Education Assistant (Behaviour) – 1.0 FTE - Temporary
North Middle School Campus

Located in Calgary, Foundations for the Future Charter Academy (FFCA) is the largest public charter school in Alberta, serving over 4000 students in eight campuses throughout the city. We offer educational programming through a distinctive Direct Instruction Teaching and Learning Framework (DITLF) that has been refined and developed within the Alberta context for students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Our mission is to provide a safe and caring environment where the four pillars of our charter, namely academic excellence, character development, parental involvement and staff leadership are valued and fostered.

An Education Assistant (Behaviour) is required for a full-time temporary position at the North Middle School Campus beginning immediately.

The Education Assistant (Behaviour) supports students who may have severe social/emotional and/or behavioural disabilities associated with one or more co-occurring diagnoses including, but not be limited to:

- attention deficit hyperactivity disorder,
- autism spectrum disorder,
- cognitive disabilities,
- fetal alcohol spectrum disorders,
- oppositional defiance disorder,
- sensory processing disorder,
- selective mutism,
- speech / language delays.

Students may demonstrate challenging, and often unsafe, behaviours:

- Avoidance behaviour (running, hiding)
- Aggressive behaviour (hitting, biting)
- Destructive behaviour (throwing, breaking)
- Disruptive behaviour (crying, screaming)
- Self-harming behaviours (hitting, cutting)

The Education Assistant (Behaviour) will support a specific student or small to large group of students, depending on the scheduled daily activities within the class(es) in which they work.

Responsibilities

- Collaborate with internal support team personnel including: classroom teacher(s), campus administrators, parents/guardians, youth development counsellor / family

liaison counsellor, and external service providers such as medical professionals, Calgary Health Region, Calgary and Area Child and Family Services, Youth Justice, AADAC, Youth Shelters to assist students with the identification and achievement of personal behavioural and academic learning goals.

- Participate, in collaboration with other support personnel, in the design, implementation, and assessment of a student's behaviour support plan by documenting behavioural issues and concerns; recording qualitative and quantitative data related to the student's behaviour; communicating information to parents/guardians in order to assist students with the achievement of personal behavioural and academic learning goals.
- Provide coordination with families by communicating with the parent/guardian; meeting with parents/guardians as needed; connecting the family with community resources, working with parenting groups; provide support to parents/caregivers in their development of home-based behavioural plans in order to promote student success, parental partnership and family wellness.
- Design and provide a broad spectrum of activities and experiences by delivering individual and small group instruction such as anger management and social skills development in order to address the personal behavioural and academic learning goals.
- Contribute proactively to the safety and security of the learning environment by identifying and accessing resources, designing and implementing safety plans, and other interventions in order to provide or make available resources/support for students in order achieve their personal behavioural and academic learning goals.
- Contribute proactively to the safety and security of the learning environment by implementing appropriate interventions:
    - ensuring adherence to safety standards
    - providing personal care as required,
    - managing inappropriate behavior, including appropriate implementation of physical restraint techniques when required
    - administering first aid
- Ensure compliance with FFCA policy and administrative procedures as well as relevant provincial legislation, regulation, and policy requirements.
- Perform responsibilities in a professional manner by acting in ways that are consistent with recognizing and respecting each other, working to earn and sustain trust, communicating with each other in ways that promote mutual understanding, using collaborative approaches to problem-solving, decision-making, and creating and maintaining positive working relationships that lead to quality learning experiences for students.
- Support others, e.g., Lunch Program Supervisors, Education Assistants, Teachers, parents by providing programming recommendations for behaviour support as well as in-service opportunities for others in order to build capacity of others in support of student learning.
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications

The successful candidate will possess the following:

- 2-year diploma in a related field (Child and Youth Care, Justice, Social Work) or an Education Assistant certificate with demonstrated knowledge, skills and training in behaviour disabilities
- A minimum of 2 years' experience working with diverse learning students or other severe behavioural needs
- Standard First Aid Certificate
- Current Therapeutic Crisis Intervention, Non-violent Crisis Intervention or equivalent
- Additional certification as required for site specific programs
- Ability to deal with social/emotional and mental health challenges of working with groups of children who are often active and demanding
- Knowledge of related support agencies and professionals within the community
- Demonstrated ability to build relationships with emotionally dysregulated students
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to maintain enthusiasm and commitment with students
- Ability to meet all physical demands and sustain physical exertion

Closing date for applications: This position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

Application Details:

Interested candidates are asked to e-mail a cover letter, resume and 2 references to chloe.graveline@ffca-calgary.com.

While all applicants are thanked for their interest, only those selected for the interview process will be contacted.