



Job Description

POST:	Farm Educational Assistant
Grade:	F
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Education Lead
KEY RELATIONSHIPS:	Education lead, Farm Lead, community lead, youth lead, Sessional Staff and volunteers, farm service users, general public, young people, academies and other community partners
LOCATION:	Oasis Southampton City Farm, Southampton
WORKING PATTERN:	40 hours per week
DISCLOSURE LEVEL:	Enhanced

JOB PURPOSE:

To deliver engaging, educational and wellbeing-boosting activities for children and young people at Oasis City Farm – Southampton. The post holder will deliver both individual and group-based sessions, using animals, nature, gardening and practical farm activities to support learning, confidence, emotional wellbeing, social development and life skills.

The Farm Education Assistant will be responsible for the safety, welfare and engagement of the children and young people participating in sessions, ensuring all activities are inclusive, accessible and delivered to a high standard.

The role will contribute to the day-to-day operation of the farm, supporting animal care and site maintenance through educational and therapeutic sessions and community activities in line with the Oasis ethos.

Organisational Context:

Oasis City Farm, Southampton is a community focused registered charity working in one of the most vulnerable communities in Southampton; ranked in the top 17% of most deprived local authorities in England, as part of the Oasis Community in Lords Hill. Oasis, is a national charity focused on “transforming communities”. We aim to transform our community through a variety of inclusive, accessible, and wellbeing boosting activities that include a youth programmes, community programmes, and therapeutic education programmes.

Situated on a beautiful 5 acre site in the middle of Millbrook, Southampton, the award winning farm is a much loved educational and therapeutic site and visitor attraction. Throughout the week



we offer educational and therapeutic sessions to children and young people as well as community groups such as toddler groups, youth clubs and an adult day service. All working with over 50 rehomed, rescued, and lifelong animals including Goats, Pigs, Chickens, Ducks, Sheep, Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, and a variety of Reptiles. As well as access to our established garden, woodlands and a pond. At the weekends and in school holidays we are open to the public.

Responsibilities

This role will focus on planning, preparing and delivering individual and group based sessions for children and young people. With the aim of building confidence, expertise, wellbeing and knowledge through animal care, gardening and nature-based learning.

Specific Duties

- Plan, prepare (with the support of the education lead) and deliver educational and wellbeing-focused sessions for children and young people.
- Run activities for individuals and groups, adapting delivery to meet differing needs, abilities, learning styles and goals.
- Use animal care, practical farm tasks and nature-based activities as tools for education and personal development.
- Support children and young people to develop confidence, resilience, communication skills and positive relationships.
- Create safe, engaging and inclusive learning environments.
- Monitor participation, behaviour, wellbeing and progress throughout sessions.
- Maintain appropriate records, contributing to monitoring and evaluation processes and ensure feedback is given on individual goals.

General duties:

Due to the diverse nature of the farm, and the wide range of activities that take place, what follows is a list of the general duties required. However, these will differ depending on the day of the week, and current needs of the farm.

- To support with the general day to day running of the farm. To include ensuring the building is clean, safe, and organised.
- Engage with children, young people, parents, adult service users, members of the public and volunteers.
- Ensure all activities are accurately recorded in line with our monitoring and evaluation processes and share best practice.
- To work closely with the leadership team to make sure all sessions, are enriching, safe, and engaging.
- Ensure all Oasis Policies and Procedures are applied and followed for all activities.
- To build positive and supportive working partnerships with the local community, partners, other youth organisations and the wider Oasis team.
- Participate positively and proactively to briefings, debriefing and team-training meetings, adding creative ideas and sharing best practice as appropriate.



- Contribute to the development of the farm vision, values and aims and to abide by agreed professional behaviours, attitudes and standards.
- Actively participate in a CPD programme which supports your development.
- Be a tangible portrayal of the Oasis ethos – modelling, teaching and representing our Oasis ethos values of inclusion, equality, relationships, hope and perseverance.

Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults

- OCP is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. We expect all staff to share this commitment and to undergo appropriate checks, including an enhanced DBS check.
- The above responsibilities are subject to the general duties and responsibilities contained in the Statement of Conditions of Employment.

The duties of this post may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

Employee:		Line Manager:	
Print Name		Print Name	
Date		Date	



Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		Youth, children's work or education qualifications Animal care or outdoor education qualification
Experience, Skills & Knowledge	• Experience of working with children and young people • Experience of working with animals or in a nature based setting • Experience of working/volunteering in a youth or community setting • Proven ability to work alongside others in projects that work with children and young people • Knowledge of child protection practices and health and safety • Able to function in diverse settings and with a wide range of people • Able to adapt approach to different needs and sizes of groups • Ability to feedback to key adults such as parents and teachers • Flexible approach to changes in circumstance and able to occasional evenings and weekends	Knowledge of SEND and how to adapt approach to create inclusive environments Experience in building work or carpentry to support the maintenance of the farm through sessions.



Personal Qualities	• Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults • Ability to engage with people from different walks of life and inspire them to engage and to build a sense of team. • Proven team player • Willingness to undergo appropriate checks, including enhanced DBS checks • Willingness to learn new things and develop your skills. • Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries • Emotional resilience in working with challenging behaviours • Have a willingness to demonstrate commitment to the values and behaviours which flow from the Oasis ethos.	
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