



Welcome to the Link Academy Trust

We have designed this recruitment pack to give you an insight into our Trust, the academies within it and how you can become part of it by working with us.

The Link Academy Trust incorporates the nineteen small schools of Bearnese, Broadhempston, Cheriton Bishop, Diptford, Drake's, Harbertonford, Hennock, Ilsington, Landscope, Littleham, Morchard Bishop, Moretonhampstead, Otterton, Sparkwell, Stoke Gabriel, Tedburn St Mary, Widecombe-in-the-Moor, Wolborough and Yeoford. Five of the schools are situated in rural villages around the town of Totnes, set within the beautiful South Hams region of Devon, with Sparkwell All Saints primary near Plympton. Hennock, Ilsington, Moretonhampstead and Widecombe-in-the-Moor are on Dartmoor near Bovey Tracey. Bearnese and Wolborough are set within the heart of Newton Abbot, Cheriton Bishop, Tedburn St Mary, Yeoford and Morchard Bishop are in the area just to the north east of Dartmoor, near Crediton and Drake's, Littleham and Otterton are situated in East Devon.

Whilst all the Academies gain expertise by work closely together, each school is unique with its own particular character and each Hub of schools, Totnes, Moorland, Raleigh and Woodleigh, have their own School Board. Our Academies achieve high academic standards through the provision of an exciting curriculum that makes the most of our rich surroundings. We offer a caring, nurturing environment, with dedicated staff who strive to meet the needs of every child and a culture of high expectations through first rate systems and procedures that ensure we are effective and efficient in all that we do.

Working together, our Academies can achieve more for our children than by working alone. We learn together, support each other, share our expertise and ensure we are always current, ready to offer the very highest standards of teaching and provide exceptional learning opportunities for all our children.

The Academies within our Multi-Academy Trust are vibrant and exciting places to work in, yet our small size enables us to know every child and build strong relationships with each family. All Academies have good reputations built on high standards and a caring ethos, but we are always looking for ways to improve so that we meet the challenges of preparing children for the future.

We maintain excellent links with other schools in the area and we have close ties with the successful local secondary schools of Ivybridge, Kingsbridge, South Dartmoor, Totnes, Newton Abbot, Teign, Exeter, Okehampton and Crediton as well as with the grammar schools in Torbay and Plymouth.

If you are interested in learning more about the Link Academy Trust, or would like to visit us, we would be very happy to show you around any of our Academies so that you can meet the children and staff.

We look forward to receiving your application

Nicky Dunford, CEO

Work for Us

The Vacancy

Reception Class Teacher – Sparkwell

Full Time Temporary Post – September 2024

This post will be paid within the Main Pay Scale

Required for September 2024, we are looking for a passionate and talented classroom practitioner to join our dynamic organisation. The successful candidate will lead the Reception Class at Sparkwell All Saints Primary School, so extensive knowledge and an understanding of the current Early Years Framework and curriculum is vital for this role.

This would also be an ideal opportunity for an NQT or early career teacher who will be supported by the Academy Head and staff team.

This is a temporary post pending future pupil intake and will be reviewed Spring/Summer 25.

If you are a teacher with real ambition to develop your career further and would like to be at the forefront of current school improvement opportunities, we need you. A key expectation to support school improvement will be to lead the continuing development of high-quality continuous provision, both indoor and outdoor, in a vocabulary-rich, well maintained and inspiring environment.

We are able to offer the prospect of teaching in a range of settings, being empowered to develop your own expert knowledge and skills and the chance to support others in their professional journey. You will be part of a proficient team dedicated to improving the outcomes for all our children, where your work-life balance will be promoted. We offer you the support of clear systems, protocols, expectations and structures to help you to succeed within the role.

You will need to be an inspirational and reflective practitioner who shows initiative, resilience, creativity and demonstrates the aptitude and professionalism to work as part of a successful and growing team that is driven to improve the life chances of our pupils. We expect you to effectively liaise with parents, stakeholders and the community. The School leaders will recognise and develop your expertise and skills to ensure career development.

We want you to come and join our positive learning environment, where our consistent vision is that through collaboration we will always be 'Stronger Together'.

What we are looking for in a candidate is:

- A commitment to developing your own practice through engagement in professional learning in order to effectively implement the most current teaching strategies.
- An understanding of how pupils learn and real commitment to provide and maintain high-quality indoor and outdoor learning opportunities.
- A recognition of our amazing children; nurturing, supporting and challenging them, meeting their needs to ensure they have independent learning behaviours that will see them prepared for their future learning journey.
- An ability to see the best in all and promote positive behaviours at all times.
- A clear desire to engage with the wider school community and develop meaningful links.
- A cheerful, fresh and creative approach to giving the children under your care the best version of yourself.
- Experience of working in Early Years

What we can offer you:

- Salary Sacrifice offers, including Bike2Work, Tech Scheme and Gym Membership
- Substantial workplace pension
- Term time 'Give Back Day' to take for personal reasons
- Staff Wellbeing support
- CPD opportunities for all staff

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A DBS disclosure and Social Media online check is required for this post.

If you wish to visit prior to application, a warm welcome awaits you. Please contact the school office to make an appointment on 01752 878855.

For an application please see the school website [Sparkwell All Saints Primary School - Vacancies \(eschools.co.uk\)](https://eschools.co.uk)

Completed applications should be emailed direct to the Trust HR Operations Manager, Sue Howard at hr@thelink.academy

Closing date: 16th May 2024 12noon

Interview date: 24th May 2024

The Role

Post: Teacher
Salary: Main Pay Scale, range 1-6
Line Manager: Executive/Academy Head

Supervisory responsibility:

The postholder may be responsible for the deployment and supervision of the work of teaching assistants relevant to their responsibilities.

Base:

Based at their current academy but is required to work at any academy where Link Academy Trust business is conducted that is within reasonable distance of the academy base.

Principle role:

- Be responsible for the learning and achievement of all pupils in the class/es ensuring equality of opportunity for all
- Be responsible and accountable for achieving the highest possible standards in work and conduct
- Treat pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position
- Work proactively and effectively in collaboration and partnership with learners, parents/carers, governors, other staff and external agencies in the best interests of pupils
- Act within, the statutory frameworks, which set out their professional duties and responsibilities and in line with the duties outlined in the current *School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document and Teacher Standards (2012)*
- Take responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people within the school

Main responsibilities

All teachers are required to carry out the duties of a school teacher as set out in the current [*School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document*](#). Teachers should also have due regard to the Teacher Standards (2012). Teachers' performance will be assessed against the teacher [*standards*](#) as part of the appraisal process as relevant to their role in the school. If working in one of the Link Academy Trust's Church Schools, actively support the Christian distinctiveness and ethos of the school.

Teaching and learning

- Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge pupils
- Deliver the curriculum as relevant to the age and ability group/subject/s that you teach
- Be responsible for the preparation and development of teaching materials, teaching programmes and pastoral arrangements as appropriate
- Be accountable for the attainment, progress and outcomes of pupils' you teach and within the areas you lead
- Be aware of pupils' capabilities, their prior knowledge and plan teaching and differentiate appropriately to build on these demonstrating knowledge and understanding of how pupils learn
- Have a clear understanding of the needs of all pupils, including those with special educational needs; gifted and talented; EAL; disabilities; and be able to use and evaluate distinctive teaching approaches to engage and support them
- Demonstrate an understanding of and take responsibility for promoting high standards of literacy including the correct use of spoken English (whatever your specialist subject)
- When teaching phonics and early reading, demonstrate a clear understanding of appropriate teaching strategies e.g. systematic synthetic phonics
- Use an appropriate range of observation, assessment, monitoring and recording strategies as a basis for setting challenging learning objectives for pupils of all backgrounds, abilities and dispositions, monitoring learners' progress and levels of attainment
- Make accurate and productive use of assessment to secure pupils' progress
- Give pupils regular feedback, both orally and through accurate marking, and encourage pupils to respond to the feedback, reflect on progress, their emerging needs and to take a responsible and conscientious attitude to their own work and study
- Use relevant data to monitor progress, set targets, and plan subsequent lessons
- Set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired as appropriate
- Participate in arrangements for examinations and assessments within the remit of the *School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document*

Behaviour and Safety

- Establish a safe, purposeful and stimulating environment for pupils, rooted in mutual respect and establish a framework for discipline with a range of strategies, using praise, sanctions and rewards consistently and fairly
- Manage classes effectively, using approaches which are appropriate to pupils' needs in order to inspire, motivate and challenge pupils

- Maintain good relationships with pupils, exercise appropriate authority, and act decisively when necessary
- Be a positive role model and demonstrate consistently the positive attitudes, values and behaviour, which are expected of pupils
- Have high expectations of behaviour, promoting self-control and independence of all learners
- Carry out playground and other duties as directed and within the remit of the current *School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document*
- Be responsible for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people within the school, raising any concerns following school/trust protocol/procedures
- To support the Trust ambition for all schools and staff who work in them to adopt a 'Relational Approach'

Team working and collaboration

- Participate in any relevant meetings/professional development opportunities at the school and within the Trust, which relate to the learners, curriculum or organisation of the school including pastoral arrangements and assemblies
- Work as a team member and identify opportunities for supporting colleagues and sharing the development of effective practice with them
- Contribute to the selection and professional development of other teachers and support staff including the induction and assessment of new teachers, teachers serving induction periods and where appropriate threshold assessments
- Ensure that colleagues working with you are appropriately involved in supporting learning and understand the roles they are expected to fulfil
- Take part as required in the review, development and management of the activities relating to the curriculum, organisation and pastoral functions of the school
- Cover for absent colleagues within the remit of the current *School Teachers' Pay and Conditions* document

Fulfil wider professional responsibilities

- Work collaboratively with others to develop effective professional relationships
- Deploy support staff effectively as appropriate
- Communicate effectively with parents/carers with regard to pupils' achievements and wellbeing using school systems/processes as appropriate
- Communicate and co-operate with relevant external bodies
- Make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school and Trust

Administration

- Register the attendance of and supervise learners, before, during or after school sessions as appropriate
- Participate in and carry out any administrative and organisational tasks within the remit of the current *School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document*

Professional development

- Regularly review the effectiveness of your teaching and assessment procedures and its impact on pupils' progress, attainment and wellbeing, refining your approaches where necessary responding to advice and feedback from colleagues
- Be responsible for improving your teaching through participating fully in training and development opportunities identified by the school or as developed as an outcome of your appraisal
- Proactively participate with arrangements made in accordance with the Appraisal Regulations 2012

Other duties:

You are required to undertake such other duties appropriate to the grade and content of the work as may reasonably be required of you. Therefore, the list of duties in this job profile should not be regarded as exclusive or exhaustive. Please note that, in consultation with you, the Trust reserves the right to update your job profile to reflect changes in, or to, your post.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of all staff.

Code of conduct:

The trust expects all staff to ensure that their standards of conduct are, at all times, compliant with the Code of Conduct policy for employees.

Inclusivity:

The Trust believes that everyone has the right to be treated equally and that the diversity of individuals and groups should be embraced, valued, and respected.

Data Protection:

You will be responsible for ensuring that workplace responsibilities, within the Trust, are carried out in compliance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation, the Data Protection Act and the Employment Practices Data Protection Code 2002, especially concerning confidentiality, treatment of personal information and records management.

Disclosure Service Certification from the Disclosure and Barring Service:

Trust staff are required to hold Disclosure Service certification from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The Trust is a registered body with the Disclosure Service.

What we are looking for

Person Specification – Sparkwell Primary School. Reception Class Teacher

The following criteria will form the basis of the shortlisting and interviews. Any information which you provide about your qualifications, experiences and competencies will be tested and assessed during the selection process.

	Essential	Desirable
Professional Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree or Teaching Certificate in Education Qualified Teacher Status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of additional qualifications or relevant courses attended.
Experience and Knowledge of teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of teaching in Early Years High quality classroom leadership and organisation. Ability to lead a curriculum subject Commitment to continuing professional development. Knowledge of what constitutes outstanding teaching and learning. Knowledge of how to use data effectively to support school improvement. Knowledge of using technology to support teaching & learning. Knowledge of SEND and how to positively support inclusion in the classroom and across the school. Enthusiasm to develop and extend own subject knowledge. Knowledge of safeguarding procedures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willing and able to teach across the primary phase Understanding of disadvantage to close the gap Understanding of SEND and Strategies to support a range of needs Experience of Phonics
Job Related Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of teaching and learning – with children making good progress. Ability to plan and deliver an inclusive curriculum meeting pupil needs. Ability to model outstanding teaching and classroom management. Ability to reflect and evaluate lessons effectively Be an excellent classroom practitioner with high expectations of behaviour and achievement. Experience of using data effectively to support pupil progress. Able to communicate with parents and encourage them to support in learning. Able to play an active role in the school community. 	
Personal Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to get on with people and establish relationships with governors, staff, parents and pupils. Reliable, honest, efficient, well-organised Good communication skills Openness and willingness to learn, take on new challenges and be comfortable with change. Able to set targets and meet deadlines Enthusiastic, forward-looking, hard-working Professionalism, sensitivity and discretion Willing to go 'the extra mile' for the children and the school Have high expectations. 	
Physical Requirements	The school is not accessible in all areas to a person with disabilities but reasonable adjustment will be considered.	

Your wellbeing matters. We have signed up to the Education Staff Wellbeing Charter to:



Prioritise staff mental health



Give staff the support they need to take responsibility for their own and others' wellbeing



Give managers access to the tools and resources they need to support the wellbeing of those they line manage



Establish a clear communications policy



Give staff a voice in decision-making



Drive down unnecessary workload



Champion and enable flexible working



Create a good behaviour culture



Support staff to progress in their careers



Include a sub-strategy for protecting leader wellbeing and mental health



Hold ourselves accountable, including by measuring staff wellbeing

Education Staff Wellbeing Charter
For more information: www.gov.uk/dfe

Our Academies



Bearnes is situated in the centre of the busy market town of Newton Abbot. The pupils of the school are encouraged to benefit from and respect the diversity of their environment, learning through educational opportunities from the locality and being involved with the community at all levels. The school has a strong ethos of self-fulfilment for the pupils, while of equal importance is the development of a caring and nurturing attitude to life. All the staff endeavour to provide all children with a safe and secure environment that has high expectations and supports them to fulfil their potential.



Broadhempston is a traditional small village school, bijou but perfectly formed, with a warm and friendly family atmosphere. Situated just a short distance from Totnes, making the most of the idyllic rural setting throughout the year. The school offers an exciting and relevant curriculum which provides excellent opportunities and experiences and great foundations for life. Whilst focussing on the highest academic achievement, they always have the 'whole' child in mind and have an excellent team of inspirational staff who help the children develop into positive and enthusiastic learners.



Cheriton Bishop is a vibrant school with a warm and friendly family atmosphere who believe their pupils should clearly understand their responsibility for learning by actively engaging with the creative curriculum. They are encouraged to value their educational opportunities and enjoy the learning experiences it provides. In return they offer an excellent team of staff who work incredibly hard to provide a broad range of activities and challenges, whilst greatly valuing and actively promoting the partnership between home and school because they understand that it is only through joint support that every child will reach their full potential.



Diptford is a thriving and vibrant school, yet their small size enables them to know every child in real depth; to understand their talents and what motivates them. The staff aim to help every child discover their unique and individual potential and support them to develop it. Offering a caring, nurturing environment with a unique family atmosphere, the school has an excellent reputation and achieves high academic standards through the provision of a rich and exciting curriculum that makes the most of its beautiful surroundings.



Drake's is a very special school, where a dedicated emphasis on teaching and learning to high standards sits comfortably alongside the provision of a safe and happy space for their children to learn and develop as rounded, vibrant individuals. The school is also a valuable part of the community offering an excellent environment for all children and they believe in supporting all pupils to enable and inspire them to grow as confident, independent learners, fully equipped and ready for life's challenges.



Harbertonford is a thriving small Church School situated just outside the town of Totnes and achieves high academic standards through the provision of an exciting curriculum that makes the most of its beautiful surroundings and caring, nurturing environment. It is a vibrant and exciting place aiming to help its pupils to discover their potential and enable them to fulfil it, whilst valuing their individuality and developing the whole child. Harbertonford has a good reputation, built on high standards and a caring ethos and they strive to meet the challenges of preparing children for the future, instilling a lifelong love of learning on the way.



Hennock is a vibrant school with a warm and friendly family atmosphere. Situated on the doorstep of Dartmoor, they make the most of their idyllic rural setting throughout the year and work in close partnership with parents and the community. Learning effectively happens most successfully when children feel happy, safe and actively involved with purposeful experiences. Hennock aims to ensure children believe in themselves, trust those supporting them and are provided with inspirational learning experiences.



Ilsington is a small rural school nestling in the Devon countryside on the edge of Dartmoor with an integrated pre-school working alongside the primary classes, ensuring the highest standard of transition as the children reach primary age. Ilsington has a long history of providing a warm, caring, and creative environment where all children are welcome and where they are encouraged to be independent, active learners. The school's culture is firmly rooted in its Christian values of *Friendship, Kindness, Honesty, Resilience, Respect and Compassion*.



Landscape is a thriving small church school, surrounded by rolling fields and farms. Well known for creating a safe and secure learning environment where all the children can grow and flourish. The children are given lots of learning opportunities outside the classroom and exciting experiences in all areas of the curriculum. Landscape has an excellent reputation built on high standards and a caring ethos with staff experienced and committed to meeting the individual needs of every child.



Littleham C of E Primary School is a proud Church of England school, where their foundation is built upon the pillars of aspiration, belonging, and compassion embracing a community spirit that thrives on Christian values. With expansive outdoor spaces, they encourage exploration, creativity, and a deep connection to the natural world. In addition to their main curriculum offer, their specialist Nurture Unit provides bespoke additional support for those who may need it. Littleham understand the importance of addressing each child's unique needs, ensuring that every student feels empowered to succeed.



Morchard Bishop is a warm and welcoming church school that strives to provide the best start for all of our pupils. Our vision of being 'Deeply rooted. Individually nurtured. Inspired to flourish.' ensures that we focus on developing children that are driven to become the very best version of themselves. We are incredibly lucky to have varied and spacious outdoor facilities which we regularly utilise as part of our curriculum offer. The school plays a vital role within our community and often support village events.



Moretonhampstead is a vibrant school with a warm and friendly family atmosphere. They have kind, curious and engaged children and a staff team who are highly dedicated and strive to do the very best for every child. The school enjoys a positive relationship with parents and the local community and are fortunate to have a superb modern school building with excellent facilities and spacious grounds and outdoor spaces, nestled within Dartmoor National Park.



Otterton is in a beautiful village in the heart of East Devon. It is a special place where there is a tremendous amount of academic and lifelong learning brought to pupils through a carefully planned curriculum and a dynamic and dedicated teaching staff. It is a very family orientated and child-centered school, with a whole range of skills and experiences for pupils to develop their learning and unique abilities. An important part of the community with much activity taking place in our wonderful environment.



Sparkwell is located in a small village right on the edge of Dartmoor National park with stunning surrounding countryside. The environment at Sparkwell is described by Ofsted as 'calm and purposeful, with pupils across the school being focused, respectful and attentive. Effective pastoral support ensures that all pupils settle quickly and feel safe and happy'. Sparkwell is the small school with a big heart and even have resident Cavapoo, Luna, attending school a couple of days a week to help children socially and emotionally.



Stoke Gabriel is a thriving friendly school in the wonderful South Hams which has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Achieving high academic standards through the provision of an exciting curriculum that makes the most of its beautiful surroundings, a caring, nurturing environment with a family atmosphere and a team of dedicated staff. A vibrant and exciting place to work in, yet their small size enables them to know every child and the things that motivate them.



Tedburn St Mary prides itself on being a warm, close-knit school with high educational expectations and standards, appreciating the varying needs and strengths of all pupils, helping them to achieve their full potential. They are committed to providing every pupil with the best possible educational experience within a safe, nurturing environment. Developing, encouraging and motivating children to ensure all pupils become confident and successful lifelong learners.



Widecombe is placed in a unique and beautiful location in the heart of Dartmoor. A sense of community is central to their ethos and they want all children to value and understand, not only their own school and surrounding community, but also extremely important that they develop a wider sense of what community means globally. At Widecombe, the curriculum gives frequent and varied opportunities for the children to develop their personal voice, meaning they leave Widecombe as confident, competent individuals.



Wolborough is located in the town of Newton Abbot. Their aim is to serve the community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. The Dedicated staff at Wolborough will nurture a child's self-esteem along with a caring for others, create an inclusive school, help a child achieve his or her full potential in terms of creativity, self-expression and the acquisition of skills needed for future education and life and create a stimulating and happy environment built on a partnership.



Yeoford is an integral part of the village and community and they pride themselves on providing a safe, secure and friendly environment for every child to achieve their true potential. They enjoy a good range of resources, including their own football pitch, netball court and children's kitchen. The children also have their own allotments and achieve great success and enjoyment growing vegetables and then cooking them. Everything done at Yeoford is to provide every child with the best possible learning experience so it will inspire, encourage and motivate them to become successful lifelong learners.