

Gardening and Outdoor Teacher

Job Description

Position:	Gardening and Outdoor Teacher
Appointed by:	School Leadership Team
Reports to:	Senior Lower School Teacher
Position:	Full-time position, 37.5 hours per week during term-time plus occasional evenings for meetings and attendance at INSET Open to job share
	Core hours: 8.00am – 3:20pm (to include 30 minutes break, unpaid); Department meeting on Tuesdays 3:30-5pm and Faculty on Thursdays 3:30-5pm; plus occasional evenings and weekends
Salary:	£25,000 pa
Type of Contract:	Permanent
Deadline for Applications:	Open until filled
Start Date:	1st September 2022 (would consider a start later in the term / January 2023)

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment

Cambridge Steiner School is an independent and progressive Steiner School that has a strong commitment to outdoor education. This led us to invest in a full time outdoor teacher from 2017 whose task it was to develop an outdoor program based on the Steiner Waldorf Curriculum for our school. Outdoor education now occupies a central place in the life of the school and in the hearts of the children, teachers and parents.

The school is in a village on the outskirts of Cambridge. Whilst our outdoor space is relatively modest compared with some more rural schools, we are committed to making the most of it to provide varied and rich outdoor learning experiences for our children. We have recently developed the outdoor space to expand the vegetable garden, and we are building a new green woodwork shop and have plans to develop the site further. The location allows us easy access to a number of nature reserves. We also have links to a local CSA Farm.

Main features of the position

Cambridge Steiner School is looking for a dynamic, hands on and passionate teacher to join the staff body as the Outdoor and gardening Teacher. The ideal candidate will be a doer; someone with experience of working with young people outdoors, gardening and growing vegetables, a love of the natural world and with an ability to turn their hand to a variety of practical skills that form part of the outdoor curriculum, such as the construction of simple building projects. The candidate will inspire pupils to feel connected to and engaged with the outdoor curriculum.

The primary focus of this post is to teach the Steiner Waldorf outdoor classroom curriculum, specifically as developed at our school, across Classes 1-10 (ages 6-16). They will also be responsible for the further development of this curriculum. They will have an interest in and ability to learn new practical skills and a willingness to share these with the children. They will lead nature walks with the younger classes and be responsible for planning and overseeing school trips and expeditions.

Key Responsibilities

Gardening/ Outdoor Teaching Duties

1. To take overall responsibility for the outdoor curriculum including curriculum development and integration, including updating and reviewing relevant documentation
2. To teach the outdoor education lessons from Class 1 upwards
3. To lead woodland sessions to teach bushcraft and outdoor living skills
4. To plan and teach main lesson block in building to class 3/4 and supporting main lessons in other relevant subject areas
5. To support, under the direction of the class teachers, SENDCo and professionals, the education and welfare of pupils
6. To manage the outdoor education budget for materials, resources and outdoor areas
7. To take overall responsibility for the classes including:
 - a) teaching, supervising, managing and assessing the pupils
 - b) liaising with colleagues and parents
 - c) record keeping and report writing in accordance with statutory and school requirements
8. To undertake appropriate preparation, study and training as necessary both for the effective delivery of the lessons/curriculum and to advance the school's ethos and objectives
9. To maintain the teaching space
10. To attend weekly Lower school staff meetings and faculty meetings
11. To develop and present workshops and lectures for parents and the wider community
12. To oversee and take some day to day responsibility for the maintenance of the school grounds
13. To manage the further development and enhancement of the grounds
14. To lead inset/staff training days on practical skills and outdoor learning
15. To plan and lead trips and expeditions, which form part of the practical skills and outdoor curriculum. To oversee school trips and policies relating to trips and outdoor education, in line with national guidance
16. To prepare and review risk assessments relating to the practical skills/outdoor curriculum, as well as the outdoor space
17. To meet with the class teachers to plan and coordinate lessons / learning activities
18. To act as the school liaison with the Woodland Trust and the Fulbourn Estate to ensure we maintain a positive relationship with both of these
19. To maintain and care for tools and equipment

General duties

1. To support the school's ethos, principles and objectives
2. To be available for supply teaching in the Lower School
3. To ensure that all resources and materials are prepared for class use
4. To attend out of school hours meetings, such as parent evenings, when necessary
5. To attend school and staff meetings as necessary
6. To participate in work, study and training days during school holidays and as required
7. To be familiar with all school policies and rules, and in particular to ensure that the Health and Safety Policy is followed
8. To participate in the appraisal of own work performance and contribute to peer appraisals and observations

Person Specification

This section details the knowledge, skills and experience required for the role.

Essential	Desirable
Knowledge	
Knowledge of DIY / basic construction	Knowledge of the Steiner Waldorf curriculum
Knowledge of child development and the curriculum relevant to the age group to be taught	Knowledge of local flora and fauna, stories and uses
Qualifications and Skills	
Excellent planning and organisational skills	Forest school training
Practical/ hand skills	QTS
Bushcraft/woodland skills / willingness to undergo necessary training	
Green woodworking skills / willingness to undergo necessary training	
Steiner Waldorf teacher training / foundation course (prelude or equivalent) OR Practical skills teacher training course (pyrites) or equivalent training in outdoor/practical skills (willingness to undertake training if not held)	
	Skills in traditional crafts
Experience	
Experience growing vegetables/gardening	Experience teaching in a Steiner Waldorf school
Experience teaching/leading groups relevant to the age groups to be taught	Experience teaching adults
	Other teaching experience 6-16yr olds
Attributes	
Hand on / practical person	
Deep love of the natural world	
Sense of humour	
Ability to use initiative and be self-motivating	
Ability to connect with pupils and support their varied needs	

Ability to work flexibly, with a positive attitude	
Willingness to develop self and skills	
Willingness and ability to work independently and as part of a team	
Creativity to plan and deliver inspiring lessons	

Cambridge Steiner School is an Equal Opportunities and Safe Recruitment employer. We do not discriminate on the grounds of race, age, disability, sex, marital status, sexuality, ethnicity, religion or any other grounds upon which discrimination can occur as defined in law. All employees will be vetted for suitability to work with children and young people, and all appointments will be subject to the following:

- Satisfactory DBS and any other statutory checks as required.
- Satisfactory references.
- Proof of eligibility to work in the UK.

To apply

Please complete an application form, which can be found on the school website, and along with your cover letter paying particular attention to demonstrating how your experience, skills and qualifications match the personal specification, send it to Damian Mooncie: admin@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk.