

WOW



Appointment of

Casual Inspirer / Science Communicator

Wonderseekers



WINCHESTER
SCIENCE CENTRE
AND PLANETARIUM

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Foreword from the Chief Executive

Thank you.

Thank you for your interest in joining our team. It's a big decision to apply for a new role, to leave an existing job and to take the plunge to join a new organisation. There are so many unknowns when taking on a new job. What will my new boss be like? What is the organisation's culture like? If I need to take a day off will I be allowed? Can I work from home? Will there be regular cake in the office or staff room? Hopefully this document will answer some of those questions and demystify what working for our Charity is like.



Getting across the workplace culture of an organisation in a job advert or a job description is really hard, but if I had to sum up our workplace culture in one word I would choose – family. I often describe us as a family employer. We understand the pressures and needs of family life and especially after such troubling times. Our charity recognises that home life comes first and the Senior Management team and I are keen to reassure and encourage our colleagues to manage their work-life balance.

And then there's the work family. Everyone here knows their colleagues have got their backs. I am incredibly proud of our work family. Recent experiences have only cemented my belief that every member of the team here is looking out for their colleagues, wanting to help and going over and above to achieve this.

We are at an exciting point in the history of this charity. We have bounced back well from the pandemic and we are in a stable and secure financial position with a clear vision and mission to deliver upon. We are looking for candidates that want come and not just work here, but to join our work family, help us to create a world where through the wonder of science people and planet thrive.

Thank you again for your interest in the role. If you feel you share our family values and want to make a difference then I urge you to apply. We are incredibly motivated to make sure our staff represent the diverse audiences that we serve, so please do read the section on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. If you have any questions, or would like an informal chat with me or one of the Senior Management team before you apply, please do speak to Laura.

Looking forward to meeting you,

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About the Charity

Wonderseekers, the Charity behind Winchester Science Centre, has been sparking children's curiosity in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) since it was founded in 1986.

We believe that through science, children can choose to live healthier, more sustainable lives and contribute to a better world for all.

They can:

- discover the wonder of science and make sense of the world around them and their place within it,
- use science methodology as a framework for critical thinking and problem solving,
- develop their self-confidence and resilience through practical experience and experimentation.

However, inequality of access to science for young children means that many miss out.

Our new strategy demonstrates our ambition to build on our Charity's long heritage, develop our experience in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, continue our focus on all disciplines of science and take on an environmental agenda in response to climate change.

We remove social, cultural and intellectual barriers so that all children can be inspired by and engage in science, with a particular focus on children whose lives are impacted by disability or impairment and social and economic deprivation.

We specialise in communicating science to children through 'WOW!' experiences that are fun, inclusive, immersive, interactive and accessible. We reach out to children in innovative ways through our Science Centre, in schools, communities and online, and love to work collaboratively with children, industry and academic partners, charities and individuals to have the greatest impact.

Find out more about our Charity's strategy, governance and achievements over the past year by [downloading our latest annual report](#).

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Strategy

By doing this:

Speaking up for early intervention, equity, diversity and inclusion and the environment in science.

Creating, curating and sharing digital resources and experiences.

Connecting children to nature through environmental science, outdoor spaces and our activity programme.

Accessible, fun and diverse science experiences through our Science Centre.

Extending activity through schools and community-based programmes to deliver equitable access to science.

And by working with:

Communities

Schools

Families

Partners

Underpinned by our values:

Sustained, repeated and diverse science engagement from an early age.

Fun, positive, people-led and participatory activities.

Accessible and inclusive experiences, where children feel welcome and valued.

Continuous evaluation.

Outcomes:

Children are connected to nature.

Children use their science enquiry skills.

Children want to play their part.

Children value and see the relevance of science.

Long-term impacts:

Children can live in a more equitable society.

Children choose to live healthier lives.

Children choose to contribute to a better world for all.

Children can and want to protect and heal our natural world.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

Our charity is committed to breaking down barriers to STEM and wants to help everyone regardless of age, background, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, religion or belief, disability, impairment or any other protected characteristic to be in STEM.

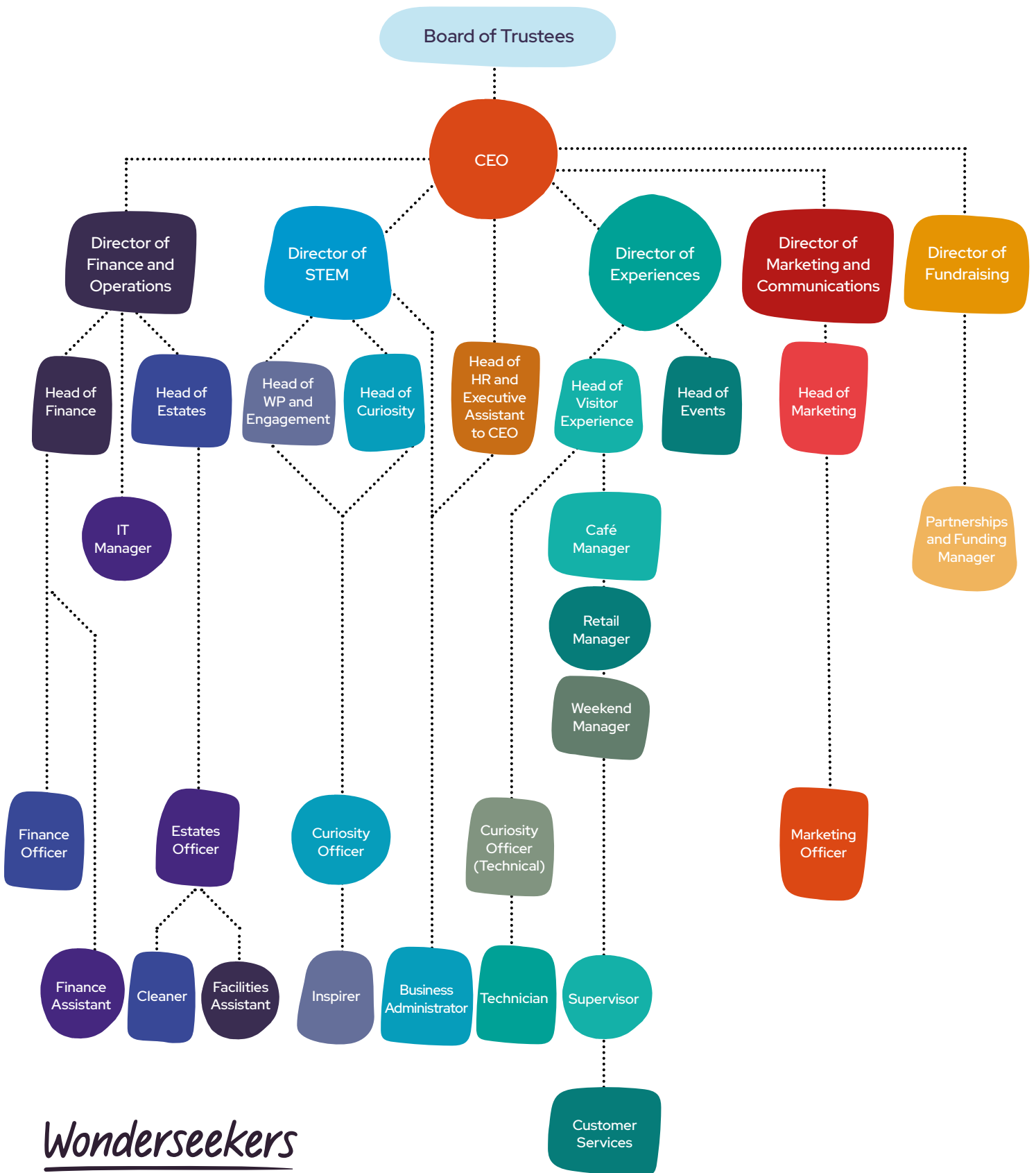
Equality and inclusion are at the heart of everything we do. We want to create a truly diverse and inclusive workplace. If you are disabled and have the essential skills and experience to do the job, we will invite you to an interview.

We recognise that through diversity our Charity can grow and we are committed to providing an inclusive recruitment process to support this. We want to work with a great team, with people who share our values and can make a huge contribution to sparking curiosity. We believe the team must reflect the diverse communities we work with so to support this, we are very willing to facilitate flexible working, changes to the infrastructure, systems and processes in order to welcome the most diverse candidates possible.

If you wish to have a conversation about accessibility, the role or the application process please do get in touch with Laura (see last page for contact details).



Organisation and management



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Role specifics

Casual Inspirer / Science Communicator

Line manager Curiosity Officer

Working hours Working hours will vary depending on the fluctuating needs of the business. A calendar of available shifts is circulated one month in advance and individuals can choose which shifts to accept. Hours of work are usually between 8.30am - 5pm, however various shifts will be available including weekdays, weekends and evenings.

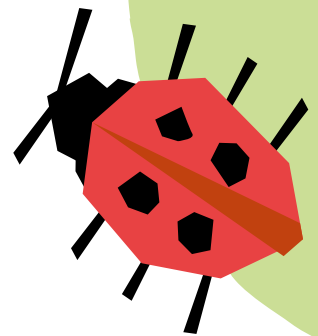
Rate of pay The Charity's hourly rates of pay for casual workers are £7.30 (aged 18-20), £9.25 (aged 21-22), £9.55 (aged 23+) – please note this is subject to review in April 2023

Location Winchester, SO21 1HZ.

Join our fantastic join our fantastic Curiosity/science communication team at Winchester Science Centre with a fun, rewarding and flexible casual role where no two days are the same!

You'll work with amazing colleagues and contribute to the Charity's mission to spark curiosity in science, technology, engineering and maths.

Juggling other commitments? Don't worry, you can choose the shifts that work for you. And we'll provide you with uniform, free parking and a generous discount in our onsite café and shop.



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Casual Inspirer / Science Communicator

The role

Our Casual Inspirer role is a flexible position intended to support our full-time team of Inspirers. At the front line of the organisation, Inspirers directly deliver our core charitable aim of sparking curiosity. These roles are the explainers, putting the challenge into interacting with the Centres exhibits, the guides through a universe of possibilities and the enthusiastic role models who may lead to a lifetime of discovery.

Delivery is core to the role and Casual Inspirers can expect to spend the majority of their time interacting with audiences of all ages and abilities, explaining the science behind exhibits, constructing understanding in our Bio:Space, running planetarium shows, delivering live science demonstrations and guiding students through challenges in workshops.

No two days will be the same, with Casual Inspirers delivering content to a range of audiences from schools, to the public, and possibly even joining us at one of our offsite activities.

Alongside this, Casual Inspirers are also expected to support a variety of tasks including resetting rooms, cleaning, preparing equipment, monitoring areas to satisfy fire regulations, admin support, and assisting other teams as necessary for the effective delivery of full visitor experience.

Person specification

We would like the right person to:

- Have charisma, enthusiasm and a desire to share your enthusiasm for science with others
- Be comfortable presenting content to groups (in ranges from one to one, to large groups)
- An excellent team player
- Have a professional, clear, confident and exciting style when presenting information
- A genuine interest in science and astronomy (no formal qualifications required, only enthusiasm)
- An appreciation of the limits of your scientific knowledge and the ability to quickly learn new concepts.
- Have diligence and attention to detail

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Application process

When you are ready to apply please complete our [short online application form](#) and submit this, together with your CV via our online portal.

We'll individually review your application as soon as possible.

Have we caught your eye, but you're still a little unsure?

We welcome an informal discussion even if you are only considering applying for the role. Please do get in touch with [Laura](#) to arrange a brief informal and relaxed call with one of our Curiosity Officers.

What's next?

If you're successful in being shortlisted based on your application, we will arrange a time for you to swing by for a chat so we can get to know you better, and for you to get to know the WSC family for yourself.

We know interviews can be quite daunting but we're not here to catch you out - we just want to know what makes you brilliant, why you should be part of our growing family, and how you can support our charitable aims to make a difference. We can't wait to meet you!

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