

THE KING'S SCHOOL IN MACCLESFIELD



GROUNDS OPERATIVE

FURTHER DETAILS AND PERSON SPECIFICATION

King's is a beautiful school and a wonderful place to work. Founded in 1502, the school is now located on Alderley Road, Prestbury in Macclesfield, Cheshire and boasts a brand new £60-million state-of-the-art facility. Our stunning rural campus offers some of the finest school facilities to be found anywhere in the UK. The impressive 80-acre site includes a former working farm, an orchard, Dumber Wood and an unrivalled sports' offering. There are eight senior rugby pitches, four cricket pitches, outdoor cricket nets, five junior football pitches, junior rugby pitches, two all-weather AstroTurf hockey pitches, six tennis and netball courts, a 400-metre athletics track, and a dedicated rounders pitch.

THE VACANCY

The objective of this role is to ensure the efficient maintenance and development of sports playing surfaces, their structures and associated areas and to ensure that safe, consistent, well presented and good quality playing surfaces are always available to students and visitors. In addition, the role will require the general maintenance and development of landscaped and garden areas.

Previous experience is not essential but a degree of working on one's own initiative is essential. The job is varied and requires a hands-on approach with good communication skills. The role includes the use and maintenance of various tractors, machinery and equipment as required. Grounds staff may also assist other support staff in the day-to-day needs of the school environment. A driving licence is advantageous to be able to operate the vehicles on site.

Grounds Operatives are responsible for ensuring that the grounds are maintained and tasks will vary on a daily basis. Duties may include:

- Assisting in the preparation and maintenance of all sports surfaces and horticultural areas to a high standard;
- Tractor and trailer driving;
- Lawn maintenance and cultivation;
- Carrying out minor repairs to gardening equipment, tractors and machinery;
- Making use of appropriate equipment and facilities in order to complete duties in the most efficient and effective way;
- Ensuring security of the departmental vehicles, tools, machinery and equipment at all times;
- Maintenance of boundary fences, hedges, ditches, verges, car parks and paths;
- Hedge-cutting including use of a mobile elevated work platform and ladders;
- Soil cultivation, digging and forking, mulching, watering, raking, weeding, edging, pruning, seed sowing, bed preparation and planting;

- Ensuring ornamental borders and lawns are maintained to the required standard to provide a high quality, visually attractive site;
- Maintaining the grounds to ensure pathways and drives are clear of litter/snow/ice with cooperation from additional support staff.

BENEFITS

- Competitive salary;
- Dedicated support staff pension scheme;
- Opportunities and support for continuing professional development including dedicated and personalised CPD funding arrangements;
- Dedicated Development Days for whole staff training;
- Free school lunches on the days you are working on site during term-time;
- Well-being initiatives, i.e. Flu jabs, yoga, staff football, full-time nurses on site, mindfulness for staff, and other support as needed;
- Access to latest technology both at home and in school;
- Opportunities to participate in/run a myriad of clubs and societies;
- Staff social events (Christmas lunch, end of term celebrations);
- Fee discount for staff children for permanent members of staff;
- Subsidised/reduced gym membership in the King's Sports Centre.

The post holder will be on their feet for the majority of the time, bending, lifting, carrying and often on ladders. Grounds and Garden staff are provided with protective clothing for inclement weather and other clothing, such as gloves and overalls, is also provided as required. The duties of this post will include lifting and manual handling. Therefore, the job holder should be familiar with the procedures required for these areas.

SALARY AND CONDITIONS

The salary for this post will be based on Point 17 of the Support Staff Salary Scale, £19,785 per annum. A contributory pension scheme including life assurance is also available. Candidates should note that all appointments are subject to a routine check with the DBS.

The hours of work are 40 hours per week from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm with a one-hour lunch break. Holiday entitlement is 18 days plus Bank Holidays and four mandatory shutdown days per annum, increasing to 23 days plus Bank Holidays and four mandatory shutdown days after five years' service.

Children of members of staff, subject to passing the entrance exam and the availability of places, may be educated at King's with a substantial discount from the Junior Department to the Senior Divisions. We are a non-smoking establishment and an equal opportunities employer. We value diversity among pupils and staff and encourage applications from all individuals regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

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

APPLICATIONS

If you wish to discuss the post, informally, please telephone Carl McCormack, the Head Groundsman, on 01625 260000. Your completed Application Form should be sent to Human Resources (staffvacancies@kingsmac.co.uk) as soon as possible. The closing date for applications is **9.00 am on Monday 13th December 2021**. The school prefers the form to be completed electronically. It is available from the school's website: www.kingsmac.co.uk.

We hope to interview for this post as soon as possible after the closing date.

Thank you for your application and for your interest in the King's School. We regret that we can only write to those candidates short-listed and are unable to provide tours of the school until the interview stage. If you have not heard from us within two weeks of the closing date, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

**Human Resources
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