

Job of The Week

Teaching Assistant

Key Skills

- sensitivity and understanding for building relationships with children
- excellent verbal communication skills for motivating children to learn
- active listening skills to understand the children's needs
- patience and the ability to remain calm
- to be flexible and open to change for working on different activities
- the ability to teach pupils how to do something
- the ability to create the best conditions for learning or teaching new things
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device
- to enjoy working with other people

Salary

£12,621 - £23,000

Working hours

32-40

Weekdays/ Term-time

Aspire | Challenge | Achieve

Teaching Assistant



Top Tips

Many teaching assistants specialise in the kind of extra help they give, for example: languages, behavioural, pastoral, special needs support

College

You can take a college qualification to get started, for example:

- Level 2 or 3 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools
- Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education
- T Level in Education and Childcare

Entry requirements

You may need 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course; 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including Maths and English for a level 3 course or T Level



Apprenticeship

You can get into this role through a Teaching Assistant Advanced Apprenticeship.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and Maths, for an advanced apprenticeship

Direct Application

You can apply directly for jobs through schools, local authorities and academy trusts. Each school sets its own entry requirements, though you'll usually need GCSEs grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English and Maths.

You'll also need to show that you can work well with children, teachers and parents. A qualification in nursery work, childcare, playwork or youth work will give you an advantage.

Career path and progression

With experience, you may take a course to become a higher level teaching assistant (HLTA)

With further study you could become a fully qualified teacher

Day to Day tasks:

- help teachers prepare lesson materials & equipment
- Prepare and clear classroom before and after lessons
- work with groups and individual pupils to make sure they understand their work and stay focussed
- watch, record and report pupils' progress to teachers
- supervise group activities, including outings and sports events
- provide a safe and healthy environment and follow safeguarding procedures
- help teachers manage class behaviour
- look after children who are upset or unwell
- lead classes with help from the teacher

Working conditions

You could work at a school or at a special needs school

Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding

Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.

Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Teaching assistants	
Weekly Pay £400	Annual Pay £20,800
Hours/Week 29h	Hourly Pay £14
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 9.7%	Replacement 56%
<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 9.7% over the period to 2027, creating 43,100 jobs. In the same period, 56% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 250,200 job openings.</small>	
You might find this job in Education Employment activities Social work Services to buildings Public admin. & defence	
More info	Clear card

Special needs education teaching professionals	
Weekly Pay £730	Annual Pay £37,960
Hours/Week 27h	Hourly Pay £27
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 8%	Replacement 59.8%
<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 8% over the period to 2027, creating 6,800 jobs. In the same period, 59.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 51,100 job openings.</small>	
You might find this job in Education Public admin. & defence Residential care	
More info	Clear card

Nursery nurses and assistants	
Weekly Pay £370	Annual Pay £19,240
Hours/Week 31h	Hourly Pay £12
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 9.7%	Replacement 56%
<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 9.7% over the period to 2027, creating 21,700 jobs. In the same period, 56% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 125,600 job openings.</small>	
You might find this job in Social work Education Health Public admin. & defence	
More info	Clear card

Labour Market Information

Teaching assistants

Teaching assistants assist teachers with their day-to-day classroom work and with routine administrative tasks.

Common tasks in this job:

- assists teacher with preparation or clearing up of classroom;
- looks after lesson materials such as paper, pencils and crayons;
- listens to children read, reads to them or tells stories;
- assists children with washing or dressing for outdoor and similar activities;

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Special needs education teaching professionals

Special needs education teaching professionals organise and provide instruction at a variety of different levels to children who have emotional, behavioural or learning difficulties or physical disabilities. These professionals may also work with exceptionally gifted pupils.

Common tasks in this job:

- creates a safe, stimulating and supportive learning environment for students;
- assesses student's abilities, identifies student's needs and devises curriculum and rota of teaching duties accordingly;
- gives instruction, using techniques appropriate to the student's handicap;
- develops and adapts conventional teaching methods to meet the individual student's needs;

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Nursery nurses and assistants

Nursery nurses and assistants care for children from birth up to seven years of age in day or residential nurseries, children's homes, maternity units and similar establishments.

Common tasks in this job:

- baths, dresses, prepares feed for and feeds babies, changes babies clothing whenever necessary;
- supervises young children at mealtimes;
- plans and organises games and other activities and supervises children's play;
- reads stories, organises counting games to help develop language and number skills;

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

Teaching Assistant Apprenticeship



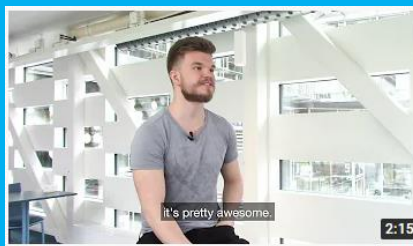
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrrHiLN4lQQ>

Teaching Assistant with Riverside



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9OmXfzwQjKg>

Life as a Teaching Assistant



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ms6csEu_5e0

Special Needs Teaching Assistant



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3-kHLmo2tg>

Useful Websites

[Search results – Lincolnshire County Council](#)

[How to become a teaching assistant | Prospects.ac.uk](#)

[Teaching assistant \(skillsforschools.org.uk\)](#)

[Teaching assistant | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[Search - UCAS](#)