

Job description

Gardener

Accountable to: Park and Gardens Manager

Accountable for: Volunteers, Work experience students.

JOB PROFILE:

The successful applicant will be responsible for leading groups of gardening volunteers in the historic garden areas as well as assisting the school gardener in maintenance around the gardens in the school and boarding houses. Assistance to be given when necessary to Park and Gardens Manager, Park Warden and RAAS School Gardener.

KEY RESULT AREAS:

The post holder shall:

Supervision of volunteers, work experience placements

- To supervise gardening volunteers in the historic gardens.
- Completing maintenance work on a regular basis as well small projects to improve the gardens.

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.

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
- Experience of working directly with volunteers or strong people skills
- Motivation to work towards the goals of the RAAS Foundation
- Sound horticultural knowledge demonstrated by relevant horticultural qualification or gardening experience
- Full driving Licence

Desirable:

- Practical qualifications/experience with Lawnmowers, Brushcutters, hedgecutters, and leaf blowers
- 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