

Job Title Assistant Horticulture Technician
Department Education
Division Learning & Engagement

Job Description

To support the delivery of educational activities by producing plant materials, maintaining learning environments and providing equipment and resources.

Main Duties

- Support learners undertaking practical activities and organise appropriate equipment and materials.
- Prepare and set up for practical classes, including the maintenance of tools and resources.
- Care and maintenance of plant material in a polytunnel and outdoor practical teaching areas including grass paths and edges.
- Clearing up after classes, sterilising tools, and equipment.
- Propagation by seed sowing and cuttings to produce material for classes.
- Demonstrate horticultural tasks to students and pass on knowledge and experience.
- Maintaining plant records using the IrisBG collections management system.
- Identifying pests & diseases and applying appropriate controls.
- Maintain biologically secure growing environments by practising high standards of hygiene.
- Perform pruning, hedge cutting and tree and shrub removal.
- Prepare and improve soils for cultivation.
- Hard landscape construction, installation of irrigation systems.
- Support field excursions.

Person Specification

Skills/Aptitude	Essential	Desirable
Wide ranging practical horticulture skills, experience, and techniques at a high level.	*	
Experience at working independently for extended periods and as working part of a team.	*	
Able to carry out manual tasks such as digging, lifting, carrying, and operating horticultural machinery daily.	*	
Ability to communicate professionally with people at all levels – from students and members of the public to senior members of staff.	*	
Able to use initiative.	*	
Able to prioritise workload.	*	
Ability to supervise and advise students.	*	
Competent in using Microsoft Office programmes (i.e., Outlook, Teams, Word, and Excel, etc.) and in the use of plant record databases (i.e., IRIS BG).		.*

Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
Cultivation of a range of temperate woody and herbaceous plants, including fruit & vegetable production	*	
Nursery plant production.	*	
Plant pest and disease controls.	*	
Current industry health and safety practices.	*	
Knowledge and experience of a range of horticultural machinery.	*	

Professional Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
A professional horticulture qualification at SCQF level five or above (e.g., National Certificate or Scottish Vocational Qualification) or equivalent experience.	*	
A valid UK driving license and willingness to obtain minibuss and/or tractor licence.	*	
PA1 & PA6a spraying certificate or willingness to obtain appropriate certification.		*
First Aid Certificate		*