



**Country  
Trust**

**The Country Trust is the leading national educational charity that connects children from areas of high social and economic disadvantage with the land that sustains us all**

**Head Office:  
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**Charity no. 1122103**

## **Food Discovery Coordinator - Birmingham**

**Location:** Home-based, to work with 1-2 schools in Birmingham and with farms in the surrounding area.

**Part-time freelance contract** - Approximately 38.25-60 days over the academic year (approx. 1-1.5 days per week in term time) plus agreed paid time for induction, training and meetings.

**Freedom to set your own working days.**

**£164 a day, plus mileage (45p a mile).**

*Please note: This role is subject to successful fundraising - we are awaiting the outcome of pending applications which we expect to know during the recruitment period.*

## **A flexible and fulfilling opportunity in a growing, energetic charity**

We are searching for a new Coordinator to join our nationwide Food Discovery team. Could you share your passion for cooking and growing to enable children (and adults!) to build their confidence and connection to the food they eat? Could you empower children to make healthy choices, for themselves and the planet? Do you want to share your love and knowledge of food, farming and the countryside, help children to develop food confidence, and inspire teachers to use the outdoors in their own teaching practice?

We are looking for self-motivated individuals who are experienced in working with primary-age children and familiar with the way primary education is organised and delivered. You will be an inspiring child-led educator with a good knowledge of schools and communities, who is confident and organised in running safe and appropriate cooking and gardening sessions and visits to working farms.

You will have individual responsibility and flexibility to plan your own workload with your schools, supported by a geographically remote line manager. You will be provided with cooking and gardening equipment which you will need to store and take into schools. You will work with farmers and food producers, recruiting them to support the programme by sharing their expertise and enthusiasm. Training is provided for Health and Safety, Food Hygiene and Safeguarding and other elements of the role as appropriate.

## **Why work for the Country Trust?**

For over 40 years we have been working with farmers to bring the countryside alive for children least able to access it. We are in an exciting period of growth and possibility. You would be working with an organisation with deep roots but with plenty of space to grow.

## **We are looking for someone who....**

Can take a group of children into a new and unfamiliar space and open the door to irresistible learning experiences and can bring food education to life by delivering cooking, gardening and immersive experiences over the course of a year.

### **... sparks curiosity...**

Who delivers hands on experiences that will inspire children and have a lasting impact on food confidence and food literacy. Who will deliver bespoke support for their school and programme participants and share the impacts with others.

### **...is a skilled communicator and networker...**

You need to be someone who can engage and inspire teachers to want to bring their class on a farm visit or integrate food into their lessons and school culture. You need to make them feel safe, see clearly where our work can offer value and get them excited about what you can do together.

You also need to be able to engage farmers and other food providers to work with you to help create these irresistible learning experiences. They need to feel both excited to work with you and clear about what this will entail.

### **...and can become an expert guide**

You need to be someone who can walk into a farm or countryside space and bring it alive for those less able to access it. This will involve working with a farmer to help them tell their story in a way which will excite and engage. You will also need to be able to understand and manage the risks that outdoor and farm spaces bring.

### **...will be a great team member...**

We know that we are greater than the sum of our parts. We are an organisation full of possibilities and we are looking for someone who wants to work and contribute to that kind of environment.

## Essentials

We want to be as open and flexible as possible to the range of skills people could bring to these roles. There are some skills and attributes that we know every Coordinator needs in order to thrive in the role:

- Able to work in the UK.
- Living in within an hour of Food Discovery schools.
- Experience of working with primary age children and teachers.
- Experience of delivering cooking and/or gardening sessions to children.
- Awareness of best practice in health and safety, risk assessment and safeguarding, although training will be provided.
- Familiar with educational organisation (eg key stages) and the national curriculum, able to discuss learning objectives and learning resources with teaching staff.
- Knowledge of, and more importantly, infectious enthusiasm for food, farming and the countryside.
- IT Proficiency: a working knowledge of MS Office (Outlook, Word, Excel), cloud-based systems and social media, confident to adapt to new systems.
- Demonstrable passion for hands on learning and able to tell and show us how you successfully take children on a learning journey.
- Able to articulate and demonstrate understanding of the barriers to accessing food, farming and countryside experiences faced by the children we work with.
- Excellent communication skills enabling you to build productive relationships with a range of people.
- Self-aware and self-motivated, with the resilience to work independently as part of a remote team.
- Able to deliver administrative aspects of role with attention to detail and within agreed timeframes.
- Sharing in our [vision and core values](#)

## Everything else you need to know

	<b>Food Discovery Coordinator - Birmingham</b>
<b>Terms</b>	<b>Self-employed contract, possible renewal subject to annual review.</b>
<b>Scale of contract</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 38.25-60 days school delivery and preparation, plus meetings, training and development.</li> <li>• To deliver programmes to 1-2 schools, amounting to approximately 1-1.5 days per week.</li> </ul>
<b>Detail</b>	<p>Delivery is within term time and within the school day although travel/ preparation may be required before the start of and after the end of the school day.</p> <p>In addition, you will be paid for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training and development days</li> <li>• Team meetings and the annual Country Trust conference</li> <li>• Agreed time in order to establish a farmer and local network.</li> </ul>
<b>Pay</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £164 day plus reasonable expenses and mileage (currently 45p per mile)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We allow a half day for delivery and a half day of preparation for most in-school sessions. Farm visits are a whole delivery day plus a half day each for organisation and running a pre-visit.</li> <li>• Normal business expenses (telephone, printing, broadband, office costs etc) are the responsibility of the contractor.</li> </ul>
Additional requirements to be provided by the Coordinator.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Driving Licence and access to a car to use for work purposes (although use of public transport is encouraged and facilitated where possible!)</li> <li>• Computer/laptop with an up-to-date operating system compatible with Windows 10 and Office 365 and with the capacity and performance to allow you to work effectively. You will be provided with an Office365 account and email address and access to local IT support for cyber security, hardware and maintenance issues.</li> <li>• Broadband access of sufficient quality for cloud-based working and video calls.</li> <li>• Up to date anti-virus software.</li> <li>• Contact telephone number.</li> <li>• Mobile phone.</li> <li>• Storage for cooking and gardening equipment.</li> <li>• Normal business expenses (telephone, printing, broadband, office costs) are the responsibility of the Coordinator.</li> </ul>

## Safeguarding

The Country Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This is to be achieved through effective recruitment and retention of competent, motivated staff members who are suited to, and able to deliver their roles. **All eligible post holders are subject to a satisfactory enhanced check with the Disclosure and Barring Service and regular training is mandatory.**

## How to apply:

For all recruitment information please go to our vacancies page on our website:

<http://www.countrytrust.org.uk/get-involved/work-for-us>

Application form: [APPLY ONLINE](#)

Enquiries: [recruitment@countrytrust.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@countrytrust.org.uk)

Closing date: 24 June at midday

Provisional interview date: 11 July

Candidates will be expected to plan and lead a short in person activity based around food and farming with a group of children as part of their interview.

**Start Date:** References, DBS and online training during June/July. Delivery from September 2024.

**Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by telephone and email.**