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| Job Title: | School Gardener |
| Position Type: | Self-employed |
| Contract: | Freelance |
| Reports to: | Chief Executive |
| Based at: | On site at schools and School Food Matters, 151 Sheen Lane, London SW14 8LR |
| Working Hours: | Flexible: 24 days to be scheduled from early March to late June 2018 |
| Salary: | £200 per day including VAT plus expenses with receipts |

Background

School Food Matters (SFM) is on a mission to ensure that every child enjoys fresh sustainable food at school and understands where their food comes from. To achieve this we campaign to improve school meals and devise, develop and deliver food education programmes for schools. Over the past ten years, over 30,000 children across London and beyond have participated in our programmes.

Many of our food education programmes include support to get schools growing fruit and veg. We're looking for a freelance school gardener to work with us across three of our programmes to deliver food-growing workshops to children (from simple seed sowing to plant care), train teachers to develop skills and build confidence (including curriculum links), and to check in on schools participating in our programmes to help ensure a bumper crop.

The sessions need to be engaging, and inspire students and their teachers to take an interest in where food comes from, as well as teaching basic gardening skills. There is lots of variety in the work as our programmes span both primary and secondary schools. Some schools are new to gardening, whilst others have worked with us for a number of years and have established food growing projects.

Tasks and Responsibilities

- Plan, deliver and evaluate gardening workshops for the school children and teachers participating in our food education programmes
- Work with SFM to plan and schedule the gardening sessions
- Liaise with schools as required
- Gather photographs from each session so that we can effectively promote our programmes on social media
- Work collaboratively with SFM to share lessons learned and build best practice in gardening workshops

Person specification

Experience

- Experience of working in schools with teachers, primary and secondary school children is essential
- Experience of planning creative food growing sessions including outdoor and indoor tasks is essential

Skills and Competencies

- Qualification in horticulture is desirable
- Excellent organisational skills
- Ready to take initiative, a flexible attitude and able to deal with change
- Ability to plan ahead and work within agreed timeframes
- Understand the challenges of working with teachers and schools
- An interest and enthusiasm for the charity sector and SFM's mission!

Essential

- Entitlement to work in the UK (SFM is not able to assist with applications for work permits)
 - Sound knowledge of growing fruit and vegetables from seed
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Applying for this job

Once you have thoroughly read this Job Description and had a careful look at our website, please send your **CV and a covering letter** telling us:

- how you heard about this job
- why you want to work for us
- what makes you suitable for this role based on the person specification, tasks and responsibilities; an example of your work in schools will bring your application to life.

Applications must be submitted electronically to dela@schoolfoodmatters.org by 5pm on **Wednesday 3rd January 2018**. Interviews will be held at our offices on **Thursday 18 January 2018**. The successful applicant will be briefed in February in order to start working in schools in March.

***Note:** School Food Matters is committed to employing the best staff for a given post and ensuring that all staff are recruited on merit. We will endeavour to make new opportunities available to a wide variety of eligible candidates to promote diversity and equality of opportunity.*

Posted December 2017