



**Job title:** Social and Therapeutic Horticulture Practitioner

**Job family:** Engagement, Learning & Entertainment

**Job ref:**

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### Job family definition

Roles within the Engagement, Learning and Entertainment job family focus upon the Eden experience, providing interpretation, activities, learning programmes, encounters and events, which engage, inspire and entertain, thus enhancing individuals' understanding, experience, skills and enjoyment.

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### Role purpose

Plan and deliver a social and therapeutic horticulture scheme and an annual programme of activities for specialist groups of participants in an existing garden on Eden's outer estate as part of Eden's social prescribing programme. Work with the Eden Social Prescribing and Community Network Officer, the Head of Nature Connections and other members of the Eden Team to develop and expand the target groups and the scale of the programme.

### Key accountabilities

1. Lead the design, cultivation and maintenance of the garden area to deliver social prescribing. Ensure that the space respects the conservation assets of the area and that the plants and habitats are maintained and developed in accordance with Eden's values, policies (particularly plant health and procurement protocols) and procedures.
2. Lead the planning, preparation, development and delivery of an annual programme of social and therapeutic horticultural activities and tasks for groups of people with mild to moderate mental health issues to meet agreed objectives.

3. Build relationships with current and potential referrers to the programme such as the NHS, Pentreath, Outlook SW, the job centres and others.
4. Liaise with programme stakeholders and support the promotion of the programme both locally and nationally.
5. Lead the support and interaction with all participants and be the sole point of contact for them. Provide focussed support to help develop confidence and self-esteem and to aid participants with their goals during the programme. Assist them in sustaining new learning and changes in behaviour after their time in the therapy gardens finishes. Work with the Social Prescribing and Community Networks Officer to ensure that people move on to other community activities or employment after their activities end.
6. Ensure that all tasks and activities are carried out with adequate instruction and risk assessments, while satisfying the relevant policies and guidelines. Ensure that all data and personal information collected from those involved with the programme is dealt with and stored securely and safely in accordance with organisational guidelines.
7. Liaise with the Head of Nature Connections, nature connections team members and Horticulture Team Managers and Team Leads together with relevant members of the Eden Team regarding the development of the area, procuring materials, producing resources and learning materials to use to support the social prescribing programme and to enhance their experience of Eden Project.
8. Assist with assessing the effectiveness of the programme and collecting evaluation data.

## **Demands of the role**

<b>Education &amp; qualifications</b>	Horticulture qualification to at least NVQ level 3 (or equivalent) is essential. An accredited mental health qualification is very desirable as is knowledge and interest in horticultural therapy. The job holder's numeracy and literacy skills must be sufficient to enable them to use IT applications and maintain accurate records.
<b>Knowledge &amp; skills</b>	At least two years' experience of running horticulture based programme in a garden or community based environment. It is essential that the jobholder has experience of working with people with mental health problems. The jobholder will have a thorough knowledge of horticulture theory and practice.
<b>Decision- making</b>	Lead on decisions about planning and planting the therapeutic garden and also in planning tasks and goal setting for the participants. Whilst there is a lot of autonomy within this role and you will need to be self-directed and able to make decisions as you go, you will be working as part of a small team and will need to work together to ensure the best experience for participants.
<b>Resourcefulness</b>	Creative and adaptive thinking is required when formulating, developing and delivering activities. Leads direction and manages the suggestions, expectations and ideas of the groups and Eden Team members to improve the development and delivery of the social prescribing activities.
<b>People &amp; asset management</b>	Mentors, supports and coaches programme participants. Responsible for maintaining the safety of participants and the presentation of the area. Responsible for the safety, security and maintenance of programme materials and resources as well as the safe handling and storage of any hazardous substances.
<b>Communication &amp; visitor experience</b>	Continually and sensitively interacts with programme participants delivering a variety of therapeutic and learning experiences through planned activities. Engages participants by using a wide range of skills and communication techniques, in order to deliver positive outcomes and agreed objectives.
<b>Operational environment</b>	The role regularly requires physical effort such as bending, lifting and climbing within a variety of climatic environments.
<b>Additional features</b>	Enhanced DBS criminal records check required.

