



Job Title:	Growing Apprentice
Start Date:	March 2020
Hours:	3 days, 22.5 hours per week (Mon, Weds, flexible other)Potential 4th day.
Salary:	£10.55 / hour (London Living Wage)
Contract length:	20 months (until Nov 2021)
Probationary period:	3 months
Location:	Sutton Community Farm, South London, SM6 0SH

JOB PROFILE

Purpose of the position

The Growing Apprentice works with the Head of Production and growing team at the farm, developing skills and experience in local food production. The Growing Apprentice will play a key role in maximising the productivity of the farm and helping secure its long term success, as well as helping people in the community have a positive, meaningful and enjoyable experience. This includes volunteers, groups of children and other visitors to the farm.

We are seeking a hard-working individual who is passionate, enthusiastic and able to work with a broad range of people.

Scope of job

- 3 days focused on growing.
- Conducting growing activities effectively including propagation, transplanting, weeding, watering, harvesting and other related duties.
- Report to and work collaboratively with the Head of Production and the second year apprentice.
- Assisting the second year apprentice with implementing the production plan in the first year, progressing to creating the next season's plan over the winter to follow in the second year.
- Team work including good communication with other team members, especially with the Head of Production and Growing Team.
- Supporting and working with volunteers at the farm; helping to facilitate a range of volunteer groups.
- We strongly recommend that the successful applicant studies alongside the apprenticeship, through farm trips and conferences, and/or an accredited course such as the [City & Guilds Level 2 Horticulture](#)
- Some weekend work will be required over the summer months.
- Potential to increase to 4 day per week from November 2020 - November 2021
- Please note on-site accommodation is not available

Skills and Experience

The person should have:

- Some food growing experience.
- Interest in and some understanding of agroecological farming.
- Ability to work in a busy and fast-paced environment
- Desire to work in a small team towards the goals of the farm
- Some experience of working with volunteers or managing people is desirable

Sutton Community Farm - About us

We are a community-owned social enterprise that started in response to a local need, with the purpose to increase access to fresh, healthy, sustainable food and provide a shared space for people to cultivate skills, get exercise and make friends. We host around 40 volunteers each week. Please see our website: www.suttoncommunityfarm.org.uk for more information.

Our farm sits on a 7.1 acre smallholding with views towards the skyline of Central London. We aim to make our Farm accessible to as wide a range of the public as possible and are committed to ensuring that everyone is treated fairly. You can find out more by reading our [Equal Opportunities Policy](#).

We are a highly motivated team, passionate to help create positive relationships between people and food. We farm with organic principles and strive to be a sustainable business. We are driven by values of respect, transparency, quality and integrity.

As an organisation, we also believe in fair pay. All staff are paid the London Living Wage or above and we maintain a low pay ratio.

Position in organisation

Sutton Community Farm is a small enterprise with ten employees. The Growing Apprentice will work closely with the growing team and report to the Head of Production.

Benefits

- Staff discount on VegBoxes.
- Pension contribution.
- Cycle to work scheme.
- Support to attend relevant training/conferences e.g Oxford Real Farming Conference.

How to apply

To apply please email joris@suttoncommunityfarm.org.uk with your CV and answers to the questions set out in the application form: [Word](#)/ [Pdf](#) Version.

Deadline for applications: 6th Jan (midnight)
Start date: March 2020
Date of interviews: Weeks commencing 20th Jan - 3rd Feb (to be confirmed)

The interview will consist of a walk around the farm, and some informal questions with the growing team.