

Barnet Education and Learning Service



Qualified Teacher of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment (QTVI)

Barnet Education & Learning Service (BELS)

Closing date: 31st January 2025 at 5pm

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Welcome to Barnet Education & Learning Service (BELS)

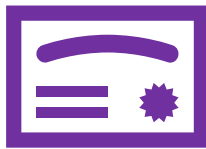
About Us

<https://www.bels.org.uk/>

Barnet Education & Learning Service (BELS) is a local authority owned company responsible for providing Barnet Council's Education & Skills service to Barnet schools and settings.

The BELS Board of Directors has representatives from Barnet Primary Headteachers' Forum, Barnet Secondary Headteachers' Forum and Barent Parent-Carer Forum as well as Senior Leaders from the Council enabling a truly collaborative approach to decision-making and delivery which brings the best outcomes for Barnet's schools, educational settings, colleges, students, and young people. The Board of Directors also includes a BELS Staff Director in addition to our Chief Executive.

Along with statutory services, BELS provides a range of traded services to schools and settings, equipping them with the latest tools, training, and programmes to improve school standards and outcomes.



95% of Barnet schools are good or outstanding and Barnet is now in the top 10% for almost all measures of achievement in schools and the top 5% for many of the measures.

We are proud to play a part in creating resilient communities where pupils are high achieving and engaged by providing schools and settings with everything they need to help pupils reach their goals and achieve outstanding outcomes. We have highly experienced teams who stay abreast of new developments and best practices to empower teachers and governors in a changing world.

Our Values and Behaviours



Contact Officer:

Department:

Telephone:

Dear Applicant,

Post: Qualified Teacher of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment

Thank you for the interest you have shown in the above opportunity.

This Information Job Pack gives a full explanation of the role and working for Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS). We are excited to learn what you can bring to BELS and Barnet's schools and settings. If you are passionate about delivering a high level of service, working in a dynamic and supportive team and making a difference then I encourage you to apply for the post.

To apply for this post, please visit: [Recruitment | Barnet Education & Learning Service | London \(bels.org.uk\)](https://www.bels.org.uk)

If you need assistance, please email the BELS HR Team at: hr.barnetbels@barnet.gov.uk quoting job title.

The closing date for applications – 31 January 2025 at 5.00pm
Interviews will be held – 4th February 2025

If you would like to discuss this position on an informal basis, please contact me at: karen.littleton@barnet.gov.uk (e mail) or 07771928174 (mobile).

I look forward to receiving an application from you.

Yours faithfully

Karen Littleton
Lead Advisory Teacher for Vision
Barnet Education and Learning Service
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW
Email: karen.littleton@barnet.gov.uk
Tel: 07771928174

Job Title: Qualified Teacher of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment
Full time- Permanent position (part-time job-share considered)
Teachers Pay Scale UP2 – UP3, plus up to 2 SEN allowances (pro-rata), plus a car allowance

We are seeking to recruit an enthusiastic Teacher of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment to join our friendly and professional team.

Applications are welcome from teachers with QTS who have successfully undertaken the mandatory training.

The successful applicant's role will include working with children of all ages and abilities, in a range of settings. You will work alongside four Advisory Teachers, for VI and MSI, Habilitation Specialist and an Assistive Technology Specialist as part of the wider Specialist Team.

This is an exciting opportunity to join our dynamic, friendly and supportive team that are dedicated to providing a high-quality service to schools and settings.

Successful candidates will be joining a creative and highly skilled team that is well-regarded and valued by schools and services across Barnet. You will benefit from a supportive senior leadership team committed to promoting the wellbeing of staff and work-life balance, ongoing training and development.

To apply for this post, please visit: [Recruitment | Barnet Education & Learning Service | London \(bels.org.uk\)](https://www.bels.org.uk)

If you need assistance, please email the BELS HR Team at: hr.barnetbels@barnet.gov.uk quoting job title.

For more information about our team, you can view our local offer page here: [Barnet Local Offer :: Home / Info and Advice / How to get help / How specialist education services can help / Educational psychology / EP: Professionals Page \(thisisfocus.co.uk\)](#)

For an informal discussion about the post, please contact:

Karen Littleton, Lead Advisory Teacher for Vision

Email: karen.littleton@barnet.gov.uk

Mob: 07771928174

Closing date for applications: 5pm on 31st January 2025

Interview date: 4th February 2025

Barnet Education and Learning Service is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) with barred list check is required for all successful applicants. In addition, if this post is likely to come under the requirements of the Childcare (Disqualification) 2009 Regulations, the successful applicant will be required to declare.

We are committed to practising in ways that are equitable, anti-racist and culturally responsive and we welcome candidates who share this commitment. We have developed an equity and anti-racism policy which outlines our values and actions in this area including ongoing CPD and offering support to our school community. Recruitment of a diverse workforce that is representative of the community we serve is part of our ongoing commitment and is embedded in this policy and therefore, we welcome applicants who are underrepresented in our profession.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Service:	Barnet Education and Learning Service
Location:	Main council offices at 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW
Job Title:	Qualified Teacher of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment (QTVI)
Grade:	Teachers Pay Scale UP2 – UP3, plus up to 2 SEN allowances (pro-rata), plus a car allowance Term Time only
Post No:	

REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS:

- Reports to the Lead Advisory Teacher for Vision Impairment.

CONTEXT AND PURPOSE OF THE JOB:

(i) QTVI - Context and Purpose

The Advisory Teacher for Vision Impairment is responsible for:

- promoting high standards of attainment and inclusion for children and young people with visual impairment.
- implementing the delivery of high quality specialist advice, support and training to schools, other settings and parents with regard to vision impairment
- a caseload of children and young people who have a vision impairment. This may include pre-school children, those placed in early years settings, mainstream schools or special schools across the borough. The pupils may have an EHCP.
- maintaining an informed overview of current thinking, research and new initiatives/developments relating to policy and provision for children and young people with vision impairment and SEND generally, to inform practice and forward planning for children and young people with a vision impairment.
- ensuring appropriate placement and progress for pupils in the context of inclusive education. The post holder will work with the VI team and the Head

of Service for the Specialist Inclusion Team to support partnership working throughout the service and with health, social care, voluntary and other agencies to promote the attainment of pupils.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

(i) QTVI - Key Accountabilities Specific for This Post

- To work with the VI Team, Team Lead and Head of Service for the Specialist Inclusion Team to develop and deliver support services for children and young people with vision impairment. This will include children and young people with additional disabilities.
- To support the VI team across the age range and in a variety of settings; early years, primary, secondary and post 16 and in line with statutory responsibilities to improve attainment and independence. This will involve providing advice and support to school staff on curriculum access and differentiation and devising programmes; adaptations to the physical environment; risk assessment; participation in reviews and planning meetings; report writing and the monitoring of pupil progress. This could include training in groups, individual mentoring and regular meetings to discuss issues and needs.
- To provide information and advice to parents on all aspects of supporting children and young people with vision impairment, making regular home visits, helping to co-ordinate support being provided to their children from different agencies and providing information and explanations as required to ensure that parents are able to meet the needs of their children.
- To develop and contribute to in-service training that will encourage good practice and ensure that staff in educational settings can provide a communication and learning environment that is inclusive for pupils with vision impairment.
- To assess and monitor the progress of children on the case list and to liaise with other professionals in multi-disciplinary assessments.
- To work with the Assistive Technology Specialist to assess pupils' needs for specialist equipment.
- To work alongside the Assistive Technology Specialist to train, support and advise pupils and school staff on the use of specialist equipment in schools.
- To deliver the teaching of Braille where required.
- To keep up to date with current educational thinking and practice, including developments particularly related to VI, to develop support strategies and advice on curriculum adaptations appropriate to the needs of the pupils and schools.

- To support key transition periods for pupils with a vision impairment (e.g. from home to nursery, nursery to school and within and between schools and into adult life).
- To support the Complex Needs Panel and the Statutory Assessment process as appropriate including writing reports and/or representing the Local Authority at priority annual reviews and Tribunal appeals if required to do so.
- To take part in annual reviews and other assessment, planning or review meetings as required (e.g. multi-disciplinary assessments; Education and Health Care Plan, CAF or TAC meetings).
- To work collaboratively with the Team Lead/Head of Service for the Specialist Inclusion Team to develop appropriate targets and performance indicators for the team which will contribute to the SEND and Inclusion Business Plan.
- To ensure high professional standards are maintained within the Specialist Team by taking part in the Performance Management process.
- To work effectively in a range of multi-agency partnerships, to establish and maintain professional boundaries with respect to children, families and colleagues.

Promotion of Corporate Values

- Ensure standards of customer care are met in accordance with the Council's Statement of Values. To be aware of the Corporate Plan and how it affects the section. Ensure that a high level of confidentiality is maintained in all aspects of work.

Flexibility

- In order to deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed and the post holder may be required to perform work not specially referred to above. Such duties, however, will fall within the scope of the post, at the appropriate grade.

The Council's Commitment to Equality

- To deliver Barnet council's commitment to equality of opportunity in the provision of its services. All staff are expected to promote equality in the workplace and in the services the council delivers.
- In keeping with this commitment, the postholder will undertake to promote fairness, openness and respect for all in the workplace and in service delivery. This will include monitoring referrals and seeking to reduce any inequalities and promoting cultural competence and cultural responsiveness of staff.

Person Specification

Service:	Specialist Inclusion Services, Education and Skills
Location:	Main council offices at 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW
Job Title:	Qualified Teacher of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment (QTVI)
Grade:	Teachers Pay Scale UP2 – UP3, plus up to 2 SEN allowances (pro-rata), plus a car allowance Term Time only
Post No:	

Post Requirements	Essential/ Desirable	Criteria	Assessed from:
Experience relevant to post	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working in mainstream and/or special school setting with pupils with VI 	A/I
	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of delivering in-service training 	A/I
	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience and knowledge of multi-disciplinary and partnership working 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of curriculum differentiation to meet a range of individual needs 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working with families to support young people, children and babies with VI 	A/I
	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of advisory work 	A/I

Competencies and special aptitudes	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to deliver specialist support, advice and training to schools and other educational settings 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing to a wide range of audiences, including the production of clear, high quality reports on pupils with VI 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good professional networking skills with internal and outside agencies 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective interpersonal skills and ability to build/maintain good relationships, personal and professional boundaries with colleagues, a wide range of professionals, parents and staff at all levels 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to support families in meeting the needs of young children and babies who have visual impairment. 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good organisational, administrative and record keeping skills 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to work effectively as part of a team, meeting objectives and deadlines 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of issues relating to equality of access and opportunity 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of braille, and experience in teaching to pupils 	A/I
Knowledge relevant to the job	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of relevant education legislation and statutory frameworks, particularly the SEN Code of Practice and the Equalities Act 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of inclusive approaches to pupils with VI and other special needs 	A/I
	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of specific assessments and teaching strategies 	A/I
Education	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree or equivalent 	A
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching qualification (QTS) 	A
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory qualification for Teachers of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment. 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualification in Braille. 	A/I
Training	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of continuing professional development 	A/I

	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of keeping up to date with current trends and thinking 	A/I
	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of the application of ICT (hardware and software) to support pupils with VI. 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willingness to further develop ICT skills and knowledge 	A/I
Special job requirements	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full driving licence and use of car 	A/I
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure safeguarding training is kept up to date and procedures are adhered to 	A/I
Genuine Occupational qualification relevant within the terms of legislation	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualified teacher (QTS) 	A
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory qualification for Teachers of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment 	A
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualification in Braille 	A
Commitment to Council's aims and values	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to promoting and implementing the Council's equal opportunities policies 	A/I
	Key: E = essential D = desirable		Key: A = application form I = interview T = Test

Compiled/Reviewed by	Karen Littleton
Date	8.1.25

Key Details

Reporting to: Karen Littleton, Lead Advisory Teacher for Vision

Contract: Permanent, Teachers Pay and Conditions

Salary: Teachers Pay Scale UP2-UP3, plus up to 2 SEN allowances (pro-rata), plus a car allowance

Allowances

- Essential Car Allowance
- Outer London Weighting

Flexible and Hybrid Working

This is a full-time Permanent position. Commitment to flexible and hybrid working.

Voluntary Pension Scheme – Teachers

You will automatically be enrolled as a member of the Teachers' Pension Scheme and are strongly recommended to access the Teachers' Pension website in order to obtain full, accurate and up to date information on all scheme provisions, benefits and options available.

Please note:

"BELS, as a Local Authority Controlled Company, is deemed by the Council to be an associate employer of Barnet Council and is therefore covered under the Modification Order. This means that any continuous service you currently have (within another local government service, or a school or any organisation signed up to the Modification Order) will be transferred with you into BELS"

It is a standard practice that prospective employees are offered the starting point of the pay scale and expect that staff would progress through the spine points on an annual basis. However, if there is a strong case to pay above the minimum of the scale, the Senior Management Team would consider the case.

Application Process

Closing date for applications: 31st January 2025

Interviews will be held on: 4th February 2025

Completing Application Forms

To apply for this post, you must complete an online **application form** available within the job posting under [Recruitment | Barnet Education & Learning Service | London \(bels.org.uk\)](https://www.bels.org.uk) .

Particular attention should be given to the Supporting Information section within the application form. Shortlisting is based on the candidate's ability to meet the selection criteria within the person specification. Therefore, it is essential that you outline clear examples and evidence of how you meet the requirements of the person specification. Examples and evidence should also relate back to the duties/accountabilities contained in the job description.

Reply Details

Your application form must reach us by closing date. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

To apply for this post, please visit: [Recruitment | Barnet Education & Learning Service | London \(bels.org.uk\)](https://www.bels.org.uk)

If you need assistance, please email the BELS HR Team at: hr.barnetbels@barnet.gov.uk quoting job title.

It is important that you complete ALL sections of the application form.

Next Steps

If you are selected for interview, we will contact you by email and/or text message.