



Job description

School Gardener

Accountable to: Park and Gardens Manager

Accountable for: Volunteers, Work experience students.

JOB PROFILE:

The successful applicant will be involved in the maintenance and ongoing development of all the ornamental garden areas around the school, boarding houses and communal areas of Gatton Park to ensure that they are kept to a high standard. The school gardener will work alongside The Gatton Trust team and be involved in their activities which will require some flexible working hours.

KEY RESULT AREAS:

The post holder shall:

School and Parkland Gardens

- Assist in the overall management of the school grounds under the direction of the Park and Gardens Manager to meet the wider objectives of the School.
- Ensure all practical work is carried out to the highest standards. This will include weeding, pruning, planting, grass cutting, strimming, hedge cutting, leaf clearance and fencing.
- Be responsible for the safe operation, maintenance and record keeping of horticultural equipment.
- Work with Park and Gardens Manager to plan priorities for the gardens to compile short term work plans as well as long term goals.

Supervision of volunteers, work experience placements

- To supervise volunteers and student work placements as required.

Royal Alexandra & Albert School gardening

- Assist the RAAS teaching staff and Park and Gardens Manager in the planning and running of gardening-linked activities for pupils at the school.

Health and Safety

- Take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and of others.
- Ensure all aspects of Health and Safety are carried out to national regulations and standards and that RAAS policy on Health and Safety is fully implemented.
- Conduct workplace inspections, machinery inspections etc as required.
- Write and implement risk assessments and other safety works as directed by the Park and Gardens Manager.

General & Administration

- Be accountable for own development through the Performance and Development Review (appraisal) process seeking out opportunities to learn new skills. Undertake training courses, workshops etc as and when required.

In addition, all employees are expected to work within the terms of their contract of employment and adhere to RAAS Foundation policies and the Required Ways of Working.

DIMENSIONS OF THE ROLE:

Gatton Park Internal Contacts

- *Park and Gardens Manager, Gatton Trust Chief Executive, RAAS Bursar, Estate Manager, Volunteer & community Project Officer, Park Warden, RAAS Headmaster, RAAS Maintenance Manager.*

External Contacts

- *Grounds maintenance contractors*

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE:

Knowledge

Essential:

- A passion for gardening and the landscape
- Motivation to work towards the goals of the RAAS Foundation
- Sound horticultural knowledge demonstrated by relevant horticultural qualification or gardening experience
- Full driving Licence
- Practical qualifications/experience with Lawnmowers, Brushcutters, hedgecutters, and leaf blowers

Desirable:

- Tractor Driving and use of tractor implements
- Herbicide application Pa1, Pa6a
- Practical qualifications in Chainsaw use
- HSE approved First Aid qualification

Skills

Essential:

- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work on own or as part of a team
- A well organised and methodical approach
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Experience

Essential:

- Experience of practical horticulture ideally in a similar setting

Desirable:

- Experience of working in a school environment
- Experience of organising and implementing work plans

The Royal Alexandra and Albert School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including an Enhanced DBS check