



Morley Memorial Primary School

Job Description and Person Specification

Forest School Leader

May 2023

Head teacher: Ms N Brown

We hope that this recruitment pack will give you all of the information you need to complete your application for the position of Forest School Leader at Morley Memorial Primary School.

Please pay close attention to the advert, job description and person specification as shortlisting will be based on meeting the criteria stipulated in these documents.

Morley Memorial Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. DBS checks and disqualification declaration may be required for this post. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted and references sought prior to interview. Any offer of a position will be subject to satisfactory references and DBS checks.

Please forward your completed application form to office@morley.cambs.sch.uk



Job Description

Job Title: Forest School Leader

School/Service: Morley Memorial Primary School

Reports to: Forest School Subject Leader

Grade:

Hours: (8.30-4.00pm 2 days) – Term-time only

Job Purpose: To plan, prepare and deliver a range of Forest School sessions with children across the school. To further develop and promote the Forest School

- To plan and deliver the Forest School Curriculum through weekly sessions to year groups of children as specified at agreed times in the year.
- To deliver weekly Forest School Nurture group provision to support children's specific social, communication, behaviour or wellbeing needs.
- To promote the values and ethos of the school
- To provide appropriate advice and guidance to volunteers or support staff assisting with sessions

Principal Accountabilities:

1. Whole School Curriculum Delivery for Forest School

- Plan, in conjunction with the Forest School Subject Lead, Forest School sessions for specific year groups.
- Link Forest School planning to the medium and long term planning of the school with consideration of the Morley Forest School Skills progression framework.
- Complete observations of the children in order to inform future planning and to reflect upon the progression of children's skills and interests.

2. Nurture group

- Plan Forest School nurture sessions, taking into consideration the individual ages and needs of the children who will be attending.
- Be responsive and adaptable to the changing needs of the children.
- Create a therapeutic and caring environment ensuring the children feel safe.
- Complete observations of the children to understand their interests, skills and social development at Forest School and use this information to inform your planning.

3. Holistic approach

- Develop children's relationship to their natural environment through opportunities to build their knowledge, experience and skill.
- Foster curiosity and encourage children to explore and experiment in the outdoors.
- Promote individual creativity and artistic expression through a variety of creative resources and opportunities.
- Provide age appropriate opportunities for children to take risks.
- Provide a range of physical activities for children to engage with.
- Manage risk safely and adhere to health and safety procedures and Morley Forest School Policies.

4. Forest School community

- Promote a positive, inclusive and accepting environment at Forest School, where children feel secure, unjudged and valued.
- Ensure that pupils have a voice at Forest School.
- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with other staff at Forest School, providing skills training where needed.
- Encourage parental involvement in Forest School and manage parent volunteers.
- Promote Morley Forest School throughout the school through positive relationships with teaching and support staff.
- Offer help and advice to the Early Years team in delivering their own Forest School sessions.
- Contribute to the wider life and work of the school

5. Forest school maintenance and management

- Clean and maintain Forest School equipment.
- Safely store tools.
- Conduct site checks and undertake basic site maintenance.
- Liaise with Premises Officer regarding other site needs.
- Review and update Forest School Handbook and Policies and Risk Assessments as needed.

6. Leadership

- Liaise with the subject lead and actively contribute to the ongoing development of the Forest School
- Provide reports to senior leaders and governors as requested
- Provide support to non-specialist staff as relevant
- Participate in performance management processes and be pro-active in seeking out professional development opportunities
- Ensure the information on Forest School on the school website and available for parents is up to date and accurate.

This job description and related documents provide the standards and framework for Appraisal Objectives for a Forest School Leader which will be set under the school's Appraisal Policy before, or as soon as practicable after, the start of each appraisal period. The objectives set will be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time bound and will be appropriate to the Forest School Leader's role and level of experience. The appraiser and appraisee will seek to agree the objectives but, if that is not possible, the appraiser will determine the objectives. Objectives may be revised if circumstances change. The objectives set for each person will, if achieved, contribute to the school's plans for improving the school's educational provision and performance and improving the educational opportunities and wellbeing of pupils at that school.

Morley Memorial Primary School

Person Specification: Forest School Leader

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications and Experience	<p>1 Level 3 Forest School Leader.</p> <p>2 Appropriate First Aid qualification.</p> <p>3 Experience of working with primary aged children.</p> <p>4 Previous experience of leading Forest School sessions.</p>	<p>1 Experience of running Forest School sessions in a school setting.</p> <p>2 Experience of working with children with SEND.</p> <p>3 Therapeutic qualification and or experience.</p>
Professional Attributes	<p>5 Have high expectations of children and young people with a commitment to helping them fulfil their potential</p> <p>6 Establish fair, respectful, trusting, supportive and constructive relationships with children and young people</p> <p>7 Demonstrate the positive values, attitudes and behaviour they expect from children and young people and adhere to the six guiding principles of Forest School and the Morley Forest School ethos.</p> <p>8 Communicate effectively and sensitively with children, young people, colleagues, parents and carers</p> <p>9 Recognise and respect</p>	<p>4 Demonstrate a commitment to collaborative and cooperative working with colleagues</p> <p>5 Improve their own knowledge and practice including responding to advice and feedback</p>

	<p>the contribution that parents and carers can make to the development and wellbeing of children and young people</p> <p>10 Uphold the core principles and ethos of Forest School.</p>	
Knowledge and Understanding	<p>11 Able to identify native wildlife and plant life and have knowledge of key characteristics and uses of a range of species.</p> <p>12 Assess and mitigate for risks associated with Forest School activities.</p>	<p>6 Knowledge of a range of uses for natural resources, or the desire to develop this.</p> <p>7 Experience and knowledge of bushcraft</p> <p>8 Understand key principles of sustainability</p>
Professional Skills	<p>13 Use long term planning to inform and develop Forest School plans.</p> <p>14 Reflect upon the impact of planned sessions and use this to inform future planning.</p> <p>15 Observe children and use these observations to inform planning and support progression.</p> <p>16 Devise activities that interest and motivate learners and that encourage curiosity, creativity and independence.</p> <p>17 Consider individual children's needs and how to support them at Forest School.</p> <p>18 Practical experience of a range of Forest</p>	<p>9 Desire to improve practical Forest School skills.</p>

<p>School skills including fire lighting, rope and knot use, whittling, safe use of tools, natural crafts.</p> <p>19 Considerately manage the use of natural resources to ensure their longevity.</p> <p>20 Ability to direct and support other adults working with children at Forest School.</p> <p>21 Prioritise the safeguarding of children and understand what to do if you are concerned for the safety of a child.</p> <p>22. Be a reflective practitioner</p>	
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