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**Drylaw Good Apples**

Drylaw Good Apples is a new pilot project working to restore two local Drylaw fruit orchards, planted in 2012 working with local residents and local young people. The orchards are located in Easter Drylaw about a 5-10 minute walk from the Neighbourhood Centre. We want to restore these orchards so that the trees are healthier and produce fruit which we can use to feed the community. The project will plant wildflowers and other flora to increase the biodiversity whilst increasing participants' knowledge of biodiversity, sustainability and plant carbon capture, within an atmosphere of fun learning, and a joyous engagement of nature. This project will be managed and supported through Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre although the core work will be centered outdoors in the orchards. This project has been instigated for the ECCAN local climate emergency response and may extend beyond this pilot period.

This is a pilot project which is funded for 60 hours per worker between November 2024 and March 2025, operating regularly, most likely at weekends or Friday afternoons, when schools are off.

This project aims to upskill the young people and local residents in the following:

Practical gardening skills, appreciation of nature, tree planting, wildflower meadow preparation and planting, tree health measures, pruning, community decision making.

We are recruiting two freelance sessional workers for this project, a p/t Community Orchard Gardener and an p/t Outdoor Youth Worker. At this stage we are seeking notes of interest only.

Deadline for note of interest: 31st Oct. Please send us a short description of your interest in the job and what you can bring to it.

Interviews: early November 2024.

Potential start date: Late November

Project end date: End March 2025

Contact: [info@drylawnc.org](mailto:info@drylawnc.org) at Drylaw NeighbourHood Centre, 67b Groathill Road North, Eh4 2SA. 0131 315 4989. Main contacts: Natalie Taylor and Rik Hodgson

Job ONE:

## Community Orchard Gardener p/t 4 hours per week

£20 per hour x 4 hrs per session- 2 hours contact time with 2 hour preparation, coordination and liaising with DNC staff and Outdoor Youth Worker

Sessional work, Nov- March 2024

Aims of the project:

To run intergenerational sessions to restore two local Drylaw fruit orchards. This is a pilot project in an off-site location within 5 min walk of Drylaw Neighborhood Centre.

Working with the support of a dedicated p/t Outdoor Youth Worker the Project gardener will recruit local community residents and primary school aged children to work on the project.

Tasks include:

* Tree maintenance
* Pruning
* Mulching
* Weeding
* Feeding
* Planting (whips and wildflower seeds)
* Garden maintenance and tidying
* To co-organise collective celebrations of the spaces, wassailing and other traditional rituals- this will be led by professional musicians

**Personal Specification: Community Orchard Gardener**

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| **Essential:** | **Desirable**: |
| Experience of working with Fruiting Trees | Ability to write and implement risk assessments |
| Experience of community gardening | Foster an appreciation of nature and all living things |
| Working with community members | Knowledge of biodiversity enhancement |
| Experience of community food growing | Working with young people |
| Ability to plan sessions each week  Good interpersonal skills |  |
| Ability to work alongside another practitioner on same project |  |

JOB TWO

## Personal Specification: Outdoor Youth Worker Nov 2024- March 2025

£18 per hour x 4 hrs per session- 2 hours contact time with 2 hour preparation, coordination and liaising with DNC staff and Community Orchard Gardener

**Supporting the Community Orchard Gardener**

Sessional work, Nov- March 2024

Aims of the project:

To run intergenerational sessions to restore two local Drylaw fruit orchards. This is a pilot project in an off-site location within 5 min walk of Drylaw Neighborhood Centre.

Working with the support of a dedicated p/t Community Orchard Gardener the youth worker will recruit local primary school aged children to work on the project.

**Tasks include:**

Reaching out to local schools and groups to recruit participants

Preparing hot drinks and snacks for the children

Ordering waterproof equipment

Designing engaging and fun sessions alongside Orchard Coordinator

Talking to the children about nature, ecology of the space, food chain etc

Returning tools to DNC at the end of the session

**Person Specifications**

**Forest school-style sessional worker**

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| **Essential:** | **Desirable:** |
| Skills and experience of working with primary school aged children in nature-based play and gardening. | Forest school training including fire training/ skills |
| Outdoor skills such as fire making, (kelly kettle) seed sowing, tree planting, outdoor games | Basic ecological understanding |
| Able to foster an atmosphere of self-esteem, creativity and self-confidence while working as a team. | Gardening skills |
| Ability to work within our Child Protection Policies and Procedures | Warm friendly approach |
| Ability to work as part of a team to deliver the project aims |  |