

August 2026

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Forest School Assistant post at Halterworth Primary School.

This is an exciting opportunity to join our innovative school team as a Forest School Assistant. The successful candidate will play a key role in delivering the vision for our caring school in the heart of the community.

We are looking for a Forest School Assistant who is passionate about supporting and enabling each of our children to flourish; helping them to be respectful, innovative, curious individuals who always aim for personal excellence.

A Forest School Assistant at Halterworth Primary School will support the planning and delivery of engaging outdoor learning experiences that help children develop confidence, resilience, teamwork and a love of nature. Working alongside the Forest School Leader, they will help prepare resources, maintain a safe and stimulating outdoor environment and encourage pupils to explore, take appropriate risks and develop practical skills through hands-on activities. The role involves fostering positive relationships with children, supporting their social, emotional and physical development, promoting high expectations for behaviour and ensuring that all sessions are inclusive, enjoyable and aligned with the school's values of innovation, curiosity, creativity and respect.

In return for this dedication and commitment to excellence, we offer a supportive climate in which to grow and further develop your career. As part of The University of Winchester Academy Trust you will benefit from a comprehensive programme of CPD and support from the University and from Trust colleagues.

We are very proud to be part of the University of Winchester Academy Trust which is a family of 8 schools. Our sponsor the University of Winchester is recognised for its outstanding practice in teacher training, and we work closely with the University and the other schools in our Trust. Our Trust is an exciting and supportive place to be, which offers further career opportunities for all.

To enable you to fully understand what Halterworth Primary School has to offer you, I would encourage you to come and have a tour of the school. I would be delighted to welcome you to the school to answer any questions you may have. Please contact schooloffice@halterworth.uwinat.co.uk to arrange an appointment.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 4th September at midday**. However please submit your application as soon as possible as we will invite suitable candidates to interview before the closing date.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Julie Bray
Headteacher

Forest School Assistant Role

Closing date: Friday 4th September 2026 at midday

Pease submit your application at the earliest opportunity as we will invite suitable candidates to interview before the closing date.

Forest School Practitioner

Job Start Date: 1st November 2026

Contract: Permanent

Salary Type: Support Staff

Salary Details: Support staff pay C £25,186-£26,244 pro-rata (Actual salary £14,791-£15,412)

Hours of Work: 24.66 hours per week - Tuesday-Friday 8.35am-3.45pm

Location of Role: Halterworth Primary School, Romsey

Job/Person Summary

Do you have the desire to work within a rich outdoor environment where children can learn and thrive? Could you develop activities to improve the physical health of children, increasing their creativity and learning opportunities?

We are seeking a dedicated and passionate Forest School Practitioner to enhance the learning experiences of our children through exploration and discovery. We want to enable the children to extend their knowledge and understanding of the world, as well as fostering and developing important skills such as problem solving, creativity and critical thinking.

You would be working as part of our team to deliver an ambitious, flexible curriculum driven by the children's curiosity and interests.

Forest school training is desirable but full training will be given to the right candidate.

The successful candidates will:

- Enjoy being outside whatever the weather
- See the importance of learning outside
- Have a child-centred approach
- Be able to build relationships with all children of all ages
- Have the ability to work under pressure and to a timetable
- Have the ability to keep pupils motivated and engaged
- Be able to adapt and think on your feet
- Be flexible and willing to learn
- Be able to work as part of a team, learning with and from other colleagues
- Be able to work independently and on your own initiative
- Have excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Demonstrate excellent behaviour management skills
- Understand confidentiality and safeguarding procedures

Our staff work as a close and supportive team, and our school is a happy and professional place to work, with an excellent environment and facilities.

Halterworth is part of the University of Winchester Academy Trust. Our eight primary schools work closely together to ensure an excellent education for our pupils. Staff receive joint professional support throughout the year. The ability to work as part of a team and independently, to prioritise and to use initiative is essential. You will need to be friendly and approachable with a good sense of humour – every day is different!

Application Procedure

Applications should be on University of Winchester Academy Trust application form **and individual CV's will not be accepted**. If you currently work in a school, please ensure one of your references is from your current Headteacher. Application forms and further information about the school can be found on the Halterworth Primary School website: <https://www.halterworth.hants.sch.uk/Vacancies/>

Please submit your application as soon as possible as we may invite candidates to interview before the closing date.

For an informal conversation about the post or to arrange to meet our Headteacher, Julie Bray, please contact the office by email at schooloffice@halterworth.uwinat.co.uk

Completed application forms should be returned by the closing date to Julie Bray, Headteacher via email at the above address.

Disclaimer: due to the high volume of applications we receive, we reserve the right to close a vacancy earlier than the advertised date if we receive applications that meet the criteria. Once a vacancy has closed, we are unable to consider further applications, so please submit your application as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools

We currently do not use AI tools in our recruitment processes; however, we understand that you may choose to use AI tools to help you with your application.

If you do, please remember:

- AI-generated answers can often be generic and impersonal, which may not accurately reflect your qualifications, skills, and experiences
- AI-generated applications may lack the personal touch that human-written applications have, this may make you seem less engaged or interested
- Ensure the information provided genuinely represents your own voice and experience
- You must not provide false or misleading information
- If you rely too heavily on AI you might not develop the necessary skills to communicate your experiences and qualifications effectively in interviews or other stages of the hiring process. This may make you come across to the interviewer as a different person to the one that wrote the application form, and you may not be successful in the interview.

Safer Recruitment Statement

The University of Winchester Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We will ensure that all our recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. Candidates that are shortlisted will be subject to an online check. All successful candidates will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS) along with other relevant employment checks, including Children's Barred List. Prior to interview, an online search will be carried out on information that is publicly available as part of our due diligence on shortlisted candidate.