

## Specialist Support Professional – Vision Impairment (SSP-VI)

### Job Purpose

The Specialist Support Professional - Vision Impairment (SSP-VI) provides specialist one-to-one support to students with visual impairments studying in Higher Education. The role focuses on enabling students to participate independently and effectively in all aspects of academic life through the provision of specialist support, adaptation of learning materials, access to visual information, orientation within learning environments, and development of strategies that promote independent learning.

The SSP-VI works collaboratively with students, academic staff, disability advisers, assistive technology trainers, and other support professionals to remove barriers to learning whilst maintaining the student's autonomy and independence.

### Key Responsibilities

- Provide specialist one-to-one support to Higher Education students with visual impairments in line with DSA recommendations.
- Facilitate equal access to lectures, seminars, tutorials, assessments, placements, and wider university activities.
- Accurately describe and interpret visual information to support learning and participation.
- Promote student independence by developing effective study, organisational, and self-advocacy skills.
- Support students to access learning materials, digital resources, and assistive technologies.
- Liaise with academic staff, disability advisers, and other professionals to implement reasonable adjustments and accessible practices.
- Maintain accurate records, complete required documentation, and adhere to confidentiality, safeguarding, and GDPR requirements.
- Engage in ongoing professional development and maintain up-to-date knowledge of visual impairment and inclusive practice.

### Person Specification

### Essential Knowledge and Experience

- Experience of supporting individuals with visual impairments.
- Understanding of the social model of disability and inclusive practice.
- Knowledge of the impact of vision impairment within Higher Education settings.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to describe visual information clearly and accurately.
- Ability to work independently and use professional judgement.
- Competent IT skills and experience of accessible technologies.

## **Desirable**

- Experience supporting students in Higher Education.
- Knowledge of DSA-funded support.
- Experience working with braille users.
- Experience supporting students during placements and practical learning activities.
- Knowledge of accessibility legislation and inclusive learning principles.

## **Qualifications**

In accordance with the Department for Education NMH Qualification Matrix (July 2023), SSP-VI staff should hold one of the following:

### **Essential**

#### **One of the following:**

- A recognised qualification relating to visual impairment, sensory impairment, rehabilitation, education, disability support, social care, or a closely related field.
- Qualified Teacher of Children and Young People with Vision Impairment (QTVI) status. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk)
- Degree-level qualification together with substantial professional experience supporting individuals with visual impairments in education or training environments.

## Preferred

- Mandatory Qualification in Sensory Impairment (Vision Impairment).
- Rehabilitation Worker for Visual Impairment qualification.
- Specialist training in assistive technology for visually impaired learners.
- Training in braille, tactile graphics, or accessible document production.

## Professional Requirements

- Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students.
- Enhanced DBS check (where required).
- Evidence of ongoing Continuing Professional Development (CPD).
- Ability to travel between Higher Education campuses where required.

## Core Values and Behaviours

The postholder will demonstrate:

- Commitment to inclusion and equality of opportunity.
- Respect for student autonomy and independence.
- Professional integrity and confidentiality.
- Collaborative working with students and stakeholders.
- Student-centred practice focused on empowerment rather than dependency.

If you are interested, please contact us at [AmanoRecruitment@amanotech.com](mailto:AmanoRecruitment@amanotech.com) with your CV for a discussion about the role