

Skilled Grounds Person - Job Description

Department:	Grounds and Estates
Reporting to:	Grounds Manager / Deputy Grounds Manager
Hours:	Full Time, year round
Location:	Cranleigh School
Contract type:	Permanent
Benefits	Competitive Salary Meals provided during term time Pension Use of exceptional sports and fitness facilities

Job Summary

As a Skilled Groundsperson, you will work closely with the Grounds Manager and Deputy to ensure our school estate and sporting surfaces are maintained to an exceptional standard. Drawing on your expertise in the sports turf industry, you will play a key role in monitoring standards and planning daily operations.

You will be providing expert assessments on pitch readiness, pitch playability to ensure a safe and high-quality experience for all athletes.

Beyond the field, you will share your technical knowledge, support your colleagues and drive collective success. This role requires a master of machinery, a self-starter with excellent time management, and a dedicated team player committed to excellence.

Key Responsibilities

Sports Turf & Facilities

Pitch Preparation: Execute high-quality preparation and renovation of natural and artificial sports surfaces (including marking out, aeration, scarifying, and top- dressing) for Rugby, Football, Cricket, Hockey, and other school sports.

Assessment: Proactively assess pitches for playability and safety, liaising with the Grounds Manager and Deputy Grounds manager to ensure fixtures run smoothly.



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Golf Course Maintenance: Maintain the school golf course to a high standard, including the specific care of greens, tees, and fairways.

Machinery Operation: Safely operate and adjust a wide range of modern grounds machinery (tractors, ride-on mowers, cylinder mowers) appropriate to the season and surface.

Estates, Gardens & Horticulture

Landscape Maintenance: Undertake general estate upkeep, including the care of formal lawns, ornamental hedges, trees, and flower beds.

Water Management: Monitor and maintain ditches, drains, and ponds.

Hard Landscaping: Assist in the maintenance and installation of fences, gates, and paths across the school property.

Seasonal Clearance: Manage seasonal requirements, including efficient leaf clearance in autumn and snow/ice clearance in winter to ensure campus safety.

Team Leadership & Operations

Events Support: Assist with logistical preparation for major school events (e.g., Speech Day, Charity Events), including set-up, clear-down, and traffic management on match days.

Independent Working: Demonstrate the initiative to identify tasks that need attention and work unsupervised when required.

Equipment Care: Ensure all tools and machinery are kept clean, stored correctly, and maintained in safe working order. Report faults immediately to the Mechanic or Manager.

Health & Safety: Strictly adhere to the School's Health and Safety Policy and risk assessments. Maintain a clean and safe working environment at all times.

Professional Standards: Maintain a smart appearance (uniform provided).

Flexibility: Participate in a weekend duty rotation to support school matches and essential maintenance.

Data Protection: The post holder must abide by the School's Data Protection Policy and IT Acceptable Use policies.



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Person Specification	
Essential Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Industry Experience: Proven experience in sports turf management, greenkeeping, or grounds maintenance.● Technical Knowledge: Understanding of modern machinery setup, calibration, and safe operation.● Work Ethic: A highly motivated “can-do attitude” with the ability to meet strict deadlines for match fixtures.● Teamwork: Reliable and able to work harmoniously within a team, while possessing the confidence to work autonomously.
Desirable Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● NVQ Level 2 or 3 in Sports Turf Management or Horticulture.● PA1/PA6 Spraying Certificates.● Note: While experience is preferred for this skilled role, full training on specific school systems and equipment will be provided.● Driving: A valid UK Driving License but not essential

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. The post holder will be subject to a DBS check.