

Job Specification

Santa (Temporary), Winchester Science Centre & Planetarium - Winchester

Post title:	Santa (Temporary)
Rate:	£16.80 per hour
Supervisor:	Innovation Officer
Event dates:	7, 8, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 December 2019
Staff training:	Evening session on 27 November (tbc) and full day 5 December
Hours:	10:15 am – 17:30 or 10:00-16:50 (depending on shift)
Deadline:	Rolling – please apply as soon as possible

Lunch break and regular short breaks will be given. Training and Christmas costume will be provided. All job offers are subject to references and a clear DBS check.

TO APPLY: Please email a completed application form available from www.winchestersciencecentre.org/vacancies together with a cover letter outlining your suitability for this role to Laura Ollis via lauraollis@winchestersciencecentre.org. For an informal conversation about this role please contact Dominic Grantley-Smith on 01962 863 791. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis so please apply at your earliest convenience.

1. Overview of our Christmas events programme

Winchester Science Centre is expanding its Christmas events programme to include a science-dinosaur themed Christmas experience. The experience will include a 30 minute hands on science gift making experience and an opportunity for children and their families to meet Santa. In addition, there will be a Dinosaur-themed planetarium show, dinosaur themed science shows, fossil handling and self-guided elf trail around the Science Centre exhibition.

2. The Role

From the moment you step into the suit you will become Santa - regaling stories from the North Pole and asking children about their Christmas list. You'll have the confidence to spread happiness and fulfil the imagination of children of all ages to ensure they have a magical and memorable experience.

The ideal candidate will be friendly, cheerful and patient. They should have excellent communication skills, able to communicate with children and their parents and convey the magic of Christmas.

Unlike a traditional grotto experience, Santa will be welcoming families as a group as well as meet and talk to families individually. Confidence to perform in character is essential. Santa will be required to move around the room and respond and enjoy interacting with family groups and individuals.

The successful candidate will be required to wear the Santa suit provided and present themselves in a way which represents the appearance and behaviour of a traditional Santa.

A knowledge of science, technology, engineering and maths **is not** required but the ability to name the reindeer is a must. There will also be an underlying theme of dinosaurs however our dinosaur wranglers will be onsite to support your knowledge.

Santa will report into the Christmas lead who will be responsible for managing all aspects of the day-to-day running of the event.

3. Specific Duties

- Greeting families with an enthusiastic smile and a “Ho! Ho! Ho!”
- Remain in character at all times whilst in costume
- Working with a script, improvising where appropriate
- Ensuring health and safety standards are maintained at all times
- Working within the team to keep workshops to time
- Help with set up, session turnarounds and clearing down at the end of each day

4. Person Specification:

Essential

- A passion for Christmas and knowledge Christmas traditions
- Excellent performance and communication skills
- Confidence communicating with children
- Strong team player
- Excellent time management skills
- Being able to "Ho, Ho, Ho" with plenty of enthusiasm.
- A cheerful disposition and positive attitude

Desirable

- Previous Santa experience
- Theatre experience – acting and learning scripts
- Experience of working in a team and with young people
- Experience of working in a Christmas setting
- Experience of working with people of all ages and abilities
- Your own white beard is an advantage but not a necessity. Even bellies can be supplied!