

Molly Jeffery

Learning Support Assistant | School for Inspiring Talents

Molly previously worked as a Health Care Assistant for the elderly but knew she always wanted to work with children. She joined School for Inspiring Talents in 2020 as a Learning Support Assistant (LSA) and quickly got stuck into the role where no two days are the same! Here she tells us about what it's really like to be an LSA.

How I got into the role

I was a Health Care Assistant. I visited elderly people in their homes and assisted with things such as washing, dressing, making meals and giving medication. I applied to be an LSA at School for Inspiring Talents because I have always wanted to work with children, and I was really interested in the psychological aspect of the job.

What I do

My role is to support children with their specific needs in school.

Every day is different and will depend on the students I am working with. Some days can be spent supporting students with Maths and English, or their 'topic' time. Other days can be spent making cakes, going outside to play games, going for walks or to the park. A day's activities will depend on the individual student and their specific needs, so it can be very varied.

The best bits and challenges

It's a very rewarding job. Knowing that for many of the children, school is their favourite place to be, where they can interact with other children with similar backgrounds or experiences. I love seeing a child reach an individual goal that they have set themselves. Seeing them make progress each day gives me a real sense of pride.

It can be tough when children disclose information that is difficult to hear, but an important part of our job is listening and ensuring their safety, and I feel supported by my colleagues in school when this happens.



It can also be difficult when a child shows challenging behaviour – it can make the day feel harder, but those moments are always outweighed by the rewards. Also, the students have such big personalities, you could never be bored!

My tips for others...

If you like working in a fast-paced environment where things are always changing and there is always something new to focus on, then I would highly recommend applying to be an LSA!

You'll need to be patient, hard-working and empathetic, but helping the children to become the best versions of themselves is incredibly rewarding. I am very glad I applied, and I really enjoy coming to work each day.

“Helping the children to become the best versions of themselves is incredibly rewarding.”