



Application Pack

Seasonal Biodynamic Voluntary Worker

Part time, fixed term contract

Closing date: when filled

Welcome from our Principal

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the role of Seasonal Biodynamic Voluntary Worker. I am delighted that you are considering applying to take up this exciting position at Michael Hall School.



The Waldorf approach to education, the foundation of our learning at Michael Hall, is both innovative and insightful. Our students achieve highly across a wide range of areas, each one carefully crafted to meet them appropriately at their childhood developmental stage.

With over a hundred years of experience to draw on, as well as membership of an international community of schools, the success of our approach to education is well-proven. Central themes of innovation and enquiry, along with self-reflection and creativity, ensure that it remains at the forefront of contemporary education in a fast-changing world.

Our learning at Michael Hall extends well beyond the academic. Students make the most of our incredible outdoor facilities, such as the walled vegetable garden, the theatre, handwork huts, lake and extensive woodlands. Our trips and residential visits offer students a range of exciting, immersive learning experiences, and add enormous value to their conceptual understanding in class.

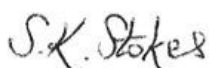
We strive for and deliver excellence in all aspects of our educational provision. We believe wholeheartedly in creating a community that is centred on kindness and compassion for others and in developing pastoral systems that support our children and their families through whatever challenges they may be facing. Every child in our care is encouraged to find their voice and flourish.

The successful candidate will be joining a school that is looking forward to a very bright future. Alongside key facility development, we are looking to strengthen all areas of our provision, not least the recruitment and retention of outstanding staff. We are nestled within an extensive estate, supported by Historic England, and situated on the edge of the Ashdown Forest. Many of our existing buildings are steeped in history dating back to the 1700s, which sit alongside a more modern, state of the art Gym and a world class Theatre.

Our provision ranges from when parents begin to bring their children to our hugely popular Parent and Child groups, through to when the students are ready to leave us at 18. Most recently, our application to extend our current Kindergarten to welcome children from the age of two has enabled us to enrich the experiences for the very youngest children in our care.

My hope is that you are inspired and encouraged enough by what you read in these pages to apply and that before very long, we will be welcoming you to our wonderful community at Michael Hall School.

My very best wishes for your application,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S.K. Stokes". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Sarah Stokes

Principal

Dear Candidate,

Seasonal Biodynamic Voluntary Worker

Thank you for your enquiry about the above vacancy.

In this application pack you will find information about the position, a **job description** which outlines the tasks that the successful candidate should expect to undertake once in post, and a **person specification** which outlines the kind of person we are looking for. Some general information about the school, our Safeguarding Policy and a **standard online application form** for all vacancies can be found in the Job Opportunities page of the school's website.

Please read this information carefully.

The details of this role are as follows:

Working hours:	20 hours per week flexible including Monday & Wednesdays from 7.30am and occasional weekends – remaining hours to be determined with the Market Gardener
Contract Type:	Fixed term 6 month contract
Salary:	Voluntary position – Accommodation and weekly expenses provided
Start date:	Immediate
Probationary period:	2 weeks

If you have any queries or need further information about the position, please do not hesitate to contact a colleague from the People and Culture team at HR@michaelhall.co.uk

I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully,



Rowan Michael

Head of People and Culture

Application process

To apply for this role, you will be required to complete the school's standard online application form (which you can find on the Job Opportunities page of our school website).

Please note that it is not necessary to attach a separate CV, although you may do so if you wish – however, we still require a fully completed application form.

You will be notified as soon as possible after the closing date, if you have been selected for an interview.

If you do not hear from us within 7 working days following the application deadline, regrettably your application has been unsuccessful on this occasion.

We reserve the right to appoint before the closing date.

Michael Hall School values the diversity of its community and aims to have a workforce that reflects this. We therefore encourage applications from all sections of the community.

Michael Hall School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All positions are subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Seasonal Biodynamic Voluntary Worker

Job Description

An opportunity for a seasonal voluntary worker has arisen at Michael Hall Waldorf School's Biodynamic walled garden. This role is suitable for someone who wants to get hands on experience and learn more about small scale Biodynamic food production.

Job details

Weekly 20 hours required, plus an hour biweekly weekend responsibility for watering the seedlings and young plants in trays and pots, opening and closing of the polytunnels. Must be available from 7.30am Mondays and Wednesdays for harvesting. All further hours to be agreed with the Market Gardener.

Modest accommodation provided, a small 1 bedroom flat with separate Kitchen, bathroom and cloakroom. Bed, table top hob and fridge provided, as well as hot water and heating. £50 expenses for food and essentials to be paid with receipts.

Duties include but are not limited to:

- All aspects of production- sowing, transplanting, weeding, watering, harvesting, packing
- Cleaning of the polytunnel skins and general tidying related to the market garden
- Mowing grass paths and green manures
- Compost making, this could include gathering the materials, building compost heaps and turning compost.
- Applying compost to the soil

You will be subject to undergo a DBS certificate before starting, and will be required to undertake Safeguarding training alongside other induction training once in post.

This job description is not intended to be a comprehensive statement of procedures and responsibilities, but instead sets out the principal expectations of the School in relation to the post holder's professional responsibilities and duties. There may be a requirement to perform any other tasks as reasonably required by the Principal or School Business Manager.

Person Specification

	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Desirable</i>
<i>Skills & experience</i>	<p>Experience or knowledge of working in a garden</p> <p>Willing to follow explicit instruction</p> <p>Able to work under own initiative</p> <p>Professional approach to work, combining integrity and respect for confidentiality at all times</p>	<p>Previous experience working in a biodynamic garden</p>
<i>Personal Qualities</i>	<p>Enjoys working with people</p> <p>Committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people</p> <p>Pro-active & solution focused</p>	<p>Previous experience of working with children and young people</p> <p>An interest in anthroposophy</p>

BENEFITS OF WORKING AT MICHAEL HALL SCHOOL

- Free parking on site
- Bike to work scheme

For more information and to find an application form, please visit our website:

<https://michaelhall.co.uk/job-opportunities/>

or call the People and Culture team on **01342 822275** for a confidential conversation.

Michael Hall School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and expects all staff to share this commitment. A successful application will be dependent upon a satisfactory enhanced DBS check and other safeguarding checks and screening, including references. All staff have a key role to play in identifying concerns early and in providing help for children, and are expected to act in accordance with the School's Safeguarding & Child Protection Policies which are available on our website.