

Post: Groundsperson

Reporting to: Grounds Supervisor

Prior Park Schools

Prior Park Schools (PPS) is a charitable trust comprising three independent but interdependent day and boarding schools set in the South West of England and Gibraltar: Prior Park College (PPC), the senior school and The Paragon, the junior school, both in Bath, and Prior Park School, a senior school in Gibraltar. Each school provides high achieving, co-educational education. The heart of Prior Park Schools is the encouraging Christian ethos which nurtures over 1,000 pupils aged between 3 and 18 years to become confident, capable, compassionate and independent minded young people.

The Role

The Groundsperson carries out estate maintenance work and preparation of sports surfaces for both Prior Park College and The Paragon. The Team is based at and works from Prior Park College.

The main areas of responsibility include:

- Daily maintenance of grounds, marking out all sports pitches and preparation of all playing surfaces using appropriate methods and machinery.
- Cut grass to specified standards in non-sports areas.
- Operate machinery, ride on mowers, power tools, drive tractors and associated plant.
- Carry out all general grounds tasks, including turfcare, planting, shrub and tree pruning, maintenance of ditches, paths and removal of grass clippings and leaves.
- Maintain watercourses, assist with tree lopping, repairs to hard landscape areas including small projects, repairs to dry stone walls, etc.
- Help to repair and maintain machines and plant. Help to maintain and repair gates, fences and grounds/garden huts and out buildings.
- Carry out weed spraying, application of fertilisers, chemicals, etc.
- Attend appropriate training courses to allow safe use of chainsaws and other power equipment, if required and as agreed with the Estates Manager.
- Assist with erection and dismantling of sports equipment, goal posts, etc.

Please note that the tasks listed above are not exhaustive and other additional, reasonable duties falling within capabilities of the post holder may be required, depending on the needs of the Department.

Professional Specification and Personal Attributes

The ideal candidate will display the following essential attributes:

- Ability to work unsupervised
- Good communication skills
- Ability to follow work routines and instructions
- Ability to work as a member of a team
- Full clean driving licence (to include tractor driving and towing a trailer)

The Essential criteria are:

- Knowledge and understanding of Health and Safety regulations and safe working practices
- NVQ2 Amenity Horticulture or Sports surface preparation or equivalent qualification
- Chemical spraying licences (PA1 & PA2)
- Awareness of the responsibilities of working in an environment with young people.

The desirable criteria are:

- PA6 Chemical spraying licence.
- PTC Cross Cutting Licence
- Good knowledge and experience of Cricket Groundsmanship
- Knowledge and experience of artificial sports surfaces
- Ability to prioritise and organise work commitments

The post holder must be honest and trustworthy with a good attention to detail and a sense of humour.

Conditions

Normal hours of work will be from 7.30 am until 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday. Saturdays are worked on a rota system for which overtime is paid.

In addition to normal public and Bank Holidays the Groundsperson will be entitled to 5 weeks paid holiday each year.

There is a contributory pension scheme. Staff can access free of charge school facilities, e.g. gym, swimming pool, tennis courts, etc. There is also a substantial free lunch during term-time. Free car parking is available.

Child Protection

Prior Park Educational Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Data Protection

In the course of employment at Prior Park Educational Trust, staff may have access to confidential information relating to pupils and their families and are required to exercise due consideration in the way they use such information. Staff should not act in any way which might be prejudicial to the School's interest. Information which may be included in the category covers both the general business of the school and information regarding specific individuals. A strict code of confidentiality must be adhered to at all times. The School is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998 and staff must not at any time use the personal data held by the school or disclose such data to a third person.