



## Nursery Practitioner Post - Job Opportunity – June 2023.

Catkins is a small privately owned childcare setting in Horsham. We cater for up to 24 children aged 2-5 years and we are seeking a part-time or full-time Nursery Practitioner/Assistant to join us in our fantastic nursery, and work over 4 days a week, (if full-time), or 3-4 regular shifts per week, according to the number of hours worked if part-time. We enjoy providing new & exciting ideas and activities for the children in our care.

We are open from 8am-6pm for 50 weeks of the year and are shut for the Christmas/New Year week and for a full working week in August. We are a stand-alone setting in the complex of buildings adjacent to the Needles Community Buildings off of Blackbridge Lane.

We have a fully fitted kitchen and catering staff, and all nursery meals are prepared on site. Staff can have free hot meals or snacks while working and have a staff area for breaks. Staff covering the children's lunch times sit, eat and chat with the children. Staff facilities also include a shower. We have uniforms and coats supplied, and free parking on site.

Staff have the opportunity for continued professional development by attending training courses and the opportunity to develop their role within the setting by taking on areas of interest or expertise.

The owner/manager is 'hands on' and actively working with the children in the setting and is committed in continuing to develop a high quality, successful setting with a strong and supporting staff team to ensure ALL children attending, reach their full potential.

We have an 'Outstanding' Ofsted rating, and we are all proud of our achievements and believe passionately about what we do.

### **Responsibilities and Duties**

The successful applicant will need to .....

- \* be enthusiastic about all that they do
- \* smile and engage with the children, play alongside and support their learning effectively
- \* be able or willing to sing and dance with children and staff and have an exciting range of songs and rhymes to hand
- \* get messy with malleable activities and enjoy experiencing these with the children
- \* love the outdoors even when it's raining
- \* offer comfort and a lap when it's needed
- \* read stories upside down
- \* play in the home corner and drink lots of tea and eat play dough cakes, (as well as real ones on special occasions!)
- \* join in with the 'end of year' leavers' water party and get very wet!

## Qualifications and Skills

Level 2 or 3 Nursery Practitioner or willing to attend training for a recognised childcare qualification. Experience with under 5's desirable.

We would be happy to take on an apprentice ready and willing to train for a Level 2 or 3 qualification.

Child Protection, Food Hygiene, Manual Handling, Health and Safety, and First Aid training will be arranged if not already held.

### You should be able to:-

- \* be a good communicator with staff and parents
- \* work well within the team in providing the best care and education that we can.
- \* adhere to all policies and procedures followed by nursery, and allow the children to take 'safe risks'
- \* be committed in providing a caring and nurturing, 'home from home' experience for the children in our care

## Benefits

Free meals and refreshments provided whilst at work.

Ongoing continued professional development, training and skills swaps, with a mentor system in place for new or junior staff.

A pleasant and friendly working atmosphere with an experienced, cheerful nursery team, who support each other in daily working together in one main playroom.

Pension scheme.

Worked over 4-day week with one weekday off per week if full-time. Part-time hours are regular days and shift patterns.

Holiday - 21 days, plus bank holidays (pro-rata for part-time staff) and an extra day off long service.

Allocated time given within the working week for updating children's journals as a key person.

Annual salary review and regular appraisals and 1:1's with senior management for career progression.

**Salary –** £21,798 - £22,714 for full time staff, (40hr week), pro-rata for part-time depending on experience & qualifications.

**Closing date** - Open

### **Application method:**

**E-mail:- [cathy@catkinsnursery.com](mailto:cathy@catkinsnursery.com)**

**informal phone chat in the first instance, then with CV and application form and an informal visit to come and meet us and view our nursery. 😊**

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