



# Hope Tree School

*Where difference is valued*

**Post: KS3 Student Support Assistant**

**Salary:** up to £25,000-£35,000

**Responsible to:** Head of Learning

**Post to Commence:** September 2026

**The post holder will have a shared responsibility for the safeguarding of all children and young people. The post holder has an implicit duty to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to be committed to promote diversity and equality for all.**

Hope Tree School is a small, not for profit independent school just outside of Cambridge. The school, founded by parents of autistic children, is one of only two schools for autistic girls in the country. We are a small but ambitious school, with 32 students currently on roll across KS2, KS3 and KS4 with an overall capacity for 36 (at the moment). As we grow and add to our provision we continue to build our staff team, looking for individuals who have an interest in working with autistic students, who want to make a difference and who want to work in an environment where their input is valued. As a school, we pride ourselves on providing a safe and nurturing learning environment. We offer a true hybrid model, balancing therapeutic support alongside delivering the academic aims of the National Curriculum. Our recent Ofsted report reflected the exceptional learning environment we have created here, also noting that 'incidents of poor behaviour are extremely rare.'

We are looking for an experienced and enthusiastic Student Support Assistant. This role will be based in KS3. The role is offered with full time hours. We welcome prospective applicants to arrange a visit to our wonderful school and get a feel for what we do here, as well as providing an opportunity for you to ask any questions prior to applying.

What we are looking for:

- A passion for supporting girls with autism
- Significant experience working in KS3 and supporting KS3 students both academically and pastorally
- Interpersonal skills, flexibility, resilience and kindness
- The desire to make a difference
- Someone who is able to build trust and provide consistency to students

As a Student Support Assistant you will:

- be a member of our school team, supporting classes of approximately six students who have a diagnosis of Autism with accessing formal and informal learning opportunities, with their friendships, and with their emotional development.

- supervise lunch and break times and accompany students on school trips.
- prepare learning materials and assist in lesson delivery (in conjunction with the teachers).
- collaborate closely with other staff to deliver consistent, high-quality support.
- maintain the organisation of learning spaces and the wider school environment.

All members of staff at Hope Tree School are passionate about access to education, and ensuring that all aspects of development are supported in a balanced way. A good sense of humour, resilience, flexibility and adaptability are all integral parts of the holistic approach used at Hope Tree School.

What we offer:

- A school culture that prioritises student and staff wellbeing
- Small class sizes (maximum 6 - 8 per class) with high adult-to-child ratios
- Private medical insurance, wellbeing support, life assurance and income protection scheme available
- Staff are supported to pursue professional development aligned to their interests
- A friendly, supportive, relaxed team
- Enhanced work-life balance

Hope Tree School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and requires all staff and volunteers to share and demonstrate this commitment. Our recruitment practice complies with all relevant legislation.

As part of our commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable groups, Enhanced DBS checks and/or Barred List checks are carried out on all posts where they are required.