



Farm Food and Events Manager

About Jamie's Farm

Jamie's Farm exists to transform the lives of hard to reach children in challenging urban schools, by providing a unique combination of 'farming, family and therapy' through a short stay residential and follow up programme. The charity helps children to flourish at home, in education and in the community, working with teachers to make changes catalysed on the Farm last. Two years ago, we moved to a wonderful new location designed specifically for our project, in the heart of the Wiltshire countryside.

Food on the Farm

In their week on the farm, pupils have a wonderful opportunity to observe and direct the full food cycle: helping to plant seeds, to grow vegetables, to harvest crops, to prepare dishes before finally to serve up delicious meals for their friends and the Jamie's Farm family. As well as learning a great deal about the science and creativity involved in the whole process, pupils also feel a sense of reward in producing something for others to enjoy. These practical and creative tasks are conducive to calm reflection and a supportive and trusting environment. Given this allows young people the time and space to grow and talk through some of their difficulties at home and school, it is no surprise that the pupils seem to remember these activities more than any other. Furthermore, as we emphasise to young people the important role that their diet plays in influencing their attitude and behaviour, we hope that our commitment to healthy eating will lead to an improved routine as they return to school.

We are excited by the potential for this strand of our work to expand, under the direction of a passionate and determined individual. As a young organisation, we are still seeking opportunities to grow, and our tight working family is very supportive of new ideas to improve our offering to our young visitors, and strengthen our financial sustainability further.

Position Summary

We are seeking a practical and enthusiastic horticulturalist and cook, to lead and oversee the food strand of our offering to vulnerable children. Applicants should be able to lead group work with children, engaging and impassioning them in cooking and gardening activities, and the merits of healthy eating.

The role also entails work on several annual and one-off fund raising events for the charity, and an ability to coordinate a volunteer team. Most importantly, the farm food co-ordinator will also be required to lead and contribute to all aspects of Jamie's Farm visits, as a flexible and positive member of our team.

Major responsibilities

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. Delivery on all Jamie's Farm visits including:
 - specific farm responsibility, and daily farm activities with children
 - contribution to farm life including daily walks and meal preparation
 - planning and delivering kitchen-based and garden activities with children
 - participation in, and leading of Jamie's Farm group sessions
 - leading evening activity sessions

2. Other major responsibilities include:
 - Participation in local fund raising eg Bath Half Marathon, Spring Fling, Seasonal Open Afternoons
 - Co-ordinating part time staff and volunteers within the food team
 - Management of Jamie's Farm Events eg Cock and Bull Festival
 - Administering and managing food safety and hygiene systems
 - Flexibility to work some weekday evenings and weekend events
 - Jamie's Farm food branding work

Education and Experience:

- Minimum 2 years experience in related field
- Experience working in social work, therapeutic community or educational setting
- Prior experience working with challenging children preferred

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities:

- Knowledge and passion for farming and the countryside
- Interest in the benefits of education beyond the classroom, especially for vulnerable groups
- Ability to exemplify Jamie's Farm core values of respect, empathy, nurture and family
- Ability to demonstrate a commitment to the Jamie's Farm mission
- Strong analytic and organisational skills
- Ability to develop strong relationships with diverse individuals, and to influence and motivate others
- Ability to contribute to wider vision, strategy and goals of an ambitious, professional and unique charity
- Sensitivity to racial, cultural and ideological diversity
- Strong work ethic and ability to share this with children

Benefits:

- £15,000 a year, plus generous benefits:
- Optional studio accommodation onsite in beautiful Cotswold farmhouse setting, inc bills
- Business phone
- All meals during visits
- 28 days annual leave pro rata
- Participation in Jamie's Farm study group sessions
- Monthly supervision with external supervisor
- Friendly, community-based environment

Deadline:

Friday 1st June 2012

Start date:

1st September 2012

Apply now:

Please submit one page letter and CV to wendy@jamiesfarm.org.uk

Due to the nature of our work with young people, on acceptance of offer all Jamie's Farm employees are subject to an enhanced Criminal Record Bureau check in accordance with our Child Protection Policy.

Jamie's Farm is committed to eliminating discrimination and to encouraging diversity, and operates an Equality and Diversity policy to this end.