



RADLEY

Apprentice Groundsperson

Radley College, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2HR
01235 543000

www.radley.org.uk/employment/working-at-radley

Radley College is an independent boarding school for boys, founded in 1847. Recognised as one of the UK's leading independent schools, Radley has an outstanding reputation for academic excellence, sporting achievement, and artistic endeavour. The College is set in over 800 acres of beautiful Oxfordshire countryside, and is renowned for the quality of its facilities. The school's grounds are the envy of many of our competitors and we take great pride in keeping them in excellent condition.

We are seeking an enthusiastic and motivated Apprentice Groundsperson to join our Grounds team. This is an exciting opportunity to develop a career in sports turf and grounds management while working within a beautiful and historic College environment. The successful candidate will receive comprehensive on-the-job training and support whilst studying towards a recognised qualification, gaining valuable experience in the maintenance of sports grounds, the golf course and wider estate.

The Grounds at Radley

Radley's extensive playing fields represent one of the largest single areas of maintained grassland in southern England. The facilities are in constant use across all three academic terms, and include:

14 Rugby pitches (Michaelmas Term)

3 Astro Hockey pitches (Lent Term)

15 Soccer pitches (Lent Term)

9 Cricket squares (Summer Term)

2 All-weather hockey pitches (converted to 24 tennis courts in Summer Term)

1 additional Astro Hockey pitch

A rubber crumb athletics track

8 hard tennis courts

28 Astro cricket nets

A 9-hole Golf Course with a thriving external membership

In addition to supporting the College's sporting programme, the grounds are used for a variety of external events and fixtures as part of Radley's income-generating strategy.



The Role

The Apprentice Groundsperson will support the Grounds and Gardens team in the maintenance and preparation of the College's extensive sports grounds, golf course and wider estate. Working alongside experienced colleagues, the apprentice will gain practical, hands-on experience in sports turf management and grounds maintenance, helping to ensure that the College's facilities are maintained to a high standard throughout the year.

The role will provide training in a wide range of grounds maintenance activities, including the preparation of sports pitches and cricket facilities, line marking, routine maintenance of artificial and natural surfaces, hedge and fence maintenance, and the safe operation and care of grounds machinery and equipment. The apprentice will also learn about fertiliser applications, seasonal renovation programmes, health and safety practices, and the day-to-day management of sports turf environments.

This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic individual who is keen to develop a career in grounds management. The successful candidate will work towards a recognised qualification while developing the practical skills, knowledge and experience needed for a successful career in the industry. A positive attitude, willingness to learn, strong work ethic and the ability to work both independently and as part of a team will be essential for success in this role.



Person Specification

Skills and Abilities

- Good attention to detail and commitment to high standards of presentation.
- Ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a team.
- Strong organisational and time management skills.

Personal Attributes

- Reliable, punctual, and hardworking.
- Willingness to work outdoors in all weather conditions!
- Positive attitude and a flexible, proactive approach to tasks.

Hours of work

39 hours per week to be worked 8.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday, 8.00am to 3.30pm Friday, with half-hour (unpaid) each day for lunch. In addition to the above, particularly during the cricket season, the department covers weekend working on a rota basis. Weekend hours will vary according to season and conditions, and additional hours are paid as overtime.



Employee Benefits



Our stunningly beautiful, rural campus is situated 5 miles from Oxford with good bus and train links



Excellent pension scheme (contributory group personal pension scheme).



Holidays - 33 days per annum including bank holidays.



Free on-site parking



Reduced membership to the on-site Sports Centre (£50)



Free meals during term time



Reduced membership of the nine-hole golf course



Free uniform provided



College sickness scheme



Employee Assistance Programme confidential advice



Regular social events for staff & family



Access to the well stocked school library



CPD and opportunities for learning



Annual onsite free flu vaccination

How to apply

Applications must be submitted via the link on the gov.uk apprenticeship site

We reserve the right to consider applications as they arrive.

For an informal chat about the role please contact the Head of Grounds, Adam King, on 01235 543119 or email the HR Department (hr@radley.org.uk).

SELECTION PROCESS

If shortlisted, you will be invited for interview. Your interview will involve a brief session with our Human Resources department, in order to undertake a number of identity checks. A list of valid identity documents will be sent to you prior to your interview.

In the event of not being successful, please be assured that all copies of identification will be destroyed.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is at the heart of all we do in the school and the school expects all employees to share its commitment to the safeguarding and welfare of its pupils. Employees must, at all times, have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in line with the provisions of the Children Act 2004 and Keeping Children Safe in Education and be fully aware of, and understand, the duties and responsibilities that apply to their role in relation to these requirements.

All employees must attend appropriate training in accordance with the College's and local Safeguarding Board stipulations. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. A disclosure, at the enhanced level, will be requested from the successful applicant but a criminal record will not necessarily be a bar to obtaining this position. You will also be required to produce original evidence of qualifications as well as evidence of the right to work in the UK.