**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Post:** Outdoor Learning Coach

**Reporting to:** Assistant Principal

**Location:** ArkCharter Academy, Portsmouth

**Contract:** Full-Time

**The Role**

As a Pathways Outdoor Learning Coach, you will lead an outdoor education-focused curriculum, helping students develop both academic and life skills in an alternative learning environment. You will support students through outdoor and adventurous activities, sports coaching, and vocational qualifications, fostering resilience, teamwork, leadership, and communication.

Your role will involve planning and delivering outdoor learning sessions, supporting students with gardening, forest school projects, and off-site excursions designed to enhance their personal and educational growth. You will also ensure health and safety, conduct risk assessments, and collaborate with staff, parents, and external agencies to provide a holistic learning experience.

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

* Lead outdoor and adventurous activities, holding relevant qualifications
* Deliver sports coaching, offering students opportunities to achieve sporting qualifications
* Plan and lead off-site excursions, ensuring educational and welfare outcomes
* Facilitate Forest School sessions and support outdoor gardening and environmental projects
* Deliver and assess vocational qualifications such as Prince’s Trust, AQA, ASDAN, and other awards
* Promote personal development through experiential learning, fostering resilience, teamwork, and leadership
* Ensure health and safety compliance, including risk assessments and emergency preparedness
* Monitor student progress, providing feedback and contributing to reports and reviews
* Support additional intervention teaching, ensuring students remain engaged in their learning journey

**Other Responsibilities**

* Support Ark’s commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.
* Adhere to Ark’s data protection policies and procedures.
* Liaise confidently and professionally with colleagues and external stakeholders.
* Engage with Ark’s wider network, attending relevant meetings and training sessions.
* Contribute to the whole-school initiatives, training and enrichment activities as required.

This job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition. It will be reviewed periodically and when appropriate to reflect or anticipate changes in the job commensurate with the grade and job title. It may be subject to change or modification at any time after consultation taking into account the circumstances of the academies and their implications.

**Person Specification**

**Essential Criteria**

* Experience in leading outdoor and adventurous activities, with relevant qualifications
* Ability to deliver sports coaching and support students in achieving sporting qualifications
* Knowledge of vocational qualifications such as Prince’s Trust, AQA, ASDAN, or willingness to gain certification
* Passion for alternative education, supporting students with special educational needs
* Ability to plan and lead off-site activities, ensuring both educational and welfare benefits
* Strong relationship-building skills, with students, staff, and external stakeholders
* Resilience, patience, and a sense of humour to support students with emotional and behavioural challenges
* Full UK driving license to facilitate off-site activities and excursions

**Desirable Criteria**

* Experience in Forest School education, gardening projects, or environmental learning
* Background in trauma-informed and restorative approaches to student engagement
* Familiarity with alternative provision settings and specialist educational pathways
* Ability to contribute to wider school initiatives, including residential trips and adventure programmes.

**Other**

* Commitment to equality of opportunity and the safeguarding and welfare of all pupils
* Right to work in the UK
* Willingness to undertake training
* This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check

*Ark is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in our academies. In order to meet this responsibility, we follow a rigorous selection process which will include questions about safeguarding. This process is outlined* [here](http://arkonline.org/sites/default/files/Ark_safe_recruitment.pdf)*, but can be provided in more detail if requested. All successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. This post is covered by Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent English is an essential requirement for the role.*

*Ark requires all employees to undertake an enhanced DBS check. You are required, before appointment, to disclose any unspent conviction, cautions, reprimands or warnings under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975. Non-disclosure may lead to termination of employment. However, disclosure of a criminal background will not necessarily debar you from employment - this will depend upon the nature of the offence(s) and when they occurred. To read more about Ark’s safer recruitment process, please click this* [*link*](https://arkschools.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/ArkNetCentral/hr/EcXQDSjo9UpCpgk8lDWMN0sBVG6GBUTVWVXp9c5KkW-tog?e=bfdlES)*.*

*We aim to build a diverse and inclusive organisation where everyone – staff and students – can do their best work and achieve their full potential. We want to reflect and represent diverse perspectives across our organisation because we know that doing so will make us stronger and more effective. To know more about Ark’s diversity and inclusion commitments, please click on this* [*link*](https://arkonline.org/our-approach/diversity-and-inclusion)*.*