

## Job description

<b>Job title</b>	Senior Keeper
<b>Salary</b>	£27868.00
<b>Department</b>	Farm & Wildlife
<b>Reporting to</b>	Animal Section Head & Operations Manager

### **Purpose and objectives of the role**

The successful candidate will undertake the day-to-day tasks of a range of European species and demonstrating skills and knowledge in our bird of prey display. You will also be working with rare breeds, reptiles and small mammals on the farm and creature corner sections carrying daily maintenance and care of these animals.

As a senior keeper you are expected to develop the sections you work on with new ideas and suggestions to improve the welfare for the animals held. You will assist the Head of Farm & Wildlife in maintaining all sections, ensuring high standards and helping develop the customer experience and business offering.

### **Main duties and responsibilities**

- Mentoring the team of keepers, work experience students and volunteers.
- Ability to contribute to a team environment, be a team player and add value to that team when required.
- Maintain excellent communication with all staff. Good communication skills (both oral and written).
- Must have good observation and deduction skills and the ability to act appropriately when situations arise which require intervention.
- Assist with supervision and training of all staff in maintaining high standards of hygiene, equipment care, and husbandry as a routine part of daily duties.
- Be able to manage the section in the Animal Section Head's absence and report handovers that are clear to ensure information is not lost.
- Manage and record medication use in animals effectively and deliver medication when required via veterinary advise.
- Be jointly responsible for the ordering and stock control of animal feed, bedding, medication and other supplies.

- Assist with record keeping for all aspects of livestock husbandry – ensuring that all records are up to date, sufficient and accurate. This is to include daily animal records, breeding plans and health records.
- Be competent to work on all animal sections and play an integral role in training and enrichment for all species.
- Ensure that all animal enclosures and surrounds are maintained to a high standard for the safety and well-being of the animals and aesthetics for visiting public.
- Communicate with outside agencies such as the veterinary practice and be prepared to assist in routine or emergency medical treatment or any other procedure when necessary.
- To ensure that all animal experiences, VIP experiences, daily animal encounters are planned, well organised, conducted on time and to a high standard providing outstanding customer service.

### Essential requirements

- Be a supportive team worker and offer mentoring, training, support and motivation to others.
- Demonstrate excellent time management in all aspects of work.
- Have a minimum of 3 years employed experience within a zoological establishment.
- Have a minimum of 1 year training birds of prey.
- Have a minimum of 1 year experience working with farm stock.
- Hold the DMZAA or equivalent qualification.
- Have excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Have an up-to-date knowledge of current practices in animal husbandry and welfare and undertake development activities to maintain this.
- Have basic competence in DIY and be willing to learn.
- Full driving licence and have own transportation due to remote location.
- Be a consistent and professional representative of Hogshaw Farm and Wildlife Park.

All members of staff are expected to be flexible with their working hours, adaptable and organised, with good attention to detail. They will be working as part of a team and also working alone, so will often have to use their own initiative. As we are open to the public, staff need to be presentable, friendly, and personable with good communication skills.