

Care Farm Education and Wellbeing Officer Day 6 Provision

Job Description and Person Specification

Reports to: Care Farm Manager

Contract: Permanent Term Time (40 weeks)

Hours: 22.5 per week (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday) - Position available from 21st October 2024

Based at: The Willows Care Farm, Broughton Gifford

JOB PURPOSE

To make a major contribution to the delivery of our Strategic Plan Objective to *'Enable people to engage with nature to improve their health and wellbeing'* by developing, delivering and evaluating a programme of nature-based learning and education.

This post has arisen due to the continuing success of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's Care Farm provision at Lakeside on Lower Moor Nature Reserve and The Willows near Melksham. Each provides one-to-one nature-based therapeutic activities for children, young people, and adults with additional needs, social and communication difficulties, mental ill-health, and those needing emotional support. The post has arisen due to the expansion of an innovative pilot project with Wiltshire Council as part of their 'Day 6 Provision'.

Day 6 Provision: Wiltshire Council must arrange suitable full-time education for any primary or secondary aged pupil to begin from the sixth school day after the first day of a permanent exclusion. This role addresses that need in that we will offer a bespoke Alternative Provision package for up to five half day sessions per week for a primary child or secondary young person who has been permanently excluded. There will usually be a limit of a Day 6 child/young person being with us for 12 weeks (up to 2.5 days per week), but the number of weeks may be extended in exceptional circumstances. During times when no Day 6 students are placed with us the post holder will, needs dependent, work at The Willows supporting other staff, undertaking site tasks and covering staff absences, for example. It will be a very dynamic role that will require great flexibility, sometimes at short notice.

DIMENSIONS

There are no line management or budgetary dimensions to this post.



MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The main duties and responsibilities may include all or some of the below:

1. Deliver, plan and evaluate a range of bespoke targeted nature-based programmes and activities for Care Farm students on a one-to-one basis during term time to age groups 5-16 as part of the Day 6 Provision pilot programme
2. To report to the Safeguarding Leads any concerns regarding the welfare of a student
3. Working with the Head of Care Farms and Care Farm Managers, to comply with the referral process and develop a bespoke programme for each Day 6 student in liaison with Wiltshire Council's Alternative Provision Strategic Lead
4. Support and maintain excellent relationships with all partners and stakeholders
5. Record children and young people's achievements, developments and concerns in line with the agreed reporting processes
6. Assist with animal care, horticulture, grounds maintenance and housekeeping as required
7. Lead the setting up, running and clear up of activities
8. Work with the Care Farm Managers and Head of Care Farms to develop good communication links and ensure information is being shared appropriately about students' engagement and development
9. Support the Trust's work as an accredited provider of AQA accreditations
10. Help to maintain and develop accurate monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems as required by the Trust, funders and partners
11. To cover sessions at The Willows Care Farm when not working with Day 6 Provision children/young people
12. Where agreed, to deliver and help plan and evaluate a range of nature-based programmes and activities for child and youth organisations during school holidays
13. Where agreed, to help cover sessions at Lakeside Care Farm on an ad hoc basis
14. Any other duties as may be reasonably requested

Other

1. Maintain an understanding and commitment to the delivery of the Trust's Strategic Plan
2. Comply fully with the Trust's policies and procedures as detailed in the Staff Manual
3. Comply fully with the Trust's Health and Safety policies and procedures, including adherence to dynamic risk assessment protocols
4. Comply fully with the Trust's Safeguarding policies and procedures
5. To champion the importance of environmental learning and education and the work of the Trust and the achievements of our students and users.
6. Attend training (e.g. Team Teach, First Aid, Safeguarding), team meetings, TD days, staff conferences and briefings as required



7. Carry out any other duties as may be reasonably requested

SAFEGUARDING

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk. All WWT staff will receive safeguarding training and must ensure that they comply with WWT's safeguarding policy.

WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

With a background of many years of collaborative working, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust is an approved provider of Alternative Provision for Wiltshire Council. As such we were approached to work on a programme with them focussed on Day 6 Provision. In liaison with Care Farm Managers the post holder will lead this innovative project at The Willows and will implement all required reporting and monitoring procedures. The post holder will work alongside the Education & Wellbeing Officers and volunteers.

KEY CHALLENGES

This post requires the ability to work outside in all weathers all year around in what can be a physically and emotionally challenging environment. Working closely one-to-one with a Day 6 child has its challenges, mainly focussed on emotional load and behaviours that challenge, but also in developing stimulating activities with an individual child/young person over several weeks for up to 5 half day sessions per week. The short time span a Day 6 child is at the Care Farm may also provide further challenges in that strong relationships may not have had time to be built before a child moves on. Further, the post holder will be required to show great flexibility.

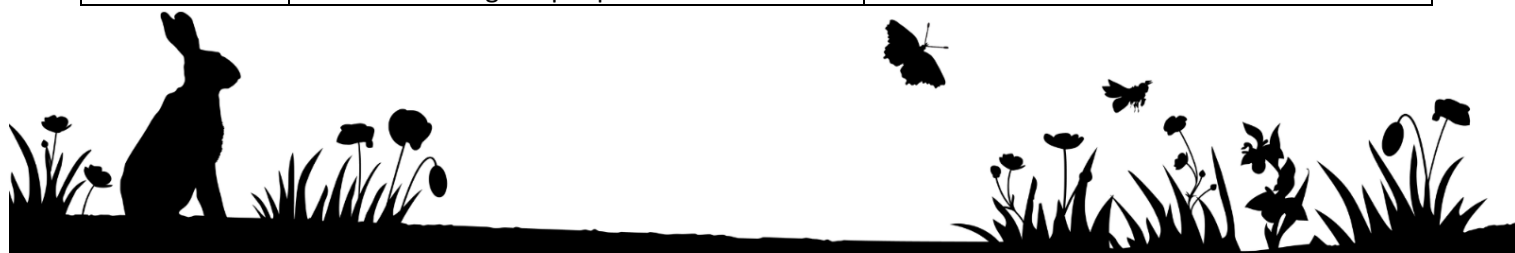
SCOPE FOR IMPACT

There is scope to contribute to increasing the Trust's commercial income in this role enabling the expansion of existing services. Further, a successful programme may lead to the further expansion of Day 6 provision at the Trust, further adding to the commercial income and WWT's reputation as an Alternative Provision setting.



EXPERIENCE, QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRED

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recognised Level 4+ qualification in a relevant subject • A recognised teaching qualification. • Team Teach trained • Forest School Level 3 qualification • Outdoor First Aid qualification • SEND training
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive experience of working with and delivering activities to children, young people and/or adults on a one-to-one basis • Experience of working with individuals with diverse and complex needs, poor mental health and/or behaviours that challenge • Experience of delivering outdoor learning activities • Knowledge of Health & Safety requirements/Risk Assessments • Good working knowledge of, and commitment to, the principles of safeguarding and child protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with schools • Experience of undertaking practical activities such as horticulture and woodworking • Experience of Forest School sessions • An understanding of conservation and sustainability issues
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good organisation and time management skills • Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines • Ability to adhere to safeguarding and health and safety requirements • Must be able to work on own initiative and take responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creativity • Training and Development Skills.
Personal attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal • Ability to motivate others, particularly young people • Ability to enthuse all about the natural world • Ability to engage and communicate with a wide range of people 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work as part of a small team and independently • Sense of humour 	
Additional requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work outside in all weathers in what can be a physically and emotionally challenging outdoor environment • Willingness to occasionally work unsociable hours, including evenings, Bank Holidays and weekends 	

Special note:

This job description does not form part of the contract of employment but indicates how that contract should be performed. The job description will be subject to periodic review and amendment in consultation with the post holder. The post holder may be required to perform duties other than those given in this job description. The duties and responsibilities attached to the post may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or the level of the responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and would not in themselves justify the re-evaluation of a post. In cases, however, where a permanent and substantial change in the duties of the post occurs, consistent with a higher level of responsibility, then the post would be eligible for re-evaluation.

THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS ACT

The provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act relating to the non-disclosure of spent convictions do not apply to this job.

YOU MUST, THEREFORE, DISCLOSE WHETHER YOU HAVE ANY PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS.

This role involves engaging in regulated activity with children, thus if the applicant is barred from engaging in this activity it is an offence for them to apply.

If successful, you will be required to apply for a Disclosure and Barring Check from the Disclosure & Barring Service. The level of check required for this job is an Enhanced Disclosure for children and adults.

A copy of our Policy Statement and Code of Practice is available on request.

