Are you a passionate and dedicated early years professional with strong leadership skills and a genuine love for working with children? We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced practitioner who is ready to take the next step in their childcare career. If you thrive in a nurturing, team-focused environment and are committed to providing outstanding care and education, we’d love to hear from you. Apply today and become a vital part of our warm, supportive, and high-quality nursery settings across the Huish Nurseries.

**Deputy Nursery Manager**

**Dates: Apply by: Wednesday 25th June at 9am**

**Interviews: Friday 27th June**

**Start date: Monday 21st July if possible**

**Salary:** Grade 13, Point 11.

**Location:** Huish Nurseries @ Lyngford Park

**Hours:** 38 hours per week, all year-round flexible working hours between Monday – Friday. Hours 8am – 6pm across 4 days.

**Annual Leave:** 24 days plus Bank Holidays dependent on shift pattern

**Contract term:** Permanent/Full Time

**About Us:**
Huish Nurseries operate four established nurseries, catering for families by offering safe, reliable early years development from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday – Friday 50 weeks of the year. Huish Nurseries @ Lyngford Park School and Nursery is a well-established, friendly nursery dedicated to providing high-quality care and education for children 2 -4 years old.

Our vision, shaped collectively by practitioners across the Huish Nurseries, is to provide a nurturing, inclusive, and high-quality early years education. We focus on supporting each child's unique development, preparing them for future success through age-appropriate, yet challenging learning experiences. Strong partnerships with families, schools, and communities ensure consistent practices and smooth transitions. Our commitment to equity means celebrating diversity and making our nurseries accessible to all. We prioritise health, safety, and wellbeing, promoting positive behaviours, mindfulness, and healthy lifestyles, while also fostering innovation and environmental awareness to prepare children for the future.

**We are looking for candidates who are able to:**

**Leadership & Management:**

* Support the Nursery Manager in overseeing the day-to-day operations of the nursery.
* Assume responsibility in the Manager’s absence.
* Lead, mentor, and support a team of early years practitioners.
* Contribute to staff appraisals, training, and performance management.

**Childcare & Curriculum:**

* Ensure high standards of care and education in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).
* Promote learning through play and plan age-appropriate activities.
* Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of learning activities.
* Ensure each child’s individual needs are met, including children with SEND.

**Health & Safety:**

* Maintain a safe, clean, and secure environment for children, staff, and visitors.
* Ensure all safeguarding procedures are followed and concerns are reported promptly.
* Carry out risk assessments and ensure all policies and procedures are adhered to.

**Parent Partnership:**

* Build and maintain positive relationships with parents and carers.
* Communicate effectively with families about their child’s development and progress.
* Address and resolve concerns or complaints in a professional manner.

**Administrative Duties:**

* Assist with rota planning, staff scheduling, and maintaining required staff-to-child ratios.
* Maintain accurate records in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements.
* Support in managing budgets, ordering supplies, and ensuring nursery resources are well maintained.

**Requirements:**

* Level 3 or above qualification in Early Years Education/Childcare (e.g., CACHE, NVQ, or equivalent).
* Minimum 2 years’ experience in an early years setting.
* Sound knowledge of the EYFS framework and safeguarding procedures.
* Experience in leading a team or supervising staff.
* Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
* Ability to work effectively under pressure and handle multiple priorities.

**Desirable:**

* Paediatric First Aid certificate.
* Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training.
* Experience with SEND and inclusion strategies.
* Previous experience in a Deputy or Room Leader role.

**We can offer you:**

* Excellent benefits including a Career Average Pension scheme (LGPS), generous holiday allowance (plus Bank Holidays), Employee Assistance Programme, Free Flu Vaccinations & Cycle to Work Scheme
* A committed, friendly and supportive staff team and collaboration with all the Huish Nurseries
* Good professional development opportunities to progress your career throughout our Nurseries and the wider Richard Huish Trust
* Uniform provided
* A dedicated Wellbeing Day each year

All successful candidates will need to be compliant with the nurseries requirements of reference checks and provide at least 2 satisfactory references. Applications received that do not contain a fully completed application form will not be considered.

The Trust reserves the right to appoint or withdraw this advert before the deadline, if necessary.

The Richard Huish Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We will ensure that all our recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to Disclosure and Barring Service checks along with other relevant employment checks.