



The Schelwood Trust

**Herschel Grammar/Beechwood School Person Specification**  
Teaching Assistant for a Visually Impaired Student

**Education and Training**

<b>Essential Criteria</b>	<b>Desirable Criteria</b>
Basic Literacy and Numeracy qualifications	NVQ/QCA qualification
Good command of English – both verbal and written	Basic First Aid
Willingness to undertake specific training in relation to supporting pupils with Visual Impairments and Braille, including undertaking associated formal assessments	Prior training in specialist approaches to working with pupils with Visual Impairments or Communication difficulties

**Achievements and Experience**

<b>Essential Criteria</b>	<b>Desirable Criteria</b>
Previous experience of working with children with SEN	Specialised knowledge of working with pupils who are visually impaired
Ability to use basic technology – computer, video, digital cameras etc	Previous experience of working in a school environment
Knowledge and understanding of issues that may face people with disabilities	
Understanding of the principles of safeguarding and the current SEND Code of Practice	Experience of working with a range of professionals e.g. Specialist teachers, Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists etc

**Skills & Abilities**

<b>Essential Criteria</b>	<b>Desirable Criteria</b>
A commitment and passion for improving outcomes for children, particularly those with SEN	Ability to summarise and record information in a way that can be readily understood by others
Ability to establish caring and constructive relationships with pupils, modelling patience and respect in all areas of your work	
Ability to communicate effectively with families/carers, team members, line managers and external professionals	
Ability to work collaboratively with a range of professionals, using advice and guidance to improve your practice	

Ability to observe and reflect upon a pupils needs and learning in order to adapt activities and respond effectively	
Confidence to use your own initiative as well as respond to direction from others as required	