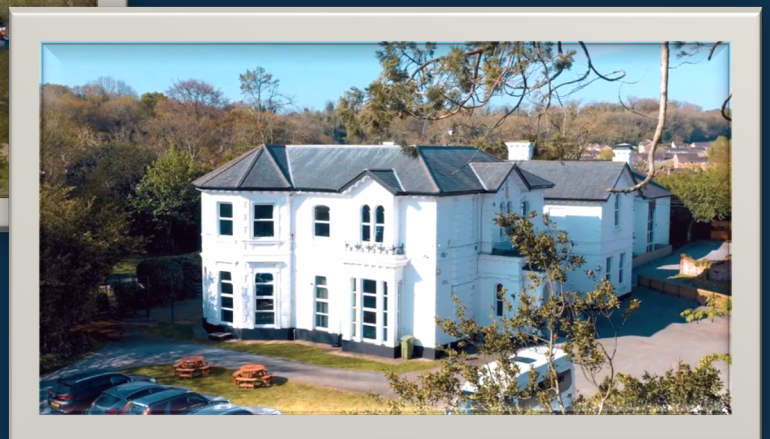




# Life Chance.

Care • Nurture • Inspire

## Candidate Pack



[www.sfit.org.uk](http://www.sfit.org.uk)  
[www.lifechance.org.uk](http://www.lifechance.org.uk)

# Welcome to the Life Chance Group

## Mark Escott: Co-founder & Chairman



Mark is the Co-Founder of Life Chance Group, specialising in working with young people and families who have experienced trauma. His life story and philosophy informed his recent best-selling book - *'One More Life Chance'*.

Despite a troubled childhood he carved out an impressive career as a child and adolescent behaviour specialist, working therapeutically with young people and families within the Health and Education sectors.

In 2011 he set up Life Chance and School for Inspiring Talents, an innovative independent therapeutic school based in Devon. Hugely successful, it was the first school in the UK to be awarded the Trauma and Mental Health Informed Schools Award.

Today, Life Chance continues to expand its education, training, and outreach services to transform the life chances of children and young people in our communities.

## Hannah Moon: Chief Executive

When you join the Life Chance Group, you'll become part of an award-winning organisation that brings together professional staff, therapeutic disciplines, and a forward-thinking approach to offer a range of services that provide holistic support for young people, families and our wider community.

**Life Chance Education (School for Inspiring Talents)** has two sites in South Devon, hosting a team of amazing teachers, learning support assistants and multi-disciplinary practitioners who support our young people who have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences, within this therapeutic setting.

**Life Chance Care** is an assessment service for families and schools, providing a service for children struggling with their social, emotional and mental health needs. Our vision for supporting wider communities is to provide outreach help to schools and other agencies across the South West.

**Life Chance Training** shares the best practice and hands-on knowledge that our team of experienced staff have gained from supporting children. We've provided our training service to over 60 schools and universities.

**Life Chance Trust** is our new charitable venture, helping 16-25 year-olds reintegrate into the community and be the best they can be for the future, by providing funding, mentoring, training or vocational support.



## Pete Jenkins: Executive Principal

At School for Inspiring Talents, we believe in supporting each and every student to achieve their fullest potential.

Our specialist educational staff, Multi-Disciplinary Team and business support colleagues work together to create a nurturing environment for our students who all have difficult or complex life stories and have experienced trauma.

Our core values are to **'care, nurture and inspire'** and these values underpin our award-winning therapeutic approach to education, enabling children to overcome many of their barriers to learning.

As a school we aspire to be outstanding, leading the way for our students to develop a bright future. This is exemplified in our school motto **'be the best we can be'**, encouraging our whole school community to excel.



## Working for Life Chance & School for Inspiring Talents

Our staff are very special – dedicated, passionate and always willing to go above and beyond to ensure that the young people we support receive the best possible care.

The challenges and adverse childhood experiences faced by many of our young learners mean we approach education in a more adaptive way than mainstream primary / secondary schools. Our class sizes are small, with learning spaces that offer plenty of break-out spaces, safe calming sensory spaces and beautiful open-air areas to facilitate the regulatory benefits of being outdoors! Our curriculum and timetables are designed around each individual child, to meet their personal, emotional and wellbeing needs as well as their educational ambitions.

We know that working with our young people can be challenging as well as hugely rewarding – so staff wellbeing is a central part of our ethos. We want to acknowledge how important staff are, which is why we developed an Employee Wellbeing & Benefits programme tailored to helping people personally, professionally and financially. We also have initiatives such as 'finish early Fridays' and 'Wellbeing Wednesdays' to help staff maintain their resilience and de-stress!

Your opportunities for personal growth, training and professional development are encouraged via our CPD programme, but also by the holistic way we work, with our multi-disciplinary team such as therapists and mental health practitioners embedded within the school. Staff come from a range of backgrounds and disciplines, but all share a genuine desire to create a positive, supportive atmosphere, and to encourage improvement and growth in a professional, measurable way.



### Learning Support Assistant

**Job Title:** Learning Support Assistant

**Hours:** 8:30 – 4:30 Monday – Thursday 8:30 – 4:00 Friday

**Salary:** £19,348 per annum – £26,605 FTE dependent on experience (£16,000 – £22,000 actual salary working term time only – 39 weeks per year)

**Duration:** 8:30 – 4:30 Monday – Thursday 8:30 – 4:00 Friday

**Responsible to:** Teacher/ Head of School

### Key Role Purpose:

- Work under the guidance of our specialists and the class teacher in the planning and implementation of work programmes with individuals or groups of students with special needs.
- Provide general support to the class teacher in the management and organisation of the classroom.
- Assist the teacher in creating and maintaining a purposeful, orderly and supportive learning environment.
- Assist the teacher in liaising with parents / carers, including writing up incident report notes as necessary.
- Promote the inclusion of all students, ensuring they have equal opportunities to learn and develop.
- Provide support for students' emotional and social needs by encouraging and modelling positive behaviour in line with school policy.
- Responsible for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people within the school.
- Operate within agreed legal and ethical boundaries particularly in regard to child protection.
- Carry out duties in accordance with health and safety legislation and school policies.

Demonstrate a commitment to:

- Equalities
- Promoting the company and school's vision/ethos, contributing effectively to the work of Life Chance Education and its development strategy
- High quality, stimulating learning environment
- Members of the school and wider community
- Ongoing relevant professional self-development through regular coaching/supervision sessions
- Safeguarding and child protection

## **Teaching & Learning**

- Support working relationship with the students, acting as role model and setting high expectations.
- Work closely with colleagues and class teacher to assist in the planning, development and delivery of all areas of the curriculum, ensuring engagement.
- Support students with special educational needs through the delivery of specific learning programmes and to contribute to setting individual education targets.
- Encourage students to interact and work co-operatively, ensuring all pupils are engaged in activities.
- As instructed and required by the class teacher, prepare for lessons, ensuring that specialist resources and equipment are available as necessary and cleared away at the end of the lessons as appropriate.
- Help adapt and plan the development of resources necessary to assist in learning activities of students, taking into account students' interests, language level and cultural backgrounds.
- Accompany teaching staff and students on educational visits, trips and out of school activities as required within contracted hours and to take responsibility for students.
- To assist with the pastoral care of students, including helping students who are unwell, distressed or unsettled.

## **Personal & Professional Development**

Actively engage with a full range of CPD opportunities, particularly those relating to:

- The advancement of SfIT
- The development of personal and professional qualities
- Attending relevant meetings and participate in training opportunities and professional development as required.

## **Other Professional Duties**

- Undertake broadly similar duties as may be required from time to time as directed by the Executive Principal/Head of School and that are commensurate with the post grade.
- Represent the company positively at all times.
- Work flexibly to secure all the job requirements are met.
- Comply with and assist with the development of policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, SEN/Inclusion and data protection, reporting all concerns to the appropriate named person.



## **Qualifications & Experience**

- Good numeracy and literacy skills (GCSE at a Grade 'C' / Level 4 or above)
- Experience of working with children and young people with additional needs, particularly SEMH – this could be in education, social work, welfare, health, family or children's centres, school or local authority, service setting or the voluntary sector.
- Experience of completing accurate and timely records.
- Working knowledge of national curriculum and other relevant learning programmes, including recent CPD related to curriculum and/or SEND e.g. phonics training, autism awareness etc.

### ***Skills – the ability to:***

- Deal successfully with conflict, de-escalating situations and having restorative conversations – managing difficult situations and/or individuals in a calm, fair but effective manner.
- Understand the principles of child development and learning processes and in particular barriers to learning.
- Observe, monitor, record and provide constructive feedback on student progress, contribute to/plan effective actions for students at risk of underachieving.
- Build and maintain effective relationships with students, treating them equitably with respect and consideration.
- Engage constructively with, and relate to, a wide range of young people and their families with different cultural and social backgrounds.
- Handle sensitive issues in confidence.
- Understand the roles of parents/carers in students' learning and demonstrate ability to liaise with parents/carers sensitively and effectively.
- Successfully complete first aid training as required.
- Show competence in IT usage across a range of media

### ***Personal Qualities:***

- Can work well as part of a team
- Flexible & Adaptable
- Calm under pressure
- Relating positively to and showing respect for all
- Able to work as part of a team and use own initiative
- Relentless in the pursuit of improvement and believing that every child can achieve.
- Consistent and reliable
- Ability and willingness to identify own training needs and participate in training and evaluate own learning

### ***General:***

- Enhanced DBS clearance
- Full Driving License (desirable)

# What do people say about us?

“I feel well supported  
by my colleagues and  
managers!”

*Teaching Employee*

“School for Inspiring Talents appealed  
to me because they have a good  
understanding of the impact of trauma  
on a child’s development, which is  
exactly the struggle my daughter has.”

*Parent*

“Thank you... I go to a lot of courses,  
but I am leaving feeling really  
refreshed and excited.”

*Attendee on LifeChance training*

“The School for Inspiring Talents is led  
with a strong moral purpose. Leaders  
and staff share a deep commitment to  
caring for pupils who have faced  
significant challenges in their lives.”

*Ofsted 2021*