



Nursery Practitioner Post - Job Opportunity – April 2025.

Catkins is a small privately owned childcare setting in Horsham.

We cater for up to 24 children aged 2-5 years and we are seeking a full-time, Level 3 trained Nursery Practitioner to join us in our nursery, and work 40hrs per week over 4 days a week, with one full weekday off.

We enjoy providing new & exciting ideas and activities for the children in our care and we support each other as a team.

We are open from 8am-6pm for 50 weeks of the year and are shut for the Christmas/New Year break and for a full working week in August. We are a stand-alone setting.

We have a fully fitted kitchen and catering staff, and all nursery meals are prepared on site. Staff can have free hot meals or snacks while working and have a staff area for breaks. Staff covering the children's lunch times sit, eat and chat with the children. Staff facilities also include a shower. We have uniforms and coats supplied, and free parking on site.

Staff have the opportunity for continued professional development by attending training courses and the opportunity to develop their role within the setting by taking on areas of interest or expertise. Junior/new staff are mentored by more experienced staff having a regular time each week allocated to help you to ease into the job and our routines.

The owner/manager is 'hands on' and actively working with the children in the setting and is committed in continuing to develop a high quality, successful setting with a strong and supporting staff team to ensure ALL children attending, reach their full potential.

We have had two 'Outstanding' Ofsted ratings in succession, and we are all proud of our achievements and believe passionately about what we do.

Responsibilities and Duties

The successful applicant will need to

- * be enthusiastic about all that they do
- * smile and engage with the children, play alongside and support their learning effectively
- * be able or willing to sing and dance with children and staff and have an exciting range of songs and rhymes to hand
- * get messy with malleable activities and enjoy experiencing these with the children
- * love the outdoors even when it's raining
- * offer comfort and a lap when it's needed
- * read stories upside down
- * play in the home corner and drink lots of tea and eat play dough cakes, (as well as real ones on special occasions!)
- * join in with the 'end of year' leavers' water party and get very wet!

Qualifications and Skills

Level 3 Nursery Practitioner is essential for this role.

Child Protection, Food Hygiene, Manual Handling, Health and Safety, and First Aid training will be arranged if not already held.

You should be able to:-

- * be a good communicator with staff and parents
- * work well within the team in providing the best care and education that we can.
- * adhere to all policies and procedures followed by nursery, and allow the children to take 'safe risks'
- * be committed in providing a caring and nurturing, 'home from home' experience for the children in our care

Benefits

Free meals and refreshments provided whilst at work.

Ongoing continued professional development, training and skills swaps, with a mentor system in place for new or junior staff members.

A pleasant and friendly working atmosphere with an experienced, cheerful nursery team, who support each other in daily working together in one main playroom.

Pension scheme.

Working week is over a 4-day week with one weekday off per week. The weekday off is set each week in a regular working pattern so you can plan your personal life.

Holiday - 21 days, plus bank holidays (pro-rata for part-time staff) and an extra day off for long service over 3 years.

Allocated time given within the working week for updating children's journals as a key person.

Annual salary review and regular appraisals and 1:1's with senior management for career progression, training interests etc.

Salary – IRO £26,540 for full time staff, (40hr week), depending on experience & qualifications.

Closing date - Open

Application method:

E-mail:- office@catkinsnursery.com

Please ring for a chat about the post in the first instance, then with CV and application form and an informal visit to come and meet us and to view our nursery. 😊
