclosure received from the Disclosure and Barring Service;
- that you are not barred from working with children;
- information about whether you have ever been the subject of a direction under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 which renders you unable or unsuitable to work at the School;
- verification of your medical fitness;
- verification of qualifications and identity;
- confirmation of your right to work in the United Kingdom;
- the two references received; and
- such other pre-employment checks as the School is required to complete in accordance with its statutory or regulatory obligations including such other overseas checks as necessary
- Completion of child protection training

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

As the school meets the requirements in respect of exempted questions under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) before the appointment is confirmed.

Candidates attending an interview are required to provide three forms of ID from the list below.

- Passport
- UK driving licence
- A UK Birth or adoption certificate
- EU photo identity card
- A utility bill, bank / building society or credit card statement that is less than three months old and which shows your name and current home address This must be an original document and cannot be printed from the internet.

Please note that originals of the above are necessary. Photocopies or certified copies are not sufficient. In the event that you are unsuccessful please be assured that photocopies of documents taken by the school will be destroyed immediately.

A full list can be found on the DBS website:

<https://www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check/documents-the-applicant-must-provide->

Holmwood House is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Where a candidate is found to be on the DBS Children's Barred List, or the DBS disclosure shows he / she has been disqualified from working with children by a Court; or found to have provided false information in, or in support of, his / her application; or the subject of serious expressions of concerns as to his / her suitability to work with children the facts will be reported to the Police and / or the DfES Children's Safeguarding Operation Unit.

If you have any queries about your application or the recruitment process, please contact Abigail Wills, Headmaster's PA, on 01206 574305 or email headmaster@holmwood.house