

## Job description

### Outdoor Education Tutor

#### **Outdoor Education Tutor**

**Location:** Options Higford School, Higford Hall, Nr Shifnal, TF11 9ET

**Hours:** 40 hours per week

**Contract:** Permanent, Term Time Only

#### About Us

Options Higford School is an Independent Specialist School for children and young people aged 5–19 with Autism, Learning Disabilities and additional needs. We provide a personalised curriculum through small class groups, highly individualised support and a strong focus on communication, independence and preparation for adulthood.

Outdoor learning is a key part of life at Higford. Through Forest School, horticulture, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, John Muir Award projects, educational visits and community experiences, we help pupils develop confidence, resilience, independence and practical life skills in meaningful real-world environments.

#### About the role

The Outdoor Education Tutor plays a central role in creating and delivering engaging outdoor learning experiences that support pupils' personal development, independence and curriculum outcomes.

This role involves delivering outdoor learning opportunities across the school, including Forest School, Horticulture, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the John Muir Award. You will support pupils to achieve recognised accreditations, including Duke of Edinburgh, John Muir and AQA Unit Awards, while developing confidence, independence and practical skills through meaningful real world experiences.

Most days will involve working directly with pupils outdoors, helping them learn new skills, build confidence and develop resilience through practical activities. Other days will involve planning programmes, coordinating activities, liaising with external providers and ensuring all activities are safe, accessible and well organised. You will also liaise with the assessment and accreditation lead to ensure learning opportunities are accredited effectively.

You will work closely with teachers, TA's, subject leads, pathway leads and external partners to ensure outdoor learning opportunities are purposeful, inclusive and linked to EHCP outcomes, personal development and preparation for adulthood.

This role would suit someone who is passionate about outdoor learning, organised, practical and committed to helping young people overcome barriers, broaden their experiences and achieve success.

## **Key Responsibilities**

### **Outdoor Learning and Enrichment**

- Plan and deliver engaging outdoor learning opportunities across the school.
- Lead Forest School and horticulture lessons that support pupils' communication, wellbeing, independence and personal development.
- Adapt activities to meet the needs of pupils across the Engagement, Application and Post-16 pathways.
- Promote safe risk-taking, problem-solving and resilience through practical outdoor experiences.

### **Duke of Edinburgh, John Muir and Accreditation**

- Coordinate and support pupils to achieve recognised awards and accreditations, including the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, John Muir Award and AQA Unit Awards.
- Maintain records and evidence of pupil participation and achievement.
- Celebrate pupil successes through displays, assemblies, newsletters and school events.

### **Educational Visits and Community Learning**

- Support the planning and delivery of educational visits and off-site learning opportunities in relation to the Duke of Edinburgh and John Muir awards.
- Complete relevant risk assessments and contribute to educational visit procedures.
- Develop opportunities for pupils to access community facilities, volunteering projects and local services.

### **Horticulture and Outdoor Spaces**

- Develop and maintain horticulture projects and outdoor learning environments.
- Support enterprise and preparation-for-adulthood opportunities linked to outdoor learning.
- Ensure resources, equipment and outdoor areas are safe, organised and well maintained.

### **Pupil Support**

- Build positive relationships with pupils and support their engagement in learning.
- Work alongside teachers and support staff to promote communication, independence and personal development.
- Act as a positive role model and contribute to a calm, supportive learning environment.

### **Health, Safety and Professional Responsibilities**

- Maintain high standards of safeguarding, health and safety and pupil welfare.
- Keep accurate records relating to activities, participation and achievements.
- Participate in training, meetings and performance management processes.
- Undertake any other duties reasonably requested by the Headteacher or Senior Leadership Team.

## **Person Specification**

### **Essential**

#### **Knowledge and Experience**

- Experience working with children and young people with SEND, particularly Autism.
- Experience delivering outdoor learning, enrichment or practical education activities.
- Understanding of safeguarding, health and safety, and risk assessment procedures.
- Knowledge of strategies that support communication, engagement and positive behaviour.

#### **Skills and Qualities**

- Strong organisational and communication skills.
- Ability to engage and motivate pupils with a range of needs.
- Flexible, resilient and proactive approach.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively.

- Commitment to inclusive practice and preparation for adulthood.

**Desirable**

- Forest School qualification or relevant experience.
- Experience supporting the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and/or John Muir Award.
- Experience of horticulture, gardening or conservation projects.
- Educational visits experience.
- First Aid qualification.
- Experience of AQA Unit Awards or similar accreditation programmes.
- Full UK driving licence.

