



Nursery Practitioner Post - Job Opportunity – 2021

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 nursery practitioner to work over 4 days a week.

We are open for 50 weeks of the year and are shut for the Christmas/New Year week and for a full working week in August. We open from 8am-6pm and are a stand-alone setting in the complex of buildings adjacent to the Needles Children and Family Centre.

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 and eat and chat with the children. Staff facilities also include a shower. Uniform blouses, fleeces and coats are provided by nursery.

Staff have the opportunity for continued professional development by attending training courses and are able if they wish, to develop their role within the setting by taking on areas of interest or expertise.

The owner/manager has run pre-school/nursery settings for over 20 years and 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.

Responsibilities and Duties

The successful applicant will need to

- * be a bit quirky, funny and 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 with everyone watching and have an exciting range of songs and rhymes to hand
- * get messy with malleable activities and enjoy experiencing these with the children
- * love being 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 2 or 3 practitioner required. Experience desirable

Child Protection, Food Hygiene, Manual Handling, Health and Safety, and First Aid training will be given if these courses and valid certificates are not already held.

You should be able to:-

- * be a good communicator with staff and parents too
- * 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

A pleasant and friendly working atmosphere with an experienced, cheerful nursery team.

Pension scheme.

Worked over 4-day week with one weekday off per week.

Holiday - 21 days, plus bank holidays and an extra day off after 3 year's employment.

Annual salary review and regular appraisals and 1:1's with senior management.

Closing date – Ongoing

Apply to :- Cathy Walden

Email:- cathy@catkinsnursery.com with CV in the first instance. Phone chat, application form, virtual tour and informal interview is then followed by a visit in person as we follow Covid-safe guidelines to keep our setting Covid-free.
