



Educational Psychologist

This is an exciting opportunity for a skilled Educational Psychologist to work closely with five Birmingham-based Ark schools and have a huge impact on some of our most vulnerable pupils. You will join a wider team of professionals that make up our Inclusion Teams in school and contribute to the well-being and progress of our pupils.

You will undertake pupil assessments with undiagnosed SEND, provide guidance and training for staff to ensure needs are met. You will also provide guidance on reasonable adjustments and adaptations where needed. You will be working closely with SEND, pastoral and welfare teams to ensure early intervention is in place for our most vulnerable pupils.

This role will be based in Ark Victoria Academy, supporting other Ark schools in Birmingham, though there may be some hybrid working available. You must be able to travel across Birmingham to other Ark Schools.

If you are ready to add further value to our educational support team and to work alongside an ambitious and effective regional team, then you will find this job extremely rewarding.

About Ark Victoria Academy

Ark Victoria Academy is a high performing school across all key stages, providing pupils with a unique journey in their education through the curriculum, personal development programme, student experience offer and the vast range of opportunities that we are able to provide as an all-through school. 82% of all grades awarded at GCSE 2022 are grade 4 and above, against a national figure of 73%. 72% of students gained a grade 4 or above for English and maths. At KS2 77% of pupils gained the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, against a national figure of 59%.

Whilst being a large school, we are able to retain a family feel, to nurture our pupils through their schooling and ensure that they leave us with the skills and qualifications necessary to continue their journey of life-long learning in a university or career of their choice.

It's for this reason that Ark Victoria Academy was judged 'Good' by Ofsted in May 2019, with a strong emphasis on expert subject knowledge from our teachers, strong teaching and leadership and a focus on excellence for our students and staff.

Ambitious

Resilient

Kind

Our [website](#) can provide more information about Ark Victoria Academy.

Why work for our school?

Hear what our teachers have to say about working at Ark Victoria Academy:

<https://arkvictoria.org/page-strips/hear-our-team-o>

For an informal, conversation about the role please contact HR Manager, Kelly Mubarik on 0121 393 4459 or k.mubarik@arkvictoria.org

Please note the school reserves the right to close this advert early and interviews may take place before the advertised closing date. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early for this role to avoid disappointment.

Reporting to:	Principal and Regional Director
Location:	Ark Victoria Academy, Talbot Way, Birmingham, B10 0HJ
Start date:	November 2022
Contract:	Permanent
Working Pattern:	Fulltime, term-time only
Salary:	Ark Support Staff pay point 34 (£38,553.17)–pay point 44 (£48,957.13)/pro-rata (£33,310 - £42,299)
Closing date:	31 st October 2022
Interviews:	Week commencing 31 st October 2022

How to Apply:

Please submit your application online by visiting <https://arkvictoria.org/vacancies>.



Job Description

Key Responsibilities

- Support the schools in developing an inclusive approach to meet the needs of all students, especially the most vulnerable with behaviour and SEMH needs
- Provide advice and training for senior leadership team and Regional Director on a range of issues including mental health and emotional wellbeing, parenting, anti-bullying, parental engagement, resilience, peer interventions, positive behaviour management and behaviour for learning initiatives
- Work collaboratively with the vice principals responsible for pastoral care in each school to identify students' needs and develop appropriate provisions
- Work collaboratively with the SENCOs in each school to identify students' needs and develop appropriate provisions
- Work with the attendance team to develop strategies to improve attendance by removing barriers for students and families
- Develop and support strategies for supporting students with SEND across the region
- Develop and support strategies for supporting students with behavioural issues across the region
- Use appropriate assessment methods to determine the needs of students including those related to learning, behaviour, communication, as well as social, emotional and mental health
- Attend Team Around the Child meetings in each school in the region in an advisory capacity
- Work with staff to develop applications for Education, Health and Care plans
- Provide psychological assessments and interventions for identified students across the region
- Deliver high quality training to colleagues, or parents/carers where necessary.
- Attend and participate in regular meetings and participate in training and other learning activities, as required

This job description is not an exhaustive list and you will be expected to carry out any other reasonable tasks as directed by your line manager.

Person Specification

Qualification Criteria

- Qualified to degree level or above in an appropriate qualification
- Completed professional training course as an Educational Psychologist which is recognised by the British Psychological Society
- Currently registered with the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC) as a practitioner psychologist

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Experience working as an Educational Psychologist with children/young people and their families and working in partnership with schools, other agencies and voluntary services
- An understanding of the skills needed to provide emotional and therapeutic support to young children in schools

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- Previous experience of using a range of assessment techniques with children and young people
- A track record of delivering exceptional performance and quality working within high performing teams
- An understanding of the Code of Practice and SEND legislation as it applies to the work of educational psychologists
- An up-to-date understanding of Keeping Children Safe in Education and experience of safeguarding and wellbeing for students and staff.

Behaviours

- Genuine passion for and a belief in the potential of every child
- A robust awareness of keeping children safe, noticing safeguarding and welfare concerns, and understanding of how and when to take appropriate action
- Deep commitment to Ark's mission of providing an excellent education to every child, regardless of background
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills; ability to communicate and influence others through both verbal and written media and the ability to build effective partnerships
- Ability to build effective relationships with students, staff, parents and carers, governors, and the wider school community.
- Resilient, motivated and committed to achieving excellence

This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

This post is covered by Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent English is an essential requirement for the role

Ark is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in our academies. In order to meet this responsibility, we follow a rigorous selection process. This process is outlined [here](#), but can be provided in more detail if requested. All successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

Principal

I am delighted and proud to welcome you to Ark Victoria Academy, a family school in the heart of Small Heath. I joined our academy in 2019 and am working hard with our pupils and staff to make sure our school continues to improve. We want to provide an excellent education for each and every one of our pupils.



As Principal, it is my responsibility to create an environment in which your child can become a confident, articulate, resilient and kind young adult. Our curriculum, enrichment programme and student experience days, help ensure our pupils learn, thrive and make progress. We are committed to preparing and supporting our pupils to go on to pursue careers they are passionate about, contributing positively to society and living happy, healthy and fulfilled lives.

Our school community works hard to ensure our values of being **ambitious**, **resilient** and **kind** underpin our work and are upheld by us all.

We know that all children can and will achieve success and our dedicated staff work hard to nurture, support and provide challenge, to make this a reality. We welcome and value the input of carers and parents; together, we work hard to help realise the dreams and ambitions of our children and their families.

Ambitious

Resilient

Kind



Please take a look around our website to find out what we can offer your child. The best way to really understand our school is to experience it. I would love to show you around and answer any questions you may have.

Ms Ela McSorley, Principal

Being part of the Ark network

Ark is an international charity, transforming lives through education. We exist to make sure that every child, regardless of background, has access to a great education and real choices in life. We know that great schools need great teachers, which is why we offer you the very best training and support at every stage of your career - from starting out as a trainee to running your own school.

Our highly-successful network of 37 schools educates over 20,000 students across Birmingham, Hastings, London and Portsmouth. They are achieving some of the best results in the country despite being largely in areas of historic academic underachievement.

Ark schools prioritise six key principles: high expectations; excellent teaching; exemplary behaviour; depth before breadth; more time for learning; knowing every child.

Ark invests significantly in a number of professional development programmes which complement academy level training:

- The Ark training menu: we have developed a bespoke training menu, which is accessible by all staff in the network offering a wide range of training modules to staff in all roles
- Network support: schools share CPD, allowing us to share best practice and role specific training across the network, facilitated by in-school and central staff
- Ark staff receive 10 training days each year rather than five creating time to collaborate with subject specialists within each school and across the network

Ark is at the forefront of changing education society through education. You can read more about how Ark is transforming lives through education [here](#).

Ark Safer Recruitment Procedure

Ark is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its academies. In order to meet this responsibility, its academies follow a rigorous selection process to discourage and screen out unsuitable applicants.

Disclosure

This post is classified as having substantial access to children, and appointment is subject to an enhanced police check of previous criminal convictions (DBS). Applicants are required, before appointment, to disclose any conviction, caution or binding over including 'spent convictions' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975. Non-disclosure may lead to termination of employment. However, disclosure of a criminal background will not necessarily debar individuals from employment – this will depend upon the nature of the offence(s) and when they occurred.

Reference checking

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Kind



References from the previous and current employer will be taken up for shortlisted candidates, and where necessary employers may be contacted to gather further information.

Probation

All new staff will be subject to a probation period of six months (which may, in certain circumstances, be extended by up to 10 weeks). The probation period is a trial period, to enable the assessment of an employee's suitability for the job for which they have been employed. It provides the academy with the opportunity to monitor and review the performance of new staff in relation to various areas, but also in terms of their commitment to safeguarding and relationships with pupils.