

Hogacre Common (HC) Community Allotment - Community Food Grower - Job Description (2 days/wk initially, £15 @ hr)

Purpose

To manage vegetable and fruit production at Hogacre Common (HC) Community Allotment, ensuring availability of seasonal and varied produce throughout the year. This role entails the planning for and management of food growing and the supervision of volunteers to work on the community allotment.

Key responsibilities:

Planning and management of crop production

- To develop and manage the community allotment site at Hogacre Common to produce seasonal vegetables and fruit - providing a strategic plan for overall use of the site and purchasing seeds etc in collaboration with designated directors.
- To work with the community volunteer growers, to facilitate the above, through learning by doing, with weekly/monthly job planning. This might include some hours at w/ends e.g. to collaborate with Oxcrow.
- To ensure the majority of the vegetable and fruit requirement of Hogacre public events e.g. Harvest Festival, work-parties, training days, is supplied from produce grown on-site.
- To show best practise in growing by establishing sustainable techniques in watering, composting and fertilising, experimental growing etc, according to permaculture (or other similar) principles.

Site Management

- Comply at all times with HC policies (eg Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety, and Safeguarding).
- Maintain the high standard of gardening equipment, ensuring necessary maintenance and replacement takes place.
- Develop and maintain growing areas to ensure they are productive, beautiful, inclusive, educational and sustainable.
- Develop and maintain signposting, labelling of crops and helpful instructions.

Session delivery

- to be planned with HC directors depending on growing and site development needs.
- monitoring and evaluating sessions to inform future development and investment.

Knowledge, experience and skills:

Essential:

- Experience of growing food crops using organic/permaculture (or other) principles.
- Experience of developing growing plans and schedules for food growing.
- Experience of community growing,
- Experience of habitat management.
- Experience of managing and working with volunteers.
- Ability and motivation to take initiative, work flexibly and with minimal supervision.
- Ability to work collaboratively to set and achieve goals.

Desirable experience

- Experience of working with young people, marginalised groups and those with extra support needs.
- Experience of working in a community-led environment.