



Allotment Educator

Part time: 25 hours a week.

Up to £26,000 per annum pro rata

Fixed Term: Initially for 1 year

Start date: April 2025

7 weeks holiday a year

Allotment Education

Rooted in kindness, cultivating success

We are a social enterprise, (CIC) working across Nottingham schools, delivering a therapeutic horticultural intervention across Key Stages 1-4 in mainstream and special educational settings.

We place a strong emphasis on the therapeutic effects of horticulture whilst delivering high quality sessions with high standards of learning and development. We work thoughtfully and proactively to foster a sense of wellbeing in children and young people through exploring horticulture, the joy of food production and wildlife support.

We enrich the existing environments in which pupils learn by creating sustainable gardens and areas for growing food. Engaging with our learners individually by working in small groups of up to 6 and 1:1s is a priority of our work, often reaching children who may struggle to regulate throughout the school day.

Our focused sessions enable individuals to explore and develop, whilst our school wide, annual Vegetable Takeaway unites the whole school in the excitement of growing food at home.

View our work on Rooted in kindness, cultivating success (@allotmenteducation) Instagram photos and videos

Contact Name: Anna Bond

Email: anna@allotmenteducation.co.uk

Opportunity Details

Role Title: Allotment Educator

Location: Nottingham-based primary, secondary and SEN schools. All accessible by public transport.

Hours:

TERM TIME: Part time, 3 days a week 24/25 hours a week, including lunch break.

(Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8am-4pm)

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING:

1 Week at Easter

1 Week May Half term

3 weeks in August

1 week in October

Holidays: 7 weeks holiday (inclusive of public holidays) to be taken as follows:

1 week October half term

2 weeks Christmas break

1 week February half term

1 week Easter break

2 weeks August summer break (Middle 2 weeks of school holidays only, not the first or final weeks)

Snapshot:

You will have the chance to create lasting and significant learning experiences in horticulture for pupils who may have never gardened before. This is a role filled with job satisfaction, challenge, hard work and reward. It is a real chance to do something different and see the impacts of your work first hand.

You will be delivering the Allotment Education curriculum that has evolved through 12 years of working in schools. You will be directed and supported by Allotment Education in your training until you are ready to work alone in your schools.

We work with some of the most vulnerable children in the city who may be survivors of trauma and/or living with trauma and challenging environments. These children can at times, require an extra layer of patience, kindness, respect and nurture. It is a privilege to work with such vulnerable children, though can be challenging at times.

All the tasks encompassed in raising food and flowers from seed will be orchestrated by you with the help of the children and young people in your schools. You will also be able to build relationships with the parents and carers at the seasonal plant and produce sales you will deliver each summer and Christmas.

If you are skilled at building relationships and enjoy a physically active role in all weathers, this is the job for you. This is an exciting opportunity to deliver Allotment Education to children and young people in their Nottingham schools.

Job Description

You will be working independently with small groups of up to 8 children and occasionally whole classes with the support of school teaching staff.

You will deliver the Allotment Education syllabus that will enable children to grow their own food organically.

Working spaces under your management will include a polytunnel, school allotment and raised beds. On completion of the school day, you will be required to create a brief update for each school detailing the day's outcomes and children's behaviours. You will then communicate this electronically to pertinent members of the staff team.

Once every 6 weeks you will be required to purchase the materials needed for the Bee Banquet. This will be fully reimbursed by Allotment Education on provision of the relevant receipts.

In addition to this you will also be responsible for managing and delivering a school wide Vegetable Takeaway project where every child in the school is provided with a plant to take home and grow in their own gardens. This will require you to grow approximately 1500 high quality vegetable plants, suitable for children to take home. You will be responsible for ensuring quality control across the plants, it will also be your responsibility to ensure every child receives one.

Acceptance:

You will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS check together with a Child's Barred list check.

You will not be able to start employment with Allotment Education until such checks have been performed.

Safeguarding training is mandatory and will be provided by Allotment Education. Child Protection and Health and Safety Policies must be read, understood and adhered to at all times.

Person Specification

Essential skills and experience:

- RHS level 2 OR a minimum of 3 year's experience of producing food and flowers from seed in, for example a domestic allotment, community garden or similar.
- Strong communication skills with both children and adults
- Ability to build rapport in short time frames with both children and staff
- Ability to work independently but also integrate into a team if required.
- Ability to plan and prepare the appropriate environment for high quality learning
- Computer literate with knowledge of word

Essential knowledge:

- Comprehensive knowledge and experience of domestic horticulture to include annual edible and ornamental crops, perennials, trees and shrubs.
- Understanding of how to support wildlife and beneficial activities that can be done to encourage this.
- Knowledge and appropriate practical skills to maintain polytunnels, allotments, mixed borders and gardens

Essential personal attributes:

- You will be a caring, kind, enthusiastic and highly motivated individual who is passionate about horticulture and nurturing vulnerable children
- You will be committed to, and able to support the Allotment Education ethos of nurturing vulnerable children, improving well-being and providing strong role models
- You will be passionate about promoting high standards of learning, development and behaviour

Desirable experience:

- Working in a primary school
- Working in a SEN school
- Working with pre-verbal children

How to apply

Please submit your CV together with a 250 word statement explaining why you would like to work for Allotment Education and what you can bring to the role.

All applications to be sent to: anna@allotmenteducation.co.uk

Closing date : 7th February 2025

Interviews: Monday 24th February and Thursday 27th February (Panel interview and assessed practical session)

Start date: First week of April, TBC dependent on appointee's notice period