

Post: Horticulturist (fixed term to 29 August 2025)
Department: Benmore
Division: Horticulture

Job Description

Main Duties

- Development and maintenance of plants within the living collection, including removal of dead plants, planting new material, installing plant protection, and mulching to suppress weeds and encourage plant establishment
- General horticultural activities including grass cutting, brush cutting and strimming, hedge cutting, fertiliser application, chipping, and tractor work, ensuring all tasks are undertaken in line with best practice and conducted safely and in accordance with our health and safety policy/risk assessments
- Helping with plant propagation at the Nursery
- There may be opportunities for both chainsaw operation and pesticide application where appropriate certification is held
- General horticultural machinery operation
- Assist in the removal of plants infected with pathogens to minimise the spread of pests and diseases
- Regular interaction with garden visitors and our garden guides, passing on information about the garden and its plants
- Work with students and assist with our school's education programme
- Participate in weekend duty on a roster basis
- Any other appropriate duties as requested by your line management team

Person Specification

Skills/Aptitude	Essential	Desirable
Work proactively, effectively, and cooperatively as part of the Benmore team but with some lone working	*	
Good communication skills both verbal and written	*	
Flexible approach to working practices	*	
Horticultural practice, machinery operation and maintenance	*	
Good IT skills including use of Microsoft packages and plant records databases such as IRIS_BG		*
Liaising with visitors and school groups	*	



Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
Plant knowledge including pests and diseases	*	
Plant database recording		*
Good understanding of health and safety practices	*	
Good understanding of horticultural machinery use and maintenance	*	
Tree hazard inspection		*

Professional Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
SVQ/NVQ Level 2 in a horticultural subject or equivalent practical work experience	*	
Lantra certification in the use of horticultural equipment/machinery including mowers, strimmers, brush cutters		*
CS30/31 chainsaw operation certification		*
PA1/PA6 pesticide spraying certification		*
Professional tree inspection		*
First aid at work qualification or be willing to work towards		*
Full driving licence	*	