**Person Specification: Speech and Language Therapist**

**Qualification Criteria**

**Essential**

* Recognised Speech and Language Therapy qualification to practice.
* Registered member of Health and Care Professions Council.
* Registered member of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists.

**Desirable**

* Relevant CPD portfolio
* Membership of relevant Special Interest Group

**Experience**

**Essential**

* Minimum of 3 years clinical experience working with a paediatric caseload of children with severe and complex speech, language and communication needs.
* Experienced in working with Mainstream Schools.
* Experienced in working as part of a multidisciplinary team.
* Experienced in administering and analysing a range of formal and informal assessments.
* Experienced in sharing information and training colleagues, other professionals and parents.
* Experienced in managing a case load.
* Experienced in writing reports for parents and professionals.

**Desirable**

* Experience of working within a Language Unit for children with SLI

**Knowledge and Skills**

**Essential**

* Knowledge and understanding of severe and complex speech and language disorders.
* The ability to make a differential diagnosis on the basis of evidence from assessment, seeking advice as appropriate.
* Highly developed communication skills including clear, concise verbal and written communication in English.
* Ability to keep detailed and contemporaneous records.
* Ability to write reports to a high standard.
* A creative and imaginative approach to therapy planning and delivery.
* Ability to work independently with children, making clinical decisions about intervention approaches for pupils which show a wide range of disorders and difficulties.
* Ability to deliver therapy to groups of children.

**Desirable**

* Makaton Trained
* Knowledge of symbol software
* Knowledge of current educational practices and the National Curriculum.

**Personal Qualities**

* Ability to work flexibly
* Good organisational skills and the ability to prioritise
* Excellent interpersonal skill including the ability to interact positively with colleagues, parents and children.
* Ability to convey information clearly and concisely to colleagues, other professionals and parents.

**Other**

* Ability to work effectively as part of a school team
* A commitment to, and enthusiasm for Continuing Professional development
* A commitment to the overall aims and ethos of Ark.
* This post is subject to an enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service check.