



Secretariat for Catholic Education

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF LEARNING SUPPORT EDUCATOR TO WORK IN CHURCH SCHOOLS (MALTA)

The Secretariat for Catholic Education would like to remind all interested applicants that it has zero tolerance policy towards any form of child abuse. The Secretariat for Catholic Education adheres to S.L. 327.546 (Recruitment, Initial Training and Continuous Professional Development of Personnel and Protection of Minors in Compulsory Education Regulations 2016) in its recruitment process.

The Director for Curriculum and Standards within the Secretariat for Catholic Education invites applications for the post of Learning Support Educator III (LSE III). The chosen persons will give support in all Church Schools in Malta. If the need arises, they may be asked to give such support in Gozo too. They will be asked to replace absent LSEs in Church schools when required.

1. Terms and Conditions

- 1.1 This appointment is subject to a probationary period of twelve (12) months.
- 1.2 Persons employed as LSE III shall be placed in Salary Scale 10 (which in 2020 is €20,603.00 per annum, rising by annual increments of €407.67 up to a maximum of €23,049.02) and shall proceed to Salary Scale 9 (currently €21,933.00 x €447.33 - €24,616.98) on completion of five (5) years satisfactory service in the grade.
- 1.3 A LSE III (in salary scale 10) shall receive a class allowance of €1,551 per annum and a work resource fund of €531 per annum.
- 1.4 A selected candidate shall be expected to successfully complete an induction course. Furthermore, s/he shall be required to participate in professional development courses, continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities and in-service training programmes as appropriate to his/her role and functions as indicated by the Education Authorities. She/he shall adopt and work towards the implementation of the school development plan of the particular school/centre s/he is giving service in.

- 1.5 A selected candidate is required to promote independence to learners with a statement. During this time selected candidates are expected to support other learner/s in class as necessary.
- 1.6 A selected candidate shall participate in school activities only when the learner/s they support are taking an active role.
- 1.7 A selected candidate shall be required to work according to the needs of all learners in Church schools as directed by the Service Manager Student Services and/or by the Head of School, Heads of Department (Inclusion) and Assistant Heads of School.

2. Duties and Responsibilities

2.1 The duties and responsibilities of a LSE shall include:

Learning Support

- supporting and collaborating with the class teacher and other colleagues. Under the guidance of the class teacher/subject teacher/s, assisting in the education of all learners in class, in particular learner/s with individual educational needs so that their individual curricular entitlement is ensured and their learning needs are catered for;
- participating fully in Making Action Plans sessions (MAPs);
- writing, developing and implementing Individual Educational Plans (IEPs), for all learners with a statement in class, taking into consideration the feedback from the class/subject teacher/s. This includes adapting lesson plans and preparing resources according to the needs of the learner/s;
- attending IEP and Individual Transition Plan (ITP) meetings;
- reviewing IEPs, including recording and reporting progress of such IEP implementation on a regular basis;
- assisting in the preparation of educational materials and playing an active part in all the components of the instructional and educational process in class under the direction of the class/subject teacher/s;

- participating in the observation, assessment and documentation process of the performance and behaviour of all learners in collaboration with the class/subject teacher/s;
- assessing learners following an adapted curriculum, on their IEP goals, in collaboration with the class/subject teacher/s;
- participating in the respective individual transition programmes to assist students as they move from one educational level to another, from school to school, and from school to work. This will involve handing over of all relevant information and documents to other involved colleagues so as to ensure a smooth transition for the learner;
- promoting an inclusive community of learners, in collaboration with Heads of Department (Inclusion), specialists, resource workers, teachers, parents, students and other stakeholders, where all students are valued and respected. This includes collaborative work in school and with other agencies, such as the Child Development Assessment Unit (CDAU), Resource/Learning Centre, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)'s and other educational and therapeutic environments;
- participating in hydrotherapy, multi-sensory, sensory integration and other sessions, in schools, Resource Centres or other Centres where such services are available, so as to ensure access to educational and personal entitlements of learners;
- promoting at all times the aims, ethos and policies of the school or Resource Centre deployed in, and actively working as a member of the staff team;
- assisting in the preparation, dissemination and use of teaching resources ensuring their upkeep in class, school and Resource/Learning Centres;
- supporting learner/s during activities/therapy sessions held outside the school premises including experiences in the community, work places and other further and higher educational institutions;
- encouraging participation in EU projects and other projects in accordance with the SDP targets and as agreed with the Senior Management Team.

Personal Support

- supporting learners with individual educational needs in their personal care and hygiene needs. This includes:
 - toileting – cleaning and washing, including accompanying the learner to the toilet; undressing and dressing; cleaning, washing and showering; and changing of sanitary towels and incontinence pads;
 - seeing to the mobility, posture and seating needs, including lifting learners and pushing them in wheelchairs according to Health and Safety Regulations issued under the Health and Safety Authority Act taking into consideration international guidelines. The present guidelines shall be:
 - lifting up to twenty-seven (27) kilograms shall be undertaken by one LSE; lifting between twenty-eight (28) and fifty-four (54) kilograms (both inclusive) shall be undertaken by two (2) persons; beyond fifty-four (54) kilograms, a mechanical lift is to be used;
 - pushing wheelchairs: up to forty-five (45) kilograms occasionally; up to twenty-eight (28) kilograms frequently; and up to 9 kilograms as necessary.
 - ensuring the maximum educational benefit and safety for individual learner/s at all times by providing them with assistance during physical education, games, excursions and therapy sessions, as well as normal feeding during mid-morning and mid-day breaks and at other times as required.

Transport-related Duties

- without prejudice to the obligations of the owner and driver of the vehicle concerned regarding the safety of passengers and the full observance of the law and regulations related to transport matters, a LSE may be required to carry out transport-related duties, with learner/s with individual educational needs, should the requirement be indicated by the official statement or by the Head of School or other competent authorities. In such cases, the LSE shall:
 - assist in the boarding and un-boarding of learners on and off the transport vehicle and, in the case of students who are wheelchair/buggy users, put on the restraints on

the wheelchair/buggy and also put on the passenger restraint on the students to ensure safety during transportation;

- carry out transport supervision duties to and from school when the transport of learner/s during normal school hours is necessary; supervision duties carried out outside school hours shall be remunerated at the established rates.
- Performing any other duties assigned by the Service Manager for Student Services according to the exigencies of the Secretariat for Catholic Education and Church Schools.
- Performing any other duties assigned by the Director for Curriculum and Standards according to the exigencies of the Secretariat for Catholic Education and Church Schools.
- Performing any other duties assigned by the Delegate for Catholic Education according to the exigencies of the Secretariat for Catholic Education and Church Schools.
- Using own means of transport for his/her work. S/he will be entitled to the appropriate approved allowance.

3. Eligibility requirements

3.1 By the closing time and date of this call for applications, applicants must be:

(i) (a) citizens of Malta, **OR**

(b) citizens of other Member States of the European Union who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters of employment by virtue of EU legislation and treaty provisions dealing with the free movement of workers; **OR**

(c) citizens of any other country who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment by virtue of the application to that country of EU legislation and treaty provisions dealing with the free movement of workers; **OR**

(d) any other persons who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment in terms of the law or the above-mentioned EU legislation and treaty provisions, on account of their family relationship with persons mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c); **OR**

(e) third country nationals who have been granted long-term resident status in Malta under regulation 4 of the “Status of Long-Term Residents (Third Country Nationals) Regulations; 2006” or who have been granted a residence permit under regulation 18(3) thereof, together with family members of such third country nationals who have been granted a residence permit under the “Family Reunification Regulations, 2007”.

The advice of the Citizenship and Expatriates Department should be sought as necessary in the interpretation of the above provisions.

The appointment of candidates referred to at (b), (c), (d) and (e) above would necessitate the issue of an employment license in so far as this is required by the Immigration Act and subsidiary legislation. The Employment and Training Corporation should be consulted as necessary on this issue.

- (ii) proficient in the Maltese and English Languages;
- (iii) in possession of a full MQF Level 6 qualification or higher, in Inclusive Education or a comparable qualification as determined by the competent authorities;

Qualifications at a level higher than that specified above will be accepted for eligibility purposes, provided they meet any specified subject requirements. A Master’s qualification at MQF Level 7, or equivalent, must comprise a minimum of 60 ECTS/ECVET credits with regard to programmes commencing as from October 2008.

Moreover, candidates who have not yet formally obtained any of the above-mentioned qualifications will still be considered, provided that they submit evidence that they have been approved for the award of the qualifications in question, or successfully completed the necessary ECTS/ECVET credits, or equivalent, taken as part of a recognised MQF level programme of study, as required in the afore-mentioned eligibility criteria or higher, by the closing time and date of the call for applications.

- (iv) Of good moral character; applicants must produce a Certificate of Conduct issued by the Police or other competent authority not earlier than one (1) month from the date of application.

- 3.2 Due consideration will be given to applicants who, besides the requisites indicated in paragraph 3.1, have proven relevant work experience.
- 3.3 Prospective applicants should note the requirement to produce MQRIC recognition statements in respect of their qualifications from the Malta Qualifications and Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC), or other designated authorities, as applicable.
- 3.4 In the case that no suitable applicants will be found for the post, applicants who are in possession of a full qualification at MQF Level 5 (Diploma), in facilitating Inclusive Education, that makes them eligible for the post of LSE II, will be considered for the post on condition that they satisfy criteria 3.1 (i), (ii) and (iv). The salary for the post of LSE II is Salary Scale 12, which in 2020 is, €18,412.00 per annum, rising by annual increments of €354.00 up to a maximum of €20,266.00. A LSE II will progress to Salary Scale 10, which in 2020 is, €20,603.00 per annum, rising by annual increments of €407.67 up to a maximum of €23,049.02, after 5 years' satisfactory service in Salary Scale 12. Allowances commensurate with scale.
- 3.5 In the case that no suitable applicants will be found for the post, applicants who are in possession of an award at MQF Level 5 (Certificate), in facilitating Inclusive Education, that makes them eligible for the post of LSE I, will be considered for the post on condition that they satisfy criteria 3.1 (i), (ii) and (iv). The salary for the post of LSE I is Salary Scale 15, which in 2020 is, €14,821.00 per annum, rising by annual increments of €298.00 up to a maximum of €16,609.00. A LSE I will progress to Salary Scale 14, which in 2020 is €15,870.00 x €316.83 - €17,770.98, on completion of five (5) years' service in the grade of LSE I in Salary Scale 15, subject to satisfactory performance, and will further progress to Salary Scale 13, which in 2020 is €16,985.00 x €335.50 - €18,998.00, on completion of another five (5) years' service in the grade of LSE I in Salary Scale 14, subject to satisfactory performance. Allowances commensurate with scale.
- 3.6 In the case that no suitable applicants will be found for the post, the employment of Supply LSEs will be considered. The salary for the post of Supply LSE is Salary Scale 15, which in 2020 is, €14,821.00 per annum – definite contract for one year, allowance for supply grades applies.

4. Submission of Supporting Documentation

- 4.1 Qualifications and experience claimed must be supported by certificates and/or testimonials, copies of which should be attached to the application. Diploma/Degree/Post-Graduate certificates or comparable qualifications must be accompanied by a transcript (Diploma/Certificate supplement) in English, showing the Degree obtained and the final classification.

4.2 **The Accreditation Letter issued by the Accreditation Unit of the Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education, confirming eligibility for the LSE III, LSE II, LSE 1 or Supply LSE post, should be sent with the letter of application. Prospective candidates can apply online on: <https://edumalta.gov.mt/en/accreditation-application-form>.**

4.3 Original certificates and/or testimonials are to be invariably produced for verification at the interview.

5. Selection Procedure

5.1 Eligible applicants will be interviewed by a selection board to assess their suitability for the post.

5.2 The results will be published on the notice board of the Secretariat for Catholic Education within fifteen (15) working days of the interviews.

6. Submission of Applications

6.1 A letter of application in own handwriting, accompanied by a CV, will be received in the first instance by the **Director for Curriculum and Standards** by not later than **noon of Monday 30th March, 2020**. Applications by post should be sent by registered mail to the address below, in sufficient time to ensure delivery by the above-mentioned closing date. The applications will be acknowledged by the Director for Curriculum and Standards for Church Schools. **Late applications shall not be considered.**

**Mr Ian Mifsud
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