

TEACHING ASSISTANT (SEMH SPECIALIST) – September 2026

We are seeking a dedicated, compassionate and enthusiastic Teaching Assistant (SEMH Specialist) to join our supportive and dynamic School team from September 2026. This exciting role will involve working with students in our BRIDGE provision, providing tailored support to pupils with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs, enabling them to access the curriculum, overcome barriers to learning and achieve their full potential.

The successful candidate will play a key role in supporting students' academic progress, emotional wellbeing and personal development. Working closely with the SENDCo, Engagement Lead, teaching staff and pastoral teams, you will help pupils build confidence, resilience and independence, ensuring they are fully supported both in the classroom and across the wider school community.

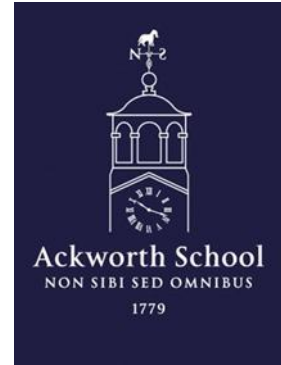
This rewarding role will involve delivering targeted small-group and 1:1 interventions, supporting pupils with a range of additional needs, particularly those experiencing SEMH challenges. You will encourage positive learning behaviours, develop organisation and study skills, and help pupils become confident, independent learners prepared for future education and adulthood.

Within the classroom, you will provide high-quality in-class support across a range of curriculum areas, using strategies such as scaffolding, modelling and effective questioning to promote engagement and independence. You will work collaboratively with teachers to implement support plans, including EHCPs where appropriate, while contributing to pupil progress, wellbeing and positive behaviour. The role also includes supporting supervision duties, educational visits and enrichment activities, together with opportunities for ongoing training and professional development.

Ackworth School, a co-educational boarding and day school, was founded in 1779 by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). It maintains its ethos and traditions and is still governed by the Society. The school is academically non-selective and provides an excellent range of facilities and co-curricular opportunities, recently achieving fantastic feedback in the ISI inspection (January 2026). The Head is a member of both HMC and the Society of Heads.

As a non-selective school, we offer a broad education that supports all abilities. Our small class sizes mean that our teachers can dedicate more time to deliver a rich curriculum, allowing all pupils to make progress. Our pupils are one of Ackworth's USP's. Visitors to the school never fail to

acknowledge how amazing they are and how positive the encounter is. This is something that makes a career at Ackworth such a rewarding one.



The successful candidate will hold a relevant Level 3 qualification or possess equivalent experience in an educational setting. Experience of supporting young people with additional needs, particularly those with SEMH or SEND, is desirable, together with excellent communication skills, patience, resilience, flexibility and a genuine commitment to helping every pupil succeed.

In return we offer:

- a generous fee remission of 50% for the children of our staff.
- all food and refreshments during the working day.
- free on-site parking.
- flexible pension and wellbeing benefits.
- 34 working weeks
- a supportive and friendly environment based on the Quaker ethos of the school.
- a beautiful working location in an ideal location within easy travelling distance of the main centres of Sheffield, Leeds, Doncaster and York.

The working hours are 37.5 per week (8am-4pm) term time only (34 weeks).

The salary for the role is £19,884.15 (£26,110.50 FTE).

Completed school application forms should be submitted with a cover letter of no more than one page and should be sent by email to: jobs@ackworthschool.com

Closing Date: Friday 31 July at 9:00 a.m.

Interviews will be held 3rd August

We reserve the right to see candidates prior to the closing date so early application is recommended.

Applicants should read carefully the Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure Policy. Our recruitment privacy notice is also available on our website within "Working For Us".

Ackworth School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and all applicants will undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and an enhanced DBS and Barred list check with Disclosure and Barring Service. Applicants should also be in sympathy with the School's Quaker ethos.

For an informal and confidential discussion, please contact Ellie Spendlove on 01977 233600 or ellie.spendlove@ackworthschool.com