



## Senior Livestock Assistant Job Description

### **Mission Statement:**

The purpose of the farm is to provide a safe, friendly and stimulating environment where young children can learn, play, have fun and enjoy themselves. Our aim is to make every visitor want to come back again!

### **Key Attributes:**

We aim to provide the highest standards of service and enjoyment for our guests, so the following attributes are essential to be part of the Godstone Farm Team.

- Animal Husbandry
- Confidence handling animals
- Well-groomed personal appearance
- Friendly, outgoing personality
- Confidence, patience and able to interact with children
- Ability to give animal talks and deliver feeding sessions to groups of the general public
- A willingness to work hard and have fun at the same time!

### **Main Job Tasks and Responsibilities**

Godstone Farm is a Visitor Attraction that welcomes 250,000 visitors per year. We aim to ensure all guests receive the best service in all areas of the farm whilst made to feel welcome. During weekends and school holidays the farm can get very busy where the quality of customer service, attention to detail and ensuring the health and hygiene at the farm is paramount. Our team are required to be energetic, enthusiastic, responsible, trustworthy, hardworking and reliable.

The role of the Senior Livestock Assistant is to assist the Livestock Managers in the day to day care of the animals, their pens and welfare.

### **Responsibilities include:**

- Daily cleaning of animal pens
- Weekly mucking out
- Feeding all animals throughout the farm
- Large and small animal handling including horses and ponies
- Foot trimming and worming of sheep and goats
- Moving livestock including pigs, cows and sheep
- Being vigilant when working with the animals and dealing with any potential minor illness promptly
- Liaising with the Livestock Manager regarding updating paperwork and treatment courses for animals
- Completing monthly stock counts and assessing stock levels
- Running briefing sessions and passing on any information to the farm team
- Consulting the yearly planner and prioritising the jobs for the week
- Interacting with children and adults when walking around the farm
- Chatting to visitors when they ask questions about the animals
- Running daily staff led feeding sessions
- Ability to deliver animal talks where needed
- Working within the Animal Holding Barn where needed encouraging children to stroke and hold the smaller animals
- Manual handling

As this is a new position, the extra responsibilities listed are not exhaustive. They may be edited and/or updated at any time.

Please note this role will require some heavy lifting and manual labour and is not suited to anyone with reoccurring back or neck problems. As a visitor attraction, it is also vital you are comfortable talking to the general public and delivering animal talks and feeding sessions where needed in a confident and energetic manner.

### **Experience & Qualifications**

- Relevant Animal Management qualification
- Experience working with a wide variety of animals
- A willingness to learn to work with new animals

### **Key Competencies**

- Communication skills
- Able to use own initiative
- Flexibility
- Ability to work as a team and independently
- Confidence in talking to visitors
- Ability to keeping calm under pressure
- Recognition of the importance of health and hygiene for all visitors, children, animals and staff.
- Computer skills

### **Working times:**

Winter (November to March) 9.00am – 5pm

Summer (April – October) 9.00am – 6pm

Full time – will include some weekend working

### **Rate of pay:**

Pay: £14 - £17K per annum dependant on skills and experience

Start Date: ASAP