

## Outdoor education assistant leader

### Job Description

#### About you

Are you passionate about the outdoors, and helping children develop their enjoyment of nature and the world around them? Are you looking to develop your experience in working with children in an outdoor setting? If so, we'd love to hear from you!

#### About us

Paradise Co-operative exists to enrich the lives of local people. Together we: learn through nature and work with the land

Our beautiful community garden site is in SW18, and is just under an acre of nature in the city. Our site has a wildlife pond, orchard and beehives, a yurt for indoor gathering, fire areas as well as our food-growing areas. We are committed to learning through nature and our site hosts weekly outdoor learning sessions for local primary school children, led by our Head of Education. This role would support the Head of Education to deliver these sessions.

#### About this role

We are looking for someone to work flexibly with us to support the delivery of outdoor curriculum-based sessions with primary school groups on our community garden in Wandsworth.

Hours will be agreed with the Head of Education a month in advance and will usually be 6 hours per day on Wednesdays and Thursdays 9:00 – 15:00. Workshops are 2 hours long, and we usually deliver 2 workshops a day with time for preparation and clearing away.

The role will report to the Head of Education and be part of a supportive small team including our Head of Education, and Community Gardener, and Head of Outreach and Communications.

**Pay:** £12.80 an hour. This role is contractor (i.e. self-employed) on a zero-hours contract during term-time. Hours for the upcoming month will be agreed a month in advance with the Head of Education based on workshops that have been booked in. Payment is monthly via invoice

#### Skills and experience:

##### Essential:

- Experience working with primary age children in a formal setting (school; childcare; alternative provision; holiday clubs)
- Confident managing behaviour in a flexible and responsive manner, supporting children to take risks in a safe environment.
- A strong communicator who is able to engage with and motivate children from a range of backgrounds across the primary age range.
- A commitment to working as part of a team - working closely with the Head of Education to deliver the Paradise Learning curriculum in a creative, effective and engaging way.
- Able to take initiative when setting up workshops, preparing an organised learning environment that enhances learning opportunities for children.
- Organised, proactive, able to problem solve and manage time efficiently

- a passion for working outdoors and an enthusiasm for helping children tighten their bond with nature in an urban environment

**Desirable:**

- Experience working with children with diverse needs
- Good knowledge of safeguarding practice (if not experienced in this, it can be provided through training with us)

**Safeguarding**

The Paradise Co-operative is committed to the development of children in a safe environment where they can grow and learn. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe, and to practice in a way that protects them. All applicants must comply with our charity's safeguarding policy and safer recruitment checks. All candidates are asked to comply with our Safer Recruitment Procedure. This includes:

Owing to the nature of this role that will be working with children and young people, all candidates are asked to comply with our Safer Recruitment Procedure. This includes

- Providing a completed self-disclosure form if invited to interview
- Provide proof of identity and proof of address
- Provide 2 references for us to contact prior to a formal offer being made, one of which must be from your current or most recent employer
- Undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check at Enhanced Level

**To apply**

Please send your CV and a brief cover e-mail answering these questions:

1. Why do you want to work in outdoor learning with us?
2. How does your experience match what we're looking for?

Please send both documents to [schools@paradisecooperative.org](mailto:schools@paradisecooperative.org)

Photos and a short video of our site can be found on our website [www.paradisecooperative.org](http://www.paradisecooperative.org) .

Interviews will be held on an ongoing basis, so please apply early to avoid disappointment.

The Paradise Co-operative is committed to promoting an inclusive and diverse community for all team members and volunteers. Please contact us if you require any adjustments in applying for this role, or require the job advert in larger font or alternative formats.