



GROWN IN SUSSEX

Job Title Livestock Manager

Reporting to: Directors

Main Purpose of job

Overall management of the Middle Farm Open Farm

Directing the Open Farm team as effectively as possible in providing the highest level of animal welfare for our livestock and the best possible experience for our visitors, liaising with the farm shop and butcher's shop to produce eggs and meat for sale.

Key Responsibilities

- To ensure the ongoing development and effective promotion of the Open Farm in conjunction with the Open Farm team and the directors.
- Maximising the workforce, delegating efficiently and identifying training needs and implementing training where necessary.
- To maintain Open Farm buildings, paddocks and equipment in good order working with the maintenance team to ensure works are carried out in a timely fashion.
- To attend out of hours, when required, to cover lambing, animal sickness etc.
- To ensure a safe, clean and tidy environment for visitors and staff.
- To provide an interesting seasonal programme of daily events.
- To fully comply with all health and safety, environmental health and DEFRA regulations, liaising directly with the appropriate authorities.
- Practical management of grazing.
- Regular, clear and concise communication with directors.

Required skills/training/knowledge/ tasks

- A sound and comprehensive knowledge of farm livestock - sheep, beef cattle, pigs and poultry – including management of breeding programmes.

- Capacity to operate, and do basic maintenance on, farm machinery including three-point linkage, telehandler and ability to tow livestock trailer.
- Fencing and gate hanging, with assistance where necessary from the maintenance team.
- Daily healthcare of all livestock, administering medication where necessary, scheduling and documenting all animal health checks, including vet's visits, farrier, foot trimming, equine dentist, sheep shearing, and worming.
- Initiative, imagination and problem solving.
- Good communication skills, ensuring effective liaison with directors, Gift Shop and Admin. staff, and managing Open Farm team, including work experience volunteers.
- Arranging rotas, holiday and sickness cover, and (in collaboration with the directors) recruitment as required.
- Minimising waste and controlling costs including labour, animal feed/bedding and energy costs.
- Appropriate I.T. skills: updating and maintaining the Open Farm social media pages
- Hardworking, reliable, punctual, flexible and with a good sense of humour.
- Ordering animal feed and supplies.
- To courteously and professionally resolve any customer concerns or complaints.