



Lower School Learning Specialist - Primary Grades

Carrollwood Day School is seeking an experienced interventionist to join our Learning Support and Lower School Teams as our Primary (lower elementary) Grades Learning Specialist. Ideal candidates will have strong credentials and experience specific to this position, will be passionate about supporting our youngest students, and will have equal affinity for working with and supporting their teachers.

Carrollwood Day School (<http://www.carrollwooddayschool.org>) is a progressive International Baccalaureate (IB) independent school located in North Tampa, FL. Since its beginning in 1982 as an early childhood center, Carrollwood Day School has grown to serve more than 1200 students from age two through 12th grade. CDS is recognized nationally for its academic excellence and its innovative school-wide emphasis on character development.

The **vision of Carrollwood Day School** is to build a community prepared and inspired to better the world. As an IB World School, we cultivate principled entrepreneurial thinkers for a global society by enriching the mind, strengthening the character, and inspiring the passions of our community.

Carrollwood Day School embraces and celebrates the rich diversity of our students, employees, and families from all backgrounds. As an International Baccalaureate continuum school, CDS strives to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment where each person is valued. We work to intentionally develop cross-cultural competency and appreciation of differences within all constituents. We value the influence of a wide range of experiences and perspectives in our classrooms, relationships, and interactions as we prepare our students to contribute to a diverse and interconnected world.

Carrollwood Day School is one of only 36 independent schools in the United States to offer the full curriculum/continuum of IB programmes from early childhood through college prep (PYP, MYP, and DP). In 2019, CDS was honored to become one of only 15 U.S. schools to earn membership in the Cum Laude Society and also offer an International Baccalaureate education.

The Position of Lower School Learning Specialist - Primary Grades:

As a cooperative member of the Learning Support and Lower School teams, the Specialist will work closely with both teachers and our youngest students (up to 2nd Grade) and provide support and resources that will elevate classroom instruction and support students through small group and 1:1 interactions. Candidates should demonstrate a passion for teaching, a passion for working with our early elementary students, strong communication skills, a desire to work within a team, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

Essential Job Responsibilities:

- Support and advance the Mission of the School
- Foster a learning environment that is student-centered and that supports students' academic, social and emotional needs
- Work with small groups or individual elementary students in reading and math intervention skills
- Provide positive behavior support for early elementary students and faculty
- Serve as a resource teacher for students in primary grades, modeling lessons, pushing in and and/or pulling out students for support, as needed
- Collaboratively work with classroom teachers to make sure the academic skills and interventions are aligned with the CDS and IB PYP curricula
- Employ teaching practices rooted in current brain-based research and utilize a variety of instructional strategies to engage students and foster their intellectual curiosity
- Differentiate teaching and learning based on students' cognitive needs and learning style

- Develop academic and/or behavior goals for students, provide appropriate interventions, and monitor students' responses to intervention
- Conduct classroom observations and collaborate with faculty to develop appropriate academic and behavioral support plans
- Provide consistent oral and written communication to faculty, students, and families
- Review psychoeducational evaluations and partner with academic team and parents to generate accommodation plans, maintaining these plans annually
- Develop curriculum and faculty training with department members
- Actively engage with the Learning Support Team, the Lower School team, and the greater CDS community
- Partner and cooperate with teachers and counselors to identify and assess student needs and help students solve learning, health, and attitude problems
- Participate in faculty committees and the sponsorship of student activities, occasionally including off-campus field trips and class trips
- Maintain subject matter expertise and professional competence by attending staff development programs, curriculum development meetings and through other professional development
- Model and foster non-discriminatory practices and a global mindset
- Be a role model of integrity and professionalism
- Be a team player; cheerfully participate in and/or assist with pick-up and drop-off, lunch duty, assemblies, field trips, open house, and other duties and routines regularly part of a K-12 independent school environment
- Maintain regular and punctual attendance requirements, including attending division and other School meetings, professional days, graduation, and other required events.
- Adhere to School policies as described in the Employee Handbook and other materials

Qualifications and Attributes Needed for Success:

- Master's degree in appropriate field required, Reading or Special Education preferred
- Strong background in childhood development required
- Strong background in developmentally appropriate intervention strategies
- Successful teaching experience in PK through 5 grade
- Preferred: Experience in an independent school
- Preferred: 3+ years as learning specialist, interventionist, or similar
- Preferred: Experience with the IB/PYP Programme
- Have or be willing to complete within one year, the Category One training with the IB; may be required to do training over the summer. CDS pays for the cost of the training.
- Strong understanding of the academic, social, and emotional development of young children
- Strong collaborative skills and eagerness to work with colleagues
- Strong proficiency in the Google suite of products (docs, sheets, drive, classroom, etc.)
- Excellent verbal, written and presentation communication skills
- Have an interest in engaging with the greater CDS community beyond the traditional school day
- A high degree of professionalism, collegiality, and personal conduct both in and outside of school
- Ability, willingness, and judgment to interact and communicate effectively and positively with all constituents in a school environment
- Comfortable with ambiguity and change inherent in a school environment; willingness to adapt and pivot as needed
- Enthusiasm and commitment to the vision and mission of the School

Compensation includes a comprehensive employee benefits package; CDS offers a competitive salary commensurate with background and experience.

Qualified candidates should send a resume/CV, a statement of interest, and salary expectations to Dawn Wilson, Head of Lower School: dwilson@cdspatriots.org