



Little Foxes Forest School – Forest Pre-School Educator (General Childcare Practitioner)

Role: Forest Pre-School Educator – 2.5 - 4 year olds

Days and hours: Tuesday 9am – 3pm, Wednesday 9am – 3pm and Thursday 9am – 4pm term time only

Pay: £12.21 an hour plus holiday pay plus birthday day off

Terms: Permanent role with a three months' probationary period

Reports to: Pre-School Manager

The Role

As a Forest Pre-School Educator, you'll be tasked with providing a high standard of physical, emotional, social and intellectual care for the children aged 2.5 - 4 years, in our beautiful forest setting. You'll work with our team to create an enabling environment where children can develop and learn through play. You'll use your existing skills, experience and passion for outdoor education to deliver a fantastic experience for our children, promote our ethos and help to make Little Foxes Forest School the best it can be. You will be the key worker for a small group of children and it will be your role to make observations and assess their progress.

About Little Foxes Forest School

Little Foxes Forest School is an outdoors preschool that offers children the chance to connect with nature and become confident, resilient and independent learners. We believe that children are never happier or healthier than when playing outdoors. It is our aim to allow children growing up in Bristol access to a beautiful and natural woodland environment for them to grow, learn, explore and develop in. We care for and educate children aged from 2.5 to 4, following the core Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum. Exposure to the natural world and physical activity are an integral part of learning.

Our Ethos

Little Foxes Forest School was established to provide an experience like no other available for Pre-School children in North Bristol. It was founded and run by ex-primary school teachers and local mums who have seen first hand the incredible benefits that learning outdoors can have on children. We have created a world where children are inspired by nature to live a simple and naturally healthy lifestyle, where children have the time and space to enjoy and learn from the natural world around them.

Little Foxes welcomes children from all backgrounds and is pleased to offer government funding for the hours we open. We will help children achieve their maximum potential in life by helping to develop their characters to give them the tools they need for a happy and successful life - confidence, resilience, self-motivation, enthusiasm, independence and an insatiable curiosity about the world.

We strive for constant innovation to ensure we are committed to offering the best known practice in educating children and are passionate with an outdoors, child-led, play-based happy and healthy environment. We see ourselves as inspirational educators offering an incredibly fun and learning-rich experience for children. Our staff are inspiring, passionate advocates of the lifestyle we promote. We include our staff in the running of Little Foxes Forest School as they aren't just our employees, they are part of our team and are our ambassadors.

You can learn more about our founders here:
<https://www.littlefoxesforestschool.com/our-team>

Little Foxes Forest School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified persons regardless of their race, gender, disability, religion/belief, sexual orientation or age.

Key Responsibilities

Safeguarding

1. Adhere to any relevant Policies about Keeping Children Safe, ongoing safeguarding, Behaviour Management, Health & Safety, Equal Opportunities, Data Protection and Confidentiality
2. Advise manager/deputy of any concerns, e.g. over children, parents, the safety of the environment, preserving confidentiality as necessary.
3. Read, understand and adhere to all policies and procedures relevant to your role and the safe running of the setting.
4. Keep completely confidential any information regarding the children, their families or other staff that is acquired as part of the job.
5. Ensure good standards of safety, hygiene and cleanliness are maintained at all times.

Care & Education

1. Supervise, observe, mentor and support children aged 2.5 – 4 years
2. Be responsible at all times for high standards of care and education
3. Effectively deliver the EYFS ensuring that the individual needs and interest of children in the setting are met (in conjunction with other team members)
4. Ensure the provision of a high quality environment to meet the needs of individual children having an awareness of any disabilities, family cultures and medical histories.
5. Develop and maintain strong partnerships and communication with parents/carers to facilitate day-to-day caring and early learning needs.

6. Keep records of your key children’s development and learning journeys and share with parents, carers and other key adults in the child’s life.

Little Foxes Forest School

1. Promote the Little Foxes Forest School and Outdoor Learning ethos
2. Help maintain equipment and resources
3. Support all staff and play a key part in keeping team morale high
4. Be involved in out of working hours activities, e.g. training, staff meetings, and events
5. Be flexible within working practices of the setting, undertaking other responsible duties such as camp related tasks, preparation of snack meals, cleaning of equipment, etc.
6. Work alongside the manager and staff team to ensure that the setting’s philosophy is fulfilled.
7. Be aware of the high profile of the setting and to uphold its standards at all times, both in work hours and outside.
8. Due to our Pre-School being a forest Pre-School, there are physical demands of this role. The work is practical by definition and requires moderate levels of physical effort. It involves lifting and handling of training equipment, play equipment and other resources and to be involved in practical activities and physical care of learners and the physical woodland environment. Activities are mainly out of doors and this will require walking and working on uneven surfaces and in unpredictable weather conditions. You are required to be a role model for the staff and learners you work with, adhering to the Health & Safety procedures.

Qualification and Experience

| Essential | Desirable |
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| NVQ Level 3 childcare qualification or above | Experience of working with young children in either nursery or private care setting |
| A love of the outdoors | Paediatric first aid qualification |
| Flexibility to undertake essential training | Food safety and hygiene qualification |
| Ability to plan, provide and evaluate a wide range of play and learning opportunities which meet children’s individual needs | Forest School training level 2/3 or experience within an outdoor education environment |
| Experience of providing play and learning opportunities for children. | Experience of supporting children with additional needs |
| Ability to implement policies and procedures. | Experience of liaising with parents / carers; involving them in their child’s care. |
| Sufficient understanding and use of English | Knowledge of Ofsted requirements and the EYFS. |

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| Ability to work as a team member but also manage and organise own workload | Competent ICT skills |
| Ability to complete basic administrative tasks | |
| Ability to be a reflective practitioner in order to develop your, and others', practice | |
| Reliable and respectful when interacting with parents, colleagues and the community | |
| Ability to support and develop an environment which is inclusive for all and encourages diversity. | |

Attributes and Skills

- Flexibility and adaptability
- Positive attitude towards early years education
- Passion and creativity
- High-energy and active
- Excellent communication skills
- Team player
- Approachable and caring