



Maltby Hilltop School

an academy within Nexus MAT

Larch Road, Maltby, Rotherham, S66 8AZ

Tel: 01709 813386

Email: hilltopschool@nexusmat.org

www.maltbyhilltop.com www.nexusMAT.org

Headteacher: Mr David Burdett dburdett@nexusmat.org



Wednesday 25th October 2017

Hello Parents and Carers

We have advertised the post for a family support worker to start by January at the latest.

I just wanted to clarify what this role was and how it links with the tremendous work Vic Harrop has been doing for the last few years.

Vic has the role of Parent and Carers Ambassador. We all see this as a very independent voluntary role which is independent from the school. So, if you want help with form filling, advice or just someone to share your frustrations with she is there for so many of our parents. Vic has been instrumental in making our regular 'chinwags' a great success. She is also great when parents or carers have a grumble or query about what we are doing (or have not done). She is very good at being in parents and carers 'corner' and having a tactful and firm conversation with myself or others. She has been so helpful in sorting difficult misunderstandings with parents in the past. She is also the Facebook 'queen' and keeps things running smoothly for all of you who want to post comments. Vic and I meet fairly often and talk through things that are bothering or causing issues for parents. I would continue to urge you to contact Vic for informal support and advice. She is also keen to come along to any annual reviews or person-centred reviews to give you moral support to 'say your bit' and get your voice heard. Contact her on her new email vharrop@nexusmat.org or through school 01709 813386.

The Family Support Worker is very similar but has a few key paid things to do at school. They will help us with attendance, by ringing parents and encouraging all of you only to take half a day off school with your child for an appointment if at all possible. We do need to improve our whole school attendance in line with special school national averages which should be above 90%.

There are also some parents we do not even see at parent and carers termly meetings. They would help make contact with parents who we have not spoken to for a while and check how things are going.

We are looking for someone with training in specific things and would be able to run workshops and give advice around:

- creating effective sleep routines
- managing behaviours and establishing boundaries/routines
- establishing toilet and self-care routines

We also imagine that they would support with keeping our pupils healthy and safe which may include some home visits and discussions around staying healthy and keeping yourself safe both at home and out in the community. Perhaps helping all of



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us to think of how our child can be that bit more independent and have greater and safe access to the community as they get older.

Kate Hillis our school nurse has also organised some informal afternoon drop in sessions for parents and carers. They are 28/11/17, 9/1/18, 6/2/18, 13/3/18, 24/4/18, 22/5/18 and 26/6/18.

We also have 'open days' for parents who are looking for a place for their child in September 2018.

Vic will be coming along to these and if you have not had a good look around school just let us know if you want to come along. There will be a tour round school at 10am and 1:30 pm on Thurs 23rd Nov, Thurs 11th Jan, Wed 7th Feb, Thurs 22nd March, Thurs 26th April, Fri 4th May, Wed 23rd May and Thurs 5th July.

Please remember we have an 'open door' policy and if you want to come and see what we are doing you just need to check your child is in before coming in to see us.

Yours sincerely

David Burdett
Headteacher Hilltop School