

June 2025

Dear Colleague,

I would like to thank you for your interest in the post of **Learning Support Assistant** at Stockport School.

This is an exciting opportunity for an ambitious and hardworking individual to join a successful school at an exciting time in its development. At Stockport School we our very proud of our broad and balanced curriculum offer and our community based inclusive ethos, which has over recent years, helped us to establish an excellent track record in terms of academic performance and achievement, placing us firmly, twice just prior to the pandemic and again provisionally this year, within the top 15-20% of all schools nationally in terms of student progress outcomes at GCSE. The provisional FFT value added progress results within Mathematics for example in 2024 are also once again outstanding with the school featuring within the top 9% of all schools nationally.

Stockport School continually seeks to instil a belief amongst our community in personal ambition, progress and achievement for all, aiming to be the best that we can be and outstanding in all areas. This is a challenge that we as a school, have evidentially risen to, with Ofsted recently judging the school as 'Better than Good', and stating in their findings that...

"Senior leaders, including governors, lead the school well." The school is "well-run and oversubscribed" and "leaders have high expectations of their pupils". "Leaders aim to provide a first-rate and all-round education.

They want to set pupils up for life."

"Pupils' life chances have been significantly improved, especially those of disadvantaged pupils, as a result of the school's relentless focus on high standards and its dedicated moral purpose. The school's motto 'Velis et Remis' – meaning 'with sails and oars' – aptly characterises the school's collective passion and determination to achieve its goals."

"... pupils are provided with high quality learning opportunities, which they enjoy and relish." "Teachers have high expectations of every pupil. Pupils rise to the challenge as a result. The most able, in particular, are on track to make even better progress than in previous years across many subjects because teachers aim high."

"Pastoral care is second to none." and

"Pupils' behaviour in class and around the school is exemplary."

Ofsted

Stockport School has also achieved continued success and recognition at a national and international level, receiving several high-profile awards across a range of areas for best practice that recognise the exceptional work that we undertake to support our students and ensure successful outcomes for our learners.

In addition, we were most recently recognised nationally as runner-up at the prestigious **Goldsmiths National Community Awards**, and pre-pandemic, Stockport School was also a Finalist in the 2020 prestigious Manchester Evening News, 'Secondary School of the Year Award', and was the proud outright Winner in the previous year, 2019, of the Manchester Evening News, 'School in the Community Award'.

In my role as Headteacher, I have also recently received a congratulatory letter from the Rt. Hon. Nick Gibb MP, former Minister of State for School Standards, which thanked and congratulated Stockport School, for its work in "continuing the drive towards high standards of educational achievement!" The letter also confirmed that Stockport School's results show that it is now "amongst the top state-funded schools in England".

As the Headteacher of Stockport School, I am delighted to have received these recent accolades which are a great recognition of the terrific dedication and commitment to learning that our staff and students apply, and the ongoing support and investment that we receive from parents and from our governing body. I believe the school's success has been brought about by our high expectation and our relentless determination to provide quality of opportunity and bring out the best in all people. "The culture of Stockport School is that of aspiration and improving the life chances for its students."



As a school we work hard to achieve positive outcomes and do so by having clear values and by investing in our community. We are also proud to be recognised as an **Investors in People organisation**, with IIP noting that the school is delivering continuous improvement and sustainable success, stating that:

"Across the whole school, from the senior leadership team through the managers to the staff, there was a culture of continuous improvement being driven".

"It was clear during the assessment that Stockport School has invested considerable time and effort in ensuring a focus on future priorities. People across the organisation were vocal in confirming the school was an excellent place to work. This was further reinforced through the employee survey results".

"Overall, people described the school as being a great place to work".

Investors in People

If you are interested in applying to become a <u>Learning Support Assistant</u> to take on an **important role in the support of young people's learning, progress, and development**, then I would be pleased to receive an application from you.

In a successful candidate we are looking for a **dedicated and committed professional** who under the line management of the SENCO, will be **responsible for supporting teaching, learning and progress, and the development of independent learning skills of students with additional learning needs, particularly including those with EHCPs and those at SEN School Support.**

Candidates should be well qualified with strong GCSE passes in at least English and mathematics at minimum grades C or 4 and above, including additional strong GCSE and/or A Level passes (or equivalent) in other subject areas. It would also be desirable for a candidate to be a graduate with a good Honours Degree or other Higher Educational qualification, Qualified Teacher Status, or Teaching Assistant qualified Status.

The school is a very popular over-subscribed school with year-on-year improving results and the quality and consistency of our in-class curriculum support and supportive intervention and enrichment supervision are important to our ongoing progress and success.

This is an exciting opportunity for an outstanding individual who has the relevant experience, commitment and drive and who is passionate about encouraging every child to reach their full potential within a supportive academic environment.

This opportunity may well appeal to candidates who wish to experience working in a school environment with a view to pursuing a career in education or to candidates who already have QTS but are looking for a change of direction. Learning Support Assistants who decide to embark on this route will be supported in their applications for PGCE and Schools Direct training courses.

We welcome applications from colleagues who are determined to make a difference.

This role will also provide the post holder with the opportunity to join a large, vibrant, well-established and very successful staff team and to gain excellent professional development and further opportunity as they progress in their career.

Working at Stockport School is a highly rewarding experience due to our strong team ethos and highly motivated students. Further information about the school can be obtained from our website www.stockportschool.net.

Please see the accompanying pack for further details of the role and of how to apply. Please also visit our website www.stockportschool.net or contact the Headteacher's P.A., Mrs J. Richards, at irrichards@stockport.stockport.sch.uk regarding any enquiries.

The closing date for applications is <u>9.00am on Wednesday 9th July 2025</u>, although the school reserves the right to close the deadline sooner dependent upon applications.

The successful applicant's appointment will be subject to satisfactory clearance by the DBS.

I look forward to reading your application and wish you every success.

Yours sincerely

Mr I. R. Irwin Headteacher

