

**Job Description**  
**ANIMAL CARE & LAND-BASED STUDIES TECHNICIAN**

<b>Salary:</b>	£22,537.50 - £23,739.50 FTE (plus Quals + SSA)
<b>Hours:</b>	Full-Time: 37 hours per week (all year round). Flexibility across term-time and school holidays, weekends and evenings is required.
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Head of Technical Services

**General**

At Mary Hare we deliver a range of vocational qualifications to students of mixed ability.

Animal Management and Land-Based Studies resources include a garden area, mixed woodland and a collection of small animals including chickens, ducks, guinea pigs, tortoises, geckos, and dogs. We regularly visit a local school farm to work with their livestock. The position requires a flexible person who, in addition to the technician duties, we hope will help to deliver lessons to small groups of students and support the teaching staff in the work that they do.

**The Role:**

An element of this role will be helping us to develop and expand our animal collection in conjunction with animal welfare requirements. You will be responsible for the high standard of welfare in our animals and their primary carer for the during the school holidays and some weekends. This involves feeding and watering animals, checking their health, and maintaining and rotating accommodation. The post will include some weekend and school holiday work to help to provide 365-day care for the animals.

We currently deliver qualifications in Level 1 Land-Based Studies and BTEC (Level 2-3) in Animal Care and Animal Management. You will also be the technician for our land-based studies and horticulture work, some of which takes place in the woodland. We therefore hope the appointed person will have an interest in ecology, horticulture/arboriculture and will be willing to work with our environmental group. Work for the woodland may include overseeing the resourcing, tools, equipment, and lesson preparation and supporting the development of the woodland for lessons and other uses.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Responsible for monitoring the animal welfare and ensuring all animal husbandry standards are maintained at an optimum.
- Keep abreast of changes in government policy specifically around the animal husbandry and welfare.
- To advise the organisation of imminent threats and mitigating actions that need to be implemented and then to put them in place.
- Maintaining animal enclosures/housing and provide reports and plans where there is to be an unplanned expenditure or when external companies are needed for work to be completed.
- Help to support and maintain the links and communication with the Snelsmore Common committee
- Develop and maintain good relationships with other providers to maintain up to date knowledge of animal husbandry practice.
- Produce and implement handling schedules and habituation plans for animals.

- Ensure good standards of record keeping (i.e. weights / health checks / import and export paperwork / feeding logs / risk assessments), writing process and policy paperwork where necessary.
- Develop and guide future development of provision.
- Use course specifications to build animal collection, importing and exporting animals as appropriate.
- Work on a flexible basis to meet the needs and welfare of the animals on site.
- Stock taking, ordering and management of stores of animal and plant resources.
- To share knowledge and expertise with others
- To keep the organisation informed of changes in legislation.
- To work with and give instruction to small groups of students on practical outdoor tasks with animals, horticulture and in the woodland.
- Support lessons through the preparation of resources. To attend relevant meetings, open days and parent consultations, including the May Bank holiday.
- To maintain up-to-date and relevant CPD

Person Specification	
<b>Education Attainment (Essential)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English and Maths (C/grade 4)</li> <li>• Higher level qualifications related to animal husbandry.</li> </ul>	
<b>Professional Qualifications (Desirable)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree Level in a Science or an animal related subject</li> <li>• Qualifications or interest in Ecology, arboriculture and horticulture.</li> <li>• Level 3 TAQA (Assessor) qualification (or willingness to work towards)</li> <li>• Level 4 IQA qualification (or willingness to work towards)</li> </ul>	
Knowledge and Experience	
Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animal knowledge and experience</li> <li>• To be up-to-date and have a full understanding of animal welfare legislation</li> <li>• Passion for working with animals and young people</li> <li>• You will be a confident communicator with the ability to build and maintain excellent working relationships with colleagues, students and stakeholders both internally and externally.</li> <li>• To have experience of working with animals in a professional capacity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness of Safeguarding requirements and good practice within an education setting</li> <li>• Experience of teaching and/or instructing/presenting</li> <li>• An interest and knowledge of horticultural, arboriculture and ecology.</li> </ul>

### **Skills and Personal Qualities**

- Love of outdoors
- Availability to work during term time and school holidays
- Excellent communication skills to enable effective dialogue with colleagues, staff, visitors and where applicable, students
- Organised and self-motivated, with a proven record for meeting targets and deadlines
- Able to perform well and remain professional whilst under pressure
- Dedicated team-player, who strives for excellence and leads by example
- Tactful and discreet, whilst mindful of observing safeguarding and professional standards
- Reliable
- Displays a positive mindset
- Enthusiastic, with an eagerness to learn new skills and a commitment to personal continuous development
- High level of accuracy and attention to detail
- Self-motivated and able to work alone without direction
- Adaptable and flexible with working patterns when required
- Committed to contributing toward the School community
- Willingness to accompany and support students on educational visits
- Reasonable physical fitness

The School reserves the right to vary or amend the duties and responsibilities of the post holder at any time according to the needs of the School's business.

In exceptional circumstances, the post holder will be required to undertake other duties and responsibilities of a similar post in order to support workload peaks, skill shortages, to ensure priorities are met. This will be sensitive to available resources and individual skills and will be generally in the same area.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

All employees should take reasonable care for their own Health & Safety and that of others who may be affected by what they do or do not do. Staff should correctly use work items provided by the School, including personal protective equipment in accordance with training and instruction.

