

Science Centre Assistant

Background

During term time The Observatory Science Centre has a large number of visiting school groups (to a maximum of 200 pupils per day).

Schools will travel up to 2 hours to visit the centre and will be on site for approx 4 hours. The children will be aged from 4 – 18 years, and will be of all abilities.

During the holidays and at weekends etc, the centre has a wide visitor base from all ages, abilities & interests.

Days / hours

2 days per week

9.30 am – end of day (the centre closes at 5 pm in winter, 6 pm in summer, with last admission 2 hours before closing)

Additional days will be offered according to the needs of the centre.

Weekend / evening work may also be available.

Duties

Science Centre staff assist in many areas, including:

- Taking school groups (term time) through bridge building workshops and telescope tours.
- Reception duties
- Helping visitors with the hands-on exhibits, general enquiries, etc.
- General assistance in the centre
- Guiding public telescope tours
- Performing science shows
- Café assistance
- General housekeeping / cleaning etc

Requirements

- We are looking for applicants with an aptitude for employment at a popular tourist attraction, ensuring that all visitors have a positive experience.
- Non scientists are welcome to apply as full training will be given, although an interest in science or astronomy would be an advantage
- Candidates should have a flexible approach to work duties
- Own transport is essential as the centre cannot be accessed via public transport.
- A CRB check will be necessary

What we offer

The centre is an educational charity and has to operate very economically & efficiently. The initial hourly rate offered will be just above minimum wage, plus holiday pay. This rate will be reviewed after a 3 month trial period.

- Free uniform of polo shirt / shirt and sweatshirt
- Free tea / coffee
- Free parking
- A very satisfying job in which you will never be bored!
- The opportunity to use your own initiative and to expand your role in the science centre team according to your own skill base

How to apply

Please post a brief CV and letter of application to:

Mrs J Harris

The Observatory Science Centre

Herstmonceux

East Sussex

BN27 1RN

Closing date 15th February 2008

Please include details of 2 referees.

Interviews will take place on Monday 25th February 2008

The successful applicant will be required to start as soon as possible, subject to references. Final confirmation of employment will be dependent on compulsory checks with the Criminal Records Bureau.