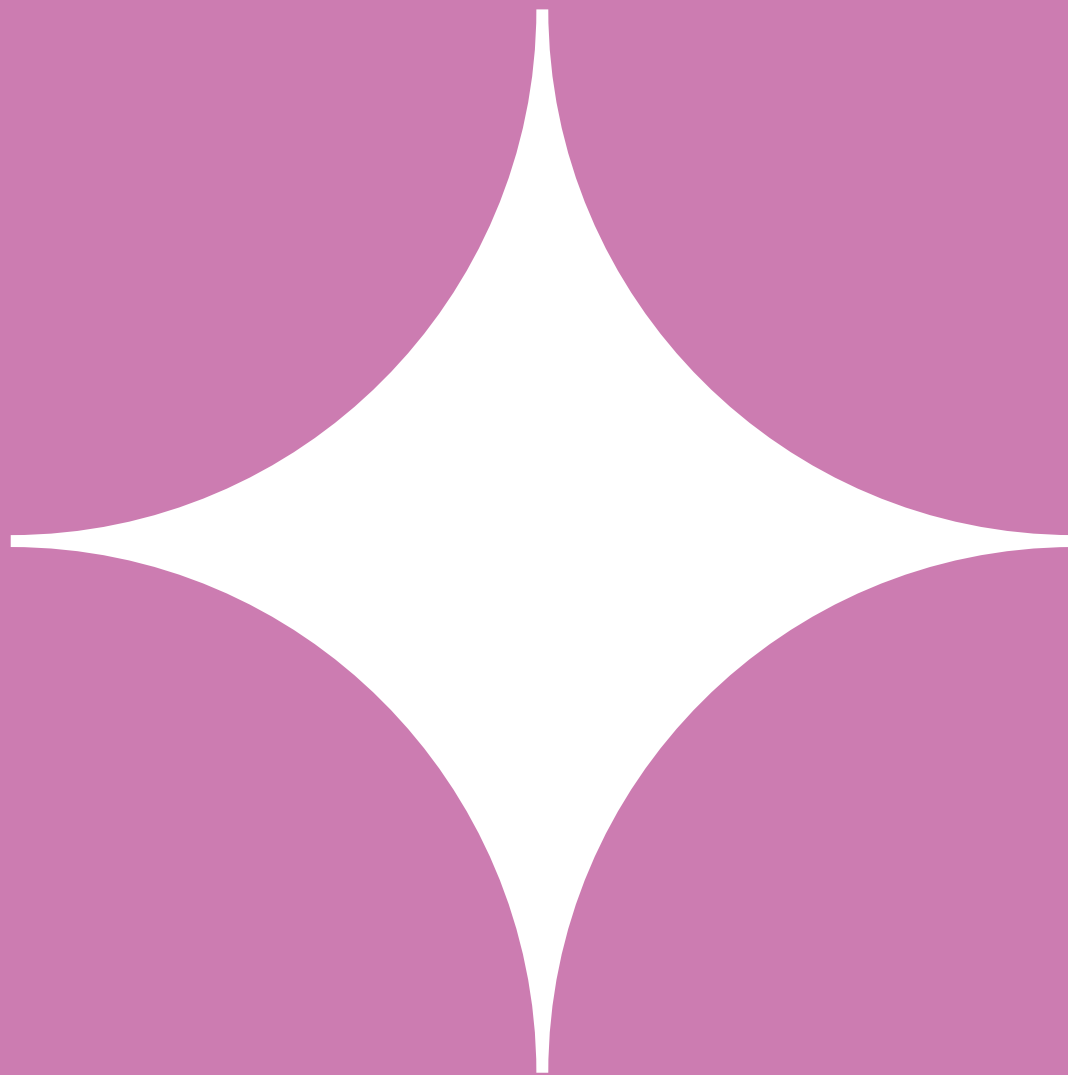


SEND SUPPORT MENTOR RECRUITMENT PACK

September 2025



Meet our Headteacher



Jim Taylor

Headteacher

Welcome to our school.

Our mission is to enable young people to be successful, creative, lifelong learners participating in a journey of self-discovery through the Trust vision of **'Achievement through caring'**.

Our inclusive, truly comprehensive school has come through a period of transition setting us up to where we are now with the school moving forward at pace, ensuring our students have access to a first-class education.

We work closely with our community to give students lots of opportunities and new experiences that fit hand in hand with traditional values around behaviour, manners and respect.

Students are happy here; they tell us they feel safe

and enjoy school where our rich and varied curriculum that finds the talent in everyone.

We work to develop a love for learning so that our young people are driven to seek educational experiences that both inspire and challenge them as they progress throughout the school, and beyond.

This is an exciting time to join us, with an extensive new build already underway and lots of opportunities and support to develop your career as you join our team of committed, dedicated and supportive staff.

We are excited to receive your application and would love to meet you to share "Proud of SA" in action.

Job description



Post title

SEND Support Mentor



Salary

Grade 6 – Spinal Point 7-11

£26,403 - £28,142

(Actual Salary - £22,422

- £23,899 - £23,899)



Hours of work

8.30am – 4.30am –

(negotiable)



Post status

Permanent

We offer

- An 'Outstanding' curriculum and learning experience for our young people.
- Excellent professional learning and support at every stage in your career, with opportunity for continued personal development through our Talent Pathway Career development opportunities.
- An enthusiastic and supportive team of staff, parents and governors
- A core belief in staff wellbeing and work life balance for all, evidenced in policy and practice.
- Benefits including funded counselling, physiotherapy, access to GP consultations and other medical support.
- Laptop provided.

Purpose

Are you keen to make a difference to a young person's life, by considered communication and a commitment to improve the life chances of our young people?

Support us in transforming potential into achievement and join our dynamic team in alternative provision.

You will play a pivotal role on our journey to continuous improvement and outcomes, as we continue to drive a strong education for the community of Shrewsbury.

Why this role above others?

- A supportive environment with an experienced team where you will be invested in and valued
- A varied and exciting role – building relationships with a range of colleagues across the Multi-Academy Trust
- A varied day with different experiences and challenges

Any questions in regard to the role can be raised with, Sarah Compton on sarah.compton@shr.mmat.co.uk ahead of the closing date:

Responsible to:

Deputy SENCo/SENCo

Outline of role:

- Support students in all curriculum areas where needed, inclusive of school trips and excursions if needed and appropriate.
- Work with the SENCo and Deputy SENCo to embrace change and development with aim to enhance the support of SEND students.

Main duties:

- Assist in the support, education, integration and development of independence of students with additional needs within mainstream school, and ensure students retain access to high quality teaching.
- Record and report termly on individual student progress towards targets set.
- Assist across the school in creating the right climate for all students to maximise their achievements across the spectrum of school life.
- Work with Student Support Team to share good practice/offer support to one another on a regular basis.
- Have regular contact with Transition & Key Stage Directors to update and share information,
- Jointly attend meetings with parents and/or outside agencies.
- Comply with the performance management procedures which will include regular lesson and intervention observations, analysis of a student progress portfolio and record keeping.

Teaching and learning

- Maintain behaviour for learning, in accordance with the school's procedures.
- Encourage good practice with regard to punctuality, behaviour, standards of work and homework, whilst maintaining an inclusive environment for all students.



Standards and quality assurance

- Uphold department, school and Trust procedures, policies and plans.
- Represent the department in cross-curricular working parties.
- Attend Department, Year Team meetings and events to fully support the department, the school and the Multi-Academy Trust.
- Attend relevant CPD and meetings within the Trust and with outside agencies.

Developing self and leading others:

- Take responsibility for own professional development including maintaining an up to date knowledge of developments and related legislation including engaging fully in performance management of self and other staff (if applicable)
- Contribute to effective staff induction and professional development
- Manage own workload, providing support where necessary and delegating where appropriate to ensure that professional duties are fulfilled, as identified

Community responsibilities:

- Effective dialogue with parents in accordance with school policies.
- Attend and support community events as required.

In addition to the above all Marches Academy Trust staff are required to:

- Adhere to policies and procedures, including Equality and Diversity and Health and Safety.
- Respect confidentiality: all confidential information should be kept in confidence and not released to unauthorised persons.
- Undertake appropriate training and development as required.
- Participate in the Performance Review Cycle.
- Demonstrate excellent Customer Care in dealing with all customers.
- Ensure positive effective working relationships with the school teams, stakeholders and partners.



Objectives and outcomes:

- To be agreed with the successful post-holder once appointed.
- The duties may be varied to meet the changing demands of the school at the reasonable discretion of the Headteacher.
- The post holder may have opportunities to work in other schools within The Marches Academy Trust.

Person Specification

	 Essential	 Desirable
 Qualifications and training	Hold a Disclosure and Barring Service Enhanced Certificate DBS (this will be provided by the school).	- The desire to further knowledge through relevant courses or a further degree. - Awareness of child protection, health and safety, security, confidentiality and data protection policies and procedures - Relevant qualifications in education, special education need or youth work.
 Experience		- Ability to support children and young people to integrate into a learning environment - Ability to develop and implement personalised learning plans - Experience of working with children and young people in educational settings.
 Knowledge		Experience with trauma informed practice and restorative approaches

Person specification

	 Essential	 Desirable
 Skills	• Show commitment to meeting the needs of the students. • Ability to use ICT effectively • Attend cross-department meetings representing the views of the department team.	
 Personal qualities	• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. • Patience, empathy and the ability to build positive relationship with challenging students. • Flexibility and resilience in adapting to a dynamic and diverse working environment	

In addition to candidates' ability to perform the duties of the post, the interview will also explore issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children including:

- Motivation to work with children and young people
- Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people
- Emotional resilience in working with challenging behaviour, and
- Attitudes to use of authority and maintaining discipline

Welcome from the CEO



This is a high achieving Trust that is imaginative and creative in its approach to teaching and learning and is keen to look for continued sustained improvement.

Our vision 'Achievement through Caring' is central to all that we do at The Marches Academy Trust. Our schools are, innovative and striving to ensure that young people make the very most of their learning adventure and are equipped with the skills required to prosper in the modern world.

We are immensely proud of the Alliance of Leading Learning who provide a wide range of professional development opportunities across our Trust, nationally and internationally.

Sarah Finch

CEO

The Marches Academy Trust

Our family of schools currently includes:

- The Marches School and Sixth Form in Oswestry
- Sir John Talbot's School and Sixth Form in Whitchurch
- Tilstock CE Primary School and Nursery in Whitchurch
- The Grove School and Sixth Form in Market Drayton
- Lower Heath CE Primary School and Nursery in Lower Heath
- Shrewsbury Academy in Shrewsbury
- Longlands Primary School and Nursery in Market Drayton
- Grange Primary School and Nursery in Shrewsbury
- Oakmeadow CE Primary School and Nursery in Shrewsbury
- Woodlands School in Wem
- Idsall School and Sixth Form in Shifnal

Meet our Chair of Trustees



Alex Fry

Chair of Trustees

Thank you for your interest in this role.

The Trust is looking to appoint an individual to build on our Trust's current strengths and achievements.

As a thriving Trust serving over 6,000 students and their families in Shropshire, this a pivotal role in driving continuous improvement across our schools and will contribute to our vision of 'achievement through caring'.

Collaborative working with other schools in our Trust offers many benefits for students and staff; sharing best practice in teaching and learning, curriculum collaboration, extracurricular opportunities, staff development, finance and human resources, legal services, school improvement structures and governance arrangements.

We hope that the opportunity to shape the work of our schools and their staff to harness their professional expertise, with the goal of securing excellent outcomes, is one you would relish.

The prospect of this role goes beyond the immediate job description. The successful candidate will influence and help shape the strategy of the Trust,

have the opportunity to support our ITT provision, support leadership development and career paths as well as drive efficiencies across our schools.

For the right individual, this is an exceptional opportunity. The right candidate will have no better chance of working with wonderful students, super staff and shaping our Trust into the future.

Who we are



Welcome to the Marches Academy Trust!

We are a multi-academy sponsor based in Shropshire, currently comprising five secondary schools, five primary schools and one special school.

Across our Trust we have a wealth of experience to inspire and motivate children, young people and staff to be the very best they can.

Achievement Through Caring drives our Trust, and our values are shared throughout our family of schools; we work together on embedding them in everything we do.

Our Trust prides itself on delivering high quality education and connecting with our children and young people to inspire and enthuse them to learn, achieve and to be happy.



Check out our video:

<https://youtu.be/Ej3JREWUyrA>

Interested? Here's how to apply:

Complete the [Online Application Form](#)

The closing date for applications is:

9am on Friday, 26th September 2025

Interviews will be held:

To be confirmed

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in our care and expect all staff to share this commitment.

A core belief in staff wellbeing and work life balance evidenced in policy and practice

Our Trust Vision Statement and Values



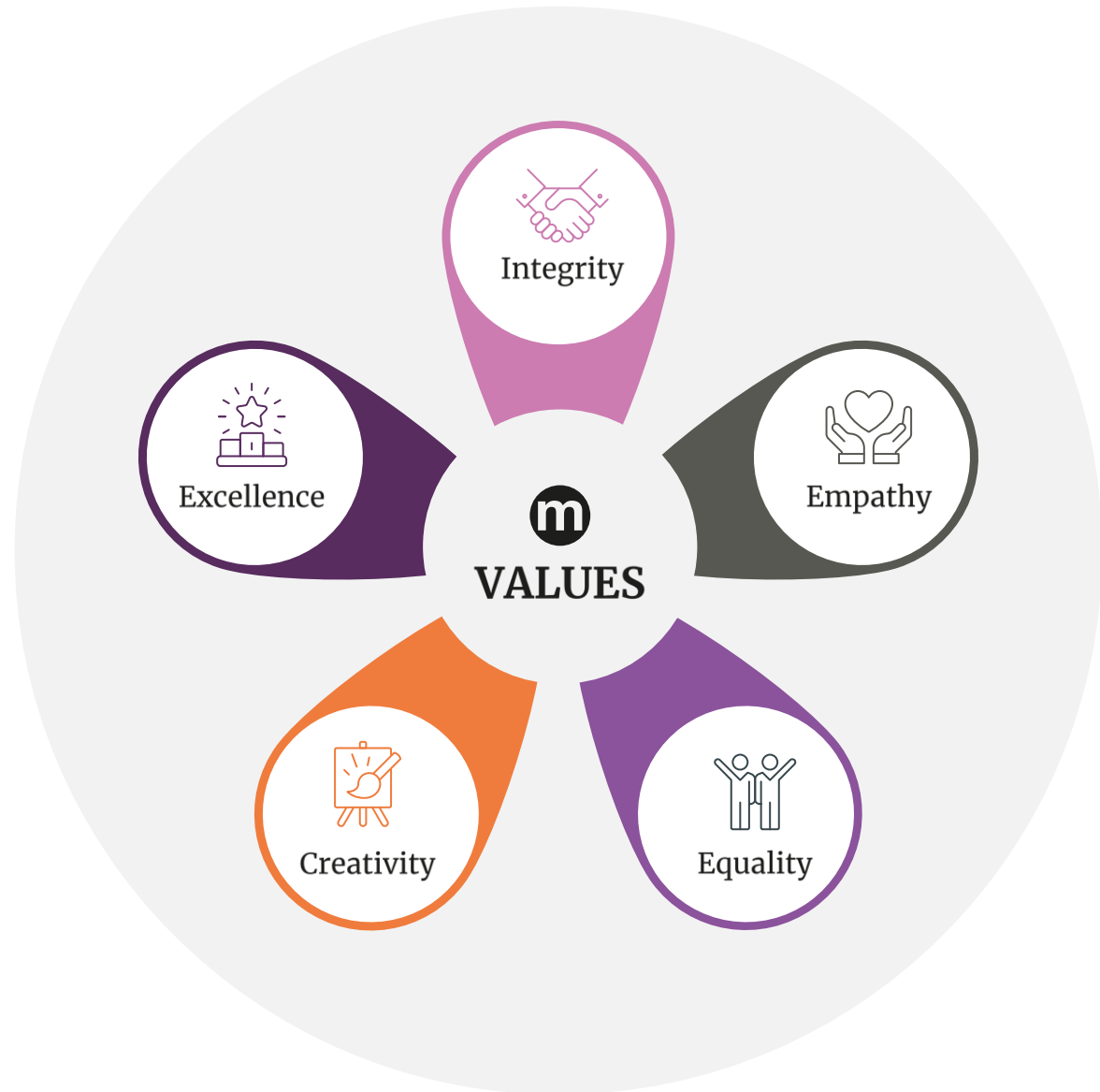
Our Vision

Achievement through caring



Mission Statement

As a Trust, it's our mission to empower everyone in our Trust and our communities to live and breathe our values and Achievement Through Caring, to reach their full potential.



Our investment in you

Talent Spotting our Future Leaders

Our Talent Pathway supports the professional development of staff within the trust. We identify leadership talent and leadership needs for future succession planning – ensuring relevant and practical leadership development opportunities for staff.

Our talent management programme and our Career Development Pathways provide a framework for the discussion of your leadership journey and the professional learning you can access along the way.

Talent Contract

The Talent contract is a promise; a covenant between yourself and the trust that the Trust will do its' very best to support and develop you professionally. The Contract describes a variety of Professional development opportunities and encourages you to identify and pursue your training needs.

We believe successful creative lifelong learners participate in a journey of self-discovery. They know how to learn, acquire skills and feel safe to take risks with confidence and courage.



Our investment in you

We really care about employee wellbeing and our commitment is set out in our Wellbeing Policy and Charter. This commitment is underpinned by our four pillars of wellbeing;

Emotional

Some examples include a robust induction programme, Trust newsletter, professional performance reviews (appraisal) and line manager check-in meeting. We have clear policies and procedures relating to all aspects of your employment and we carry out an annual well-being survey to gauge the health of our staff.

Physical

We are blessed that our schools are located in beautiful Shropshire market towns and /or rural locations. We can offer discounted local gyms and onsite facilities in our secondary schools.

Financial

We offer membership to two great pension schemes; Local government pension scheme and Teachers' pension scheme. Our terms and conditions are aligned to Burgundy Book & School Teachers Pay & Conditions Document (teachers) and NJC Green Book (associate staff). We also recognise continuous service for sickness, maternity and annual leave entitlements for those transferring under the Redundancy payments (local government) Modification Order (RPMO).

Social

Encouragement of great working relationships and sense of belonging through team building events, PD days, end of term events and Trust Awards evening.

Generous
non-contact
time for
staff

Wellbeing Offer

We are delighted that our wellbeing offer includes access to a free confidential medical and wellbeing service with School's Advisory Service (SAS) for all staff. Services available include counselling, bereavement counselling, physiotherapy, menopause support and stress awareness sessions. We encourage staff to utilize SAS in seeking out preventative and early intervention by making support easily accessible for all!



We are a school led inclusive partnership representing all phases and school contexts nationally and internationally. Our core team at The Marches Academy Trust have trained over 400 ITT and over 150 School Direct students; we have also led the professional learning of over 5,000 educational leaders and governors.

We deliver the DfE National Professional Qualifications, and we actively encourage our staff to complete an NPQ programme at their earliest opportunity.

We also talent spot, from within our Trust team, colleagues who want to share their expertise and enhance their experiences by becoming an Improvement Consultant.

Supporting schools, departments and individuals across the Trust and also external schools.

Embracing all our work is the unique Professional Learning Conference we host each year which continues to inspire school colleagues nationally.

In joining The Marches Academy Trust you have direct access to an outward facing large group of outstanding schools across the West Midlands and beyond.

Quite simply we want to ensure the right expertise exists to enhance a self-improving system and impact learners, leaders and schools to drive continuous improvement.

You will be part of this success story as a member of our team; and on starting your new post you will also be starting your learning journey - with all the benefits of being part of a large and successful Trust with exemplary partnerships nationally and internationally.



We hold true to delivering current, inspirational training that has real impact back in the workplace. Most importantly our participants confirm in countless testimonials that we invest in their leadership journey.

Cavelle Priestley-Bird, Executive Director of People and Development)

Bits you need to know

The Marches Academy Trust values each person equally. We are committed to building a diverse team and embedding a welcoming, inclusive culture that encourages diversity and authenticity. We believe this will encourage creative ways of thinking – ensuring we collaborate more effectively and achieve better outcomes. We welcome applicants from all qualified candidates who share this commitment.

Everyone within our Academy Trust shares the objective to help keep children and young people safe by contributing to:

Providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn in an education setting and identifying those who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, taking appropriate action with the aim of ensuring they are kept safe both at home and within the education setting and we expect all staff to share this commitment. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to declare any criminal convictions and will be subject to online checks. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

“This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and as such all applicants who are appointed to this post will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau before the appointment is confirmed. This check will include details of cautions, reprimands or warnings, as well as convictions and non-conviction information. Once provisionally appointed, the successful applicant may also be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure at predetermined intervals during the course of their employment whilst in this post.”



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