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| **Job Title** | Apprentice Gardener |
| **Reports to** | Gardens Supervisor and Deputy Grounds Manager/Grounds Manager  |

**Job Purpose**

We have an exciting opportunity to join our award-winning Grounds Teams as an Apprentice Gardener on a 2-year course, delivered by BCA (Berkshire College of Agriculture) where you will attend one day a week.

The role is responsible for assisting with the cultivation and maintenance of areas of Eton College to an exceptionally high standard. You will contribute towards the delivery of garden plans and programmes of work under the direction of the Gardens Supervisor and Deputy Grounds Manager/Grounds Manager.

**Key Tasks and Responsibilities**

* Day to day cultivation and maintenance of gardens and formal areas;
* Maintenance is to include but not exhaustive of the following, pruning, weeding, planting, mowing, fertilising, spraying;
* Learning about plant and tree identification;
* Learning how to identify and control weeds, pests and diseases;
* Prepare ground for new and existing planting schemes;
* Carry out specific projects as directed;
* The safe use and operation of equipment and machinery used in Horticultural maintenance;
* To adhere to current Health and Safety legislation and best practice in accordance with the Colleges Health and Safety Policy Statement;
* To ensure own safety, and the safety of others who may be affected by your actions. Employees must follow instructions and co-operate at all times with their line manager to enable Eton College to meet its legal responsibilities. Employees must stop work if the nature of the situation involves risk of serious injury to any person and must report any hazardous situation or defective equipment to their line manager without delay;
* To undertake any other duties as may reasonably be required of you in the post;
* Where required, undertake regulated activity, such as unsupervised contact with children, ensuring that safeguarding procedures are followed and providing safe and effective care at all times;
* Good understanding and effective implementation of Child Protection procedures
* Commitment to and promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion;
* All positions at Eton are classed as ‘regulated activity’ as per the Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 guidance, therefore a good understanding of safeguarding procedures is essential;
* Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including but not limited to, completing safeguarding training as required, and ensuring any safeguarding updates issued by the College are read and understood;
* Understand and comply with procedures and legislation relating to confidentiality

**Working Pattern**

* Your working hours will be 8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday with 30 minutes for lunch, with one of those days at college
* You will be working 52 weeks per year.
* You will be entitled to 21 days of holiday.

**Skills and Competencies Required**

To be successful in this role, the incumbent should:

* GCSE English and Maths Grade 4 or above or willing to undertake functional skills
* A keen interest in Horticulture;
* Some general gardening experience;
* Experience of using mowers, strimmers or other gardening machinery;
* A valid UK driving licence is desirable.

You may enjoy this role if:

* You are someone who takes pride in their work;
* Enjoy being part of a thriving, successful team;
* You have a good sense of initiative.

**The Qualification you will receive**

* Level 2 Horticulture Operative Apprenticeship Certificate.
* Level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (Ofqual registered) for both.
* (Horticulture Operative) Awards Level 2 Award in Safe Use of Pesticides
* (Horticulture Operative) Awards Level 2 Award in the Safe Application of Pesticide Using Handheld Equipment
* (Landscaping construction) Abrasive Wheel Machines Course

**Disclosure Checks**

**Eton College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including, but not limited to, reference checks with past employers, an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (including Barred List information), an online search and, where applicable, Prohibition checks. If you are successful in your application, you will be required to complete a DBS Disclosure Application Form.  Any information disclosed will be handled in accordance with any guidance and/or Code of Practice published by the DBS. The College is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and therefore all convictions, cautions, reprimands and final warnings (including those which would normally be considered as “spent” under the Act) must be declared, subject to the DBS filtering rules. It is a criminal offence for any person who is barred from working with children to attempt to apply for a position at the College.**