

## **WELLFIELD INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL**

### **Job Description – Forest Schools Play Leader**

**Salary: Band 3 (scp's 17 -21)**

#### **Main duties and responsibilities**

- To be responsible for, plan and oversee the day to day delivery, organisation and smooth running of Forest Schools programmes.
- To evaluate programmes and to continually strive for improvement.
- To promote learning in the outdoor environment and the ethos of Forest Schools and outdoor learning.
- To be responsible at all times for high standards of care and education of all group members in accordance with the Forest Schools Association principles and criteria for good practice.
- To ensure effective communication with teachers, support staff, head teachers, governors, parents, volunteers, partner organisations and of course, children.
- To manage support staff and volunteers effectively, ensuring they embrace the ethos of forest schools.
- To ensure the health and safety of all participants, including writing and checking risk assessments for the sites, tools and activities used.
- To regularly check and maintain tools and other equipment.
- To keep records as appropriate of emergency contact details for participants, permission forms and achievement of pupils.
- To adhere to all relevant policies and procedures of the individual schools and settings.
- To engage in continuous professional development.
- To carry out all other such duties as may from time to time be determined by the line manager.

#### **Physical Demands**

The work requires moderate levels of physical effort. It involves lifting and handling of equipment and other resources and to be involved in practical activities and physical care of learners and the physical outdoor environment. The role is almost exclusively out of doors and will require working on uneven surfaces and in unpredictable weather conditions.

## **Person Specification – Forest Schools Play Leader**

### **Experience**

- Experienced in working with children in education or play work.
- Ability to motivate and inspire children across the range of age, ability and confidence.
- To be clear, confident, fair, with good behaviour management skills appropriate to the age of the child.

### **Knowledge**

- Level 3 Forest Schools Programme Leadership Certificate (or at least Level 2 working towards Level 3).
- Hold a current Paediatric First Aid Certificate, (or be willing to undertake the training)
- Hold a Food Hygiene Certificate (or be willing to undertake the training).
- An understanding of Health & Safety requirements and welfare issues of working with children aged between 3 and 11.
- Knowledge, understanding and practical experience of Forest Schools provision for children aged between 3 and 11.
- Knowledge and practical understanding of child development and pedagogy.
- Knowledge and understanding and practical experience of sustainable woodland management and education within the outdoor environment.
- Knowledge and understanding of schools, their ethos and how they work.

### **Skills**

- Able to work independently and to manage own time efficiently.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Ability to work individually and as part of a team.
- Ability to manage support staff and volunteers.
- Ability to effectively manage risk and produce thorough risk assessments, putting suitable measures in place to ensure the safety of all staff and children
- Ability to think creatively and adapt activities to allow all pupils to be included and a commitment to equal opportunities for all learners.

### **Personal Attributes**

- Love of the outdoors and nature.
- Self-motivated.
- A flexible approach to work commitments.
- Excellent role model for learners, staff and volunteers.
- Ability to sustain moderate levels of physical effort
- Willingness to work exclusively out of doors, on uneven surfaces and in unpredictable weather conditions.