

# Welcome to the Skills programme

SS Simon & Jude CE School Bolton, a National Support School and part of SS Simon & Jude Multi Academy Trust is leading the way in school to school support with our innovative sTAr Skills programme.

sTAr provides a pathway of accredited professional development for school support staff, from volunteers and classroom assistants through HLTA to School Direct PGCE students.

We understand the pressures schools face with releasing staff for training and we recognise the importance of a healthy work/ life balance. sTAr is delivered locally and flexibly, helping to remove barriers to accessing quality CPD. Put simply, we come to you.

## sTAr Skills Apprenticeship Programme

*This is a fully funded programme for teaching assistants currently employed in school.*

*Funding is available for Level 2 and Level 3 CACHE Supporting Teaching & Learning in Schools qualifications.*

To be eligible for FREE training:

- You must be employed on a paid contract in school for 16+ hours a week
- You must not already hold formal qualifications above the Level of the programme you wish to enrol on
- If you already hold a qualification at the same level you wish to undertake, this must be from a different occupational area.

## Who is the sTAr Skills Programme for?

Employed teaching assistants and SEN support staff looking to enhance their skills. You need to be in a classroom support role to undertake the programme.

Our sTAr Skills analysis will guide you to select the most suitable options for your role and your personal development. A key focus of the programme is on career progression.

## What qualifications will I gain?

Within the Apprenticeship Framework candidates work towards

- CACHE QCF Level 2 Certificate or CACHE Level 3 Diploma Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools
- Educare for Education eLearning modules
- Level 1 or 2 Functional Skills in Maths, English and ICT
- Employment Rights and Responsibilities in the education sector
- Personal Learning and Thinking Skills

## How is it delivered?

Candidates build a portfolio of evidence made up of classroom observations, reflective accounts, professional discussions with their assessor, photos and workbooks. There are no assessed essays. We are looking for you to *demonstrate* your skills.

You may attend up to five group workshop days held in a school local to you, and your assessor will visit you monthly in school to carry out planned observations and discussions.

There will be opportunities to visit TA's in other schools to undertake peer to peer coaching and to share links with international schools.

## Programme Support

Your assessor will guide you every step of the way, helping you to build your portfolio and to prepare for your Functional Skills assessments.

You will also have access to a network of colleagues through our sTAr social media forums where you can share best practice and resources, find out about our courses and search for a 'study buddy'.

## When can I start?!

**This is a rolling programme and you can enrol any time.**

To find out if you are eligible for funding, please complete and return a course enquiry form

by email: [vantage@sssj.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:vantage@sssj.bolton.sch.uk) or fax: 01204 333585

## Questions? Please contact us

e | [vantage@sssj.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:vantage@sssj.bolton.sch.uk) t | 01204 333583

Visit our website [www.sssj.bolton.sch.uk/vantage](http://www.sssj.bolton.sch.uk/vantage) to discover all our sTAr training programmes.



**SS. Simon & Jude**  
CE Primary School  
*building a better future together*