

Committed and Adaptable Sennie (SEN NANNY/MANNY) for B5

Location: Belsize Park, NW3

Wage / Salary: £17- £20 p/h gross (rate offered will be dependent on experience) / £15,028 - £26,000 gross p/a (These salaries are offered as an approximation only) This can be offered as a pro-rata salary.

Live - Out

Driver non essential

Essential Skills/Traits:

- Previous work experience with Autism/Autistic children
- Calm and patient approach
- Demonstrable experience supporting distressed behaviours
- Physically fit and active
- Knowledge or understanding of therapies such as speech and language and occupational therapy and/or understanding of strategies that work best for autistic individuals and how to implement these at home
- Organised and capable of planning activities and days out

Desirable Skills/Traits:

- Prior experience with non-verbal/pre-verbal communicators
- Has previously taught / tutored literacy to young children
- Confident and comfortable singing and/or music skills
- Comfortable and confident swimming with a child

Pets: No pets

Start Date: ASAP

Days & Hours: *Term time: 3 - 5 days per week (Monday - Friday)*
2.30pm - 6.30pm OR 3pm - 7pm

The family are able to offer a level of flexibility regarding days / hours worked, providing this is agreed / specified upon application

Holidays and School closures: 4 -5 days per week (Monday - Friday)
9.30am - 5.30pm

Ideally 5 days holiday cover is preferred however the family can be flexible for the right candidate

About the family: SENNIES are pleased to be working alongside this fantastic family to find an after school and school holiday Sennie for their lovely little boy, in North London, who is an only child.

The family are looking for a Sennie who can demonstrate prior experience supporting a primary aged autistic child, to care for and nurture their child's needs. The parents are very knowledgeable and have a strong grasp / understanding of what might be the best approach for their son, but equally welcome open communication and discussion about any new or right ways to support him and his development. They are a friendly and relaxed family who are very easy to talk to and open minded. They are looking for a Sennie who is able to commit or wants to commit to a family long-term.

About B5: B5 is a cheerful little boy. He loves animals and really enjoys the outdoors and spending time in nature. He is very into trains/transport and also likes listening to and experiencing all types of music. He also enjoys going on excursions, food and cooking/baking, numbers/shapes, building things, being read to and sensory play. He is a very active child and loves to play on his trampoline and do gymnastics. The family think it is likely he will be good at maths, so a Sennie who can encourage and nurture this would be ideal.

B5 is autistic with delayed verbal communication - currently, he is able to use short simple sentences or responses and the family are actively encouraging him to speak to ask for things, or when engaging with a storybook or to comment, as and when possible. They are also very aware that sometimes, verbalising can be hard/tiring for B5, especially if they are unsure of how his day has gone so far, and so it is also important to respond to his nonverbal communication too, and incorporate language modelling when interacting with him.

Whilst he is pre-verbal, he is aware and understanding of what is going on around him and what people say to him (in line with a 5 year olds reasoning). The family uses concise and clear language with B5, so it's easier for him to process, which the Sennie should be able to continue to implement. They also empathise with him out loud and will say or discuss with him what they think his emotions are, when he is upset/distressed. The Sennie should continue to use this method of communication so that as B5 develops his own communication skills, the family can try to problem solve issues together with him.

B5 has several stims that he uses as a form of expression and as a way to self regulate/soothe which the family don't discourage, however any potentially dangerous stims such as putting objects in his mouth or movement that could put him in others/harm's way, they will try to redirect to stims that can offer a similar sensation such as silicone chewies or deep pressure.

B5 has some hypersensitivity around noise and so it is important to be mindful of that.

The family are trying to help him become more independent with his self care, using backward chaining and fading of prompts. They are encouraging him to play with other children at the playground when appropriate and are hoping to set up some playdates with his classmates in the summer, which the Sennie should be happy to help organise and supervise.

It is important that the Sennie takes a forward thinking approach when working with B5 and is open to experiencing the world through his eyes. His safety is very important so hand holding near dangerous spaces like roads etc is expected, however the Sennie is encouraged to walk, skip or run with him depending on his physical need at the time. He may need further proprioceptive input and for example, lie down on a pavement, this is not considered a bad behaviour and as long as he is safe, is perfectly fine for him to do. B5 is hypermobile and this combined with his decreased body awareness means he may get tired without realising which should be taken into account. The Sennie should be switched on to this and allow plenty of time for any activity or journey to account for his needs in this way

It is important to praise effort more than achievement and the family veer away from using rewards to encourage self-motivation.

B5 uses an app, similar to a digital PECS (Picture exchange communication) board, to help on days outside of the normal routine which the Sennie should be comfortable to work with and utilise.

Their Key Areas for Support/Development are:

- Aiding B5 in his social interactions and developing his communication skills

- Helping B5 in moments of distress to self-soothe/regulate and support sensitively
- Continuing any useful interventions or strategies with B5 at home as advised by his specialists
- Encouraging B5's independence and self-care
- Planning, preparing and providing indoor and outdoor activities/days out and encouraging new activities
- Supporting with school work

It's important to note that the family allows B5 to self-regulate in safe ways, and does not want people using behaviourist/behavioral techniques with him.

About the role: The selected Sennie will provide after school and holiday care on a sole-charge basis. Due to COVID-19 parents may be working from home, however the Sennie should behave as though this is a sole-charge position but be comfortable and capable of working alongside the parents as and when they are around and want to be involved with their child.

The Sennie should have a calm and patient nature, whilst also being able to keep up with the physical demands of taking care of an energetic 5 year old. They should be capable of continuing the strategies for B5 that are already in place, whilst being able to bring forward their own ideas and keep open and consistent communication with the parents.

Main Duties include:

- Picking B5 up from the school bus
- Liaising with his school assistant to find out any relevant information for B5 and/or his parents
- Preparing and providing snacks and dinner
- Prompting B5 with his personal care including regularly using the toilet
- Engaging B5 in his preferred activities
- Supporting B5 in his key areas for development throughout the day
- Schoolwork such as reading practice daily
- Taking to and from after school activities such as circus school and music sessions
- Creating plans and days out for B5 in school holidays including museum trips, zoo trips and swimming
- Sending photos/messages to update the family regularly
- Light nursery duties such as: Tidying away toys, clearing up after a messy play activity and wiping down after a meal

- Handover with parents at the end of the day to communicate how the day went and pass on relevant or important information

The family are looking for a caring, intuitive and dedicated Special Educational Needs Nanny, who can provide fantastic and fun care for their child. The Sennie selected will be able to follow and support therapies and interventions determined by the family (in conjunction with the Sennie) and professionals. A genuine passion for working with children and special educational needs is a must.