



Job Description

Farm, Garden and Animal Care assistant

Responsible to:	Subject Leader of Agriculture & Horticulture/Animal Care
Grade & Range:	NJC APT&C Grade 4 (Points 4-6) Annual Salary £21,189 - £21,968
Hourly Rate:	£10.98 - £11.39
Weekly Hours:	37 hours per week, over six days Monday-Saturday. Working full year, with an annual leave entitlement of 25 days / year.
Start Date:	As soon as possible

Department overview:

Ripley St Thomas Church of England Academy is a large and successful school close to the centre of Lancaster. One of its unique features is a small working farm, with a Victorian walled garden and an animal centre. Children of all ages from Year 7 to 13 study Agriculture and Horticulture and Animal Care.

The farm area is 11 acres with several paddocks and enclosures. The Victorian walled garden contains the animal centre yard, polytunnel, nature area, raised vegetable beds and compost area. The animals include a flock of 30 breeding sheep, four ponies, six alpacas, six laying hens, a hamster and a bearded dragon.

Job Purpose:

The person appointed to this post will be based on the school farm, garden and animal centre. The role is to support the Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care department. This will involve animal husbandry with large and small animals to high standards of animal welfare, and maintaining the farm, garden area and the livestock grazing areas. Full training on the Academy's systems will be given to the successful candidate.

Job Description:

Your tasks will vary depending upon the time of year. The day-to-day duties you will be responsible for are:

- Animal husbandry - providing all animals with the Five Animal needs.
- Maintaining a safe and tidy workplace with good levels of hygiene.
- Providing equipment for lessons and tidying up afterwards.
- Help grow vegetables, watering, weeding garden areas and polytunnel.
- Monitoring amounts and preparing orders for food, bedding and equipment as directed by Subject Leader.
- Maintaining records and information regarding the farm, garden and animal centre.

Your duties may also include:

- Caring for sick or new-born animals.
- Arranging vet/farrier visits.
- Overseeing lambing.
- Being present during lessons alongside subject teachers.
- Any other duties deemed appropriate at the request of Subject Leader.
- Working evenings and weekends at certain times of year.

Ripley St Thomas CE Academy

A member of The Bay Learning Trust

Your duties should be discharged in such a manner as to maintain and develop the vision, principles and values of the Trust and the Academy.

The above job description sets out the area of work in which duties will generally be focused, and gives an example of the type of duties that the postholder could be asked to carry out. **PLEASE NOTE** that this is for guidance only. Postholders are expected to be flexible and to operate in different areas of work/carry out different duties as required.

The Bay Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects its entire staff to share this commitment. All post-holders will be required to have an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS).

We are committed to achieving equal opportunities in the way we deliver services to the community and in our employment arrangements. We expect all employees to understand and promote this policy in their work.

All employees have a responsibility for their own health and safety and that of others when carrying out their duties and must help us to apply our Health and Safety policy.

Person Specification - Farm, Garden and Animal Care assistant

	Essential	Desirable
Minimum 18 years of age, as lone working will be required.	x	
Level 2 Animal Care qualification or similar.	x	
Level 3 Animal Management qualification or similar.		x
Reliable, punctual and hard working.	x	
Responsible, safety conscious and tidy.	x	
The ability to use your own initiative and respond to situations independently but also able to follow instructions given.	x	
Able to carry out physically demanding work and have good stamina.	x	
Previous experience of using agricultural machinery.		x
Full current UK driving licence	x	