DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

ORGANISATION PROFILE

Join a rapidly growing organisation that has over 300 full time and flexi-scheme employees, and operates from 12 centres all over in Singapore!

The Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS) provides a continuum of services for children with dyslexia, their parents, mainstream teachers and other professionals in the field of dyslexia in Singapore.

JOB DESCRIPTION	
Position	Educational Therapist (Preschool) – Flexi Scheme
Division/Branch	Preschool Programme, SES Division

We are looking for individuals with a passion for teaching preschoolers but are not able to commit to a full-time job. Candidates must be able to commit to a minimum of 8 teaching hours per week and respond at short notice to cover classes at the different DAS learning centres. They must be able to commit to this arrangement for a minimum of two years. All candidates must be registered with the Ministry of Education (MOE) before they can start teaching at the DAS.

About our Preschool Programme

The Preschool Programme aims to help preschoolers who are at risk of having dyslexia or developmental delay in early literacy, develop skills and strategies to become confident learners before they enter primary school.

The programme helps preschoolers acquire a foundation in alphabet knowledge and letter-sound knowledge, leading up to learning sight words essential for reading. These abilities gear them towards reading and spelling readiness. They will also be taught strategies to cope with letter reversals. The programme follows a prescribed scope and sequence for systematic, sequential, and cumulative teaching.

The duties of DAS Educational Therapists (Preschool) include

- Lesson planning: Personalise teaching and instructional materials according to students' Individualised Intervention Goals
- Teaching: Deliver the Preschool curriculum based on the students' individualised Intervention Goals to meet student's learning needs
- Documentation: Conduct pre- and post-tests, writing of Individualised Intervention
 Plan and progress report, submission of dyslexia assessment forms,
 communication log, marking and filing of students' works and lesson plans
- Parent communication: Share information on dyslexia assessment, discussion on students' progress and conduct Meet-The-Parent sessions twice a year in May and November, outside of class hours
- Professional Development: Attend monthly in-service training, presenting at DAS conferences such as Preschool Seminar and Unite SpLD, participating in DAS Preschool research

TRAINING PROVIDED

The DAS places great emphasis on providing a professional service and helping our teachers develop. Flexi Educational Therapists (Preschool) will need to attend the following courses:

• Certificate in Dyslexia Studies

- Certificate in Understanding Dyslexia
- Professional Certificate Course (PCC) in Preschool Literacy Intervention
- Certificate in Dyslexia and Literacy Teaching (CiDLT)
- In-Service Training
- Other relevant courses to work with preschoolers with learning differences

The DAS will fully sponsor the course fees for the training. In view of the full sponsorship by DAS for the initial training, a Bond or Minimum Service Period (MSP) will apply.

MINIMUM SERVICE PERIOD

In view of the full sponsorship by the DAS for the training course fees, a Bond or Minimum Service Period (MSP) will apply. The length of the MSP is 640 teaching hours which normally takes two (2) years to attain.

Compensation to the DAS is payable when the Flexi Educational Therapist (Preschool) do not fulfil the MSP obligations.

COMPETENCIES

Personal Competencies (Core):

- Positive learning attitude
- Great drive and initiative
- Passionate in working with preschoolers
- Strong in multi-tasking and organizational skills
- Effective communication skills and ability to engage preschoolers

Technical Competencies (Skills):

- Microsoft Office
- Google Docs

REQUIREMENTS

Education:

- Degree from a recognised university in related fields such as Early Childhood, Education, Special Education, Psychology OR
- Diploma in Early Childhood Care & Education-Teaching (DECCE-T) and Certificate in Special Education OR
- Diploma in Special Education (DISE), Diploma in Early Childhood Intervention, or Advanced Diploma in Early Childhood Intervention (Special Needs)

Experience:

- At least 1-2 years of experience working with Preschoolers.
- Relevant work experience in teaching preschoolers will be an asset

Other Skills & Knowledge:

Strong interpersonal skills.

WORKING HOURS

Flexi Preschool Educational Therapists are expected to conduct their classes on weekday afternoons up to 7 pm, and on Saturdays and/or Sundays during MOE school terms. They are expected to teach a minimum of eight hours a week.

They may also be called upon to respond at short notice to cover classes at the different DAS learning centres.

WORK VENUE

Flexi Educational Therapists (Preschool) must be willing to travel to different DAS learning centres throughout Singapore. They must expect to work from any of our 12 learning centres in Bedok, Bishan, Chua Chu Kang, Henderson, Jurong Point, Parkway Parade, Toa Payoh, Sengkang, Serangoon, Tampines, Woodlands and Yishun.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

Successful candidates will be paid between \$\$40.00 to \$\$50.00 per hour depending on relevant qualifications and teaching experience. These rates are for teaching hours only. Hours spent on lesson preparation, lesson observations, and training will not be compensated.

Flexi Educational Therapists (Preschool) are also eligible for annual incentives upon meeting the prevailing criteria as announced by Management. Other benefits include medical coverage for outpatient treatment by general practitioners (GPs) and specialists, hospitalization, and pro-rated leave entitlement for sick leave, hospitalization leave, maternity, and childcare leave (subject to meeting prevailing eligibility criteria).

REGISTRATION WITH THE REGISTER OF EDUCATIONAL THERAPIST (ASIA) [RETA]

The DAS has initiated the setting up of a Register of trained and experienced professional tutors and therapists who specialise in supporting individuals with dyslexia and/or related specific learning difficulties. The Register is guided by a steering committee, which comprises senior DAS staff and individuals working in the private practice and other educational bodies. The Register will provide public recognition of professional training and competence for members. Individuals are encouraged to sign up with RETA (http://www.reta.sg/) once they have attained the necessary training and experience.

Flexi Educational Therapists (Preschool) will be eligible to apply for promotion to the next salary scale upon meeting the requirements, including upgraded RETA membership status.

APPLICATION DETAILS

All interested applicants are to submit the following as part of their application.

- 1. DAS Employment Application Form, duly completed (form can be downloaded from the Careers page of our website https://das.org.sg/careers-at-das/positions-available/
- 2. Resume

Email the above submissions to jobs@das.org.sg by 3 January 2025

Only complete applications (with the above 2 items) will be considered.

Due to the high volume of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the next stage of the selection process. If you do not hear from us within two weeks of the application closing date, unfortunately, your application has not been successful. We appreciate your interest in the position.

All shortlisted candidates are required to attend a Preview Session on 9 January 2025 Selected candidates must be able to attend the initial training on 3 April 2025