

Job Title:	Outdoor Education Practitioner
Pay Scale:	Salary dependent on experience and qualification
Reports to:	Outdoor Education Development Officer (OEDO)
Responsible for:	Delivery of outdoor education lessons
Main purpose of the post: To complement the professional work of the OEDO by taking responsibility for agreed learning activities under an agreed system of supervision. This may involve planning, preparing and delivering learning activities for groups or for whole classes and monitoring pupils and assessing, recording and reporting on pupils' achievement, progress and development as well as ensuring that pupils are engaged in pre-set work, managing pupil behaviour and ensuring a safe environment. To be responsible and assist in the day to day running of outdoor learning for the Trust. You will be responsible for taking groups of pupils outside to boost and develop children's self-esteem, self belief and confidence by suggesting small manageable tasks and giving them the freedom to learn at their own pace. The work requires moderate levels of physical effort. It involves lifting and handling of equipment and other resources and to be involved in practical activities and physical care of learners and the physical outdoor environment. The role is almost exclusively out of doors and will require working on uneven surfaces and in unpredictable weather conditions.	
Employment Duties: This job description is to be carried out in accordance with agreed school policies and the provisions of the employee contract.	
Key Tasks and Activities: • To assist the OEDO in developing the Outdoor Education programme. • To be solely responsible for a class or group of students, ensuring they are engaged in learning activities that have been developed and agreed by the OEDO. • To contribute to the planning, preparation, delivery and assessment of the Outdoor Education curriculum. • To help prepare, monitor and maintain a safe and secure learning environment in line with agreed lesson plans. • To promote positive behaviour and relationships, using effective strategies in a timely manner. To effectively manage instances of poor behaviour and any other immediate issues or emergencies that arise in accordance with Trust policy. • To support students to engage with the work provided, including providing support where necessary with literacy, numeracy and organisational skills. • To liaise with teachers / other relevant staff with regard to work set for a class, and ensure you are suitably equipped and informed to be able to effectively supervise the assigned lesson. • To feedback to colleagues on pupil engagement in the set work and also on	

any issues that may have arisen during the session(s).

- To undertake administrative duties relevant to the role.
- To undertake any other duties as may reasonably be directed.
- To evaluate programmes and to continually strive for improvement.
- To promote learning in the outdoor environment and the ethos of outdoor education.
- To be responsible at all times for high standards of care and education of all group members in accordance with the Forest Schools Association principles and criteria for good practice.
- To ensure effective communication with all colleagues and pupils.
- To ensure the health and safety of all participants, including contributing to and checking risk assessments for the sites, tools and activities used.
- To regularly check and maintain tools and other equipment.
- To adhere to all relevant policies and procedures of the individual schools and settings.
- To engage in continuous professional development.

General Information:

Equality of Opportunity	• As a member of Trust staff to take individual and collective professional responsibility for reinforcing and promoting a working environment free from discrimination, victimisation, harassment and bullying. • Ensure the development and progression of equality within the sphere of responsibility of this post and the fair and equal treatment of all colleagues, children, parents and visitors.
Confidentiality and Data Protection	• To treat all information acquired through employment, both formally and informally, in strict confidence. • To be aware of the school's responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 for the security, accuracy and relevance of personal data held on such systems and ensure that all processes comply with this.
To contribute as an effective and collaborative member of the School team	• Any other duties as reasonably required by any manager of the school. • Participating in the ongoing development, implementation and monitoring of the school development plan. • Attend regular meetings as required and make a positive contribution during meetings.
Child Protection	• Being aware of and complying with policies and procedures relating to child protection reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.

Key Skills and Competencies:

- A relevant qualification in working with pupils (minimum of NVQ L3 or equivalent) - essential.
- Significant experience in outdoor education - essential.
- A relevant qualification in outdoor education - desirable, or the willingness to undertake this in the future.
- To develop positive relationships with colleagues, providing consistent and effective support and working constructively as a member of the school staff team.
- Keen interest in commitment to the ethos of outdoor education.
- Ability to organise, lead and motivate pupils and colleagues.
- Committed to quality and continuous improvement.
- Excellent communication skills in working with pupils and colleagues.
- Confidentiality of information as appropriate.
- Full working knowledge of relevant policies/codes of practice/legislation.
- Excellent literacy/numeracy skills.
- Work constructively as part of a team
- Ability to self-evaluate learning needs and actively seek learning opportunities.

- Ability to work on own initiative.

General Duties

- Promote the agreed vision and mission of the LEO Academy Trust.
- To support and promote the aims and ethos of the Academy. To lead in the promotion of a professional, caring and supportive atmosphere within each Academy.
- Implement all policies agreed by the LEO Academy Trust, Board of Directors and Local Governing Body.
- Be aware that each child has a right to equal opportunities and equal access to the curriculum.
- Maintain high expectations for all children including SEND – to reach their full potential.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues, setting high professional standards.
- Maintain good order and discipline amongst the pupils when they are in school and engaged in school activities elsewhere.
- Be sensitive to the linguistic, cultural and ethnic backgrounds of the children and show an awareness of gender and class issues.
- Take an active part in the life of the Trust.
- Prioritise your workload and ensure that paperwork is easily accessed by each academy.

Agreed by: Date

This job description may be amended at any time after consultation with the post holder.

This job description is a broad overview of the post. It is not an exhaustive list of all possible duties, and it is recognised that jobs change and evolve over time. Consequently, this is not a contractual document and the post holder will be required to carry out any other duties that are necessary to fulfil the purpose of the job.

LEO Academy Trust is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all staff. We aim to create a supportive and inclusive working environment in which all individuals are able to make best use of their skills. We do not discriminate against staff on the basis of age; race; sex; disability; sexual orientation; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; religion, faith or belief (Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics). The principles of non-discrimination and equality of opportunity also apply to the way in which staff treat visitors, volunteers, contractors and former staff.

Person specification

Forest School Practitioner

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	• A relevant qualification in working with pupils (minimum of NVQ L3 or equivalent). • Willingness to undertake an appropriate outdoor education qualification. • Willingness to undertake a Paediatric First Aid Certificate and administer first aid as appropriate. • Willing to undertake a food hygiene certificate. • An understanding of Health & Safety requirements and welfare issues of working with children aged between 3 and 11. • Knowledge, understanding and practical experience of Forest Schools provision for children aged between 3 and 11. • Knowledge and practical understanding of child development and pedagogy. • Knowledge and understanding and practical experience of sustainable woodland management and education within the outdoor environment. • Knowledge and understanding of schools, their ethos and how they work. • A passion for working in the outdoors and enthusiasm to share it with others • Ability to independently travel to and attend different Trust sites as required	• An appropriate outdoor education qualification (minimum of NVQ L2 but preferable L3 or equivalent). • Paediatric First Aid including emergency first aid at work - or Outdoor First Aid qualification • Food hygiene certificate • Ability to drive and use of private car
Experience	• Experienced in working with children in education or play work. • Ability to motivate and inspire children across the range of age, ability and • confidence.	

	● To be clear, confident, fair, with good behaviour management skills appropriate to the age of the child.	
Abilities/Skills	● Able to work independently and to manage own time efficiently. ● Excellent communication skills. ● Ability to work individually and as part of a team. ● Ability to effectively manage risk and produce thorough risk assessments, putting suitable measures in place to ensure the safety of all staff and children. ● Ability to think creatively and adapt activities to allow all pupils to be included and a commitment to equal opportunities for all learners. ● Love of the outdoors and nature. ● Self-motivation. ● A flexible approach to work commitments. ● Excellent role model for learners. ● Ability to sustain moderate levels of physical effort. ● Willingness to work exclusively out of doors, on uneven surfaces and in unpredictable weather conditions.	

This job description is current at the date shown, but, in consultation with you, may be changed by the Trust to reflect the needs of the school and Trust.