



LIVERPOOL
HOPE
UNIVERSITY

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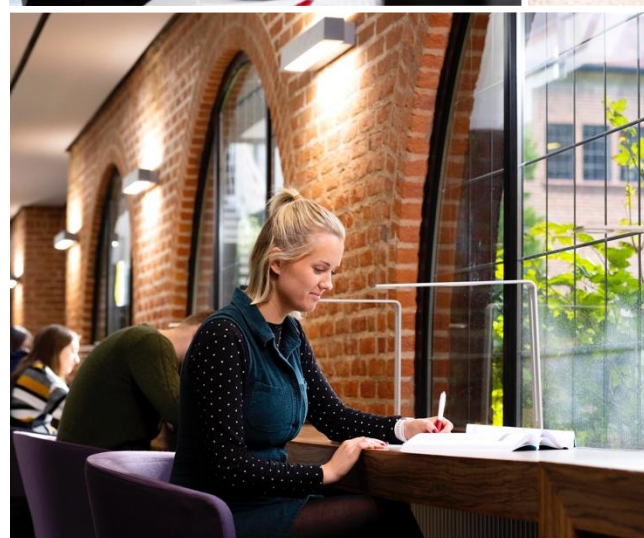
Recruitment Pack

APPRENTICE GARDENER

Job Reference: 5BSE02A

Closing date: 22nd July 2026 at 5.00pm

www.hope.ac.uk





POST: APPRENTICE GARDENER

STARTING DATE: TBC

SALARY RANGE: £24,479

TYPE OF CONTRACT: FIXED TERM up to 2 years

WORK PATTERN: FULL TIME

REPORTS TO: HEAD OF GARDENS & GROUNDS

The Post

Apprentice Gardener (Fixed-Term Apprenticeship – up to 2 Years)

Liverpool Hope University is proud of its beautiful campuses and award-winning gardens, which are maintained to a high standard throughout the year. We are looking for an enthusiastic and hardworking **Apprentice Gardener** to join our Gardens and Grounds Team on a two-year fixed-term apprenticeship.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone who enjoys working outdoors and has an interest in gardening, plants and the environment. Whether you have already studied horticulture or are looking to begin your career in this field, this apprenticeship will provide you with valuable practical experience while working towards a recognised qualification.

Working alongside experienced gardeners and under the guidance of the Head of Gardens and Grounds, you will help to maintain the University's three campuses. No two days are the same, and you will develop a wide range of practical skills, including:

- Maintaining lawns, flower beds, borders and planted areas.
- Planting and caring for flowers, shrubs and trees.
- Hedge trimming, pruning and general garden maintenance.
- Grass cutting and the safe use of horticultural tools and equipment.
- Helping to identify and manage weeds, pests and plant diseases.
- Assisting with the creation of new planting schemes and landscaped areas.
- Supporting the team to keep the campuses attractive, safe and welcoming for students, staff and visitors.

Throughout your apprenticeship you will receive full training, support and mentoring from experienced colleagues. You will follow a structured development plan, combining practical work with study towards a recognised horticultural qualification, giving you the knowledge and experience needed to build a successful career in the industry.

We are looking for someone who is reliable, motivated and keen to learn. You should enjoy working as part of a team, be prepared to work outdoors in all weather conditions and take pride in producing high quality work. A positive attitude, willingness to develop new skills and a genuine interest in horticulture are the most important qualities we are looking for.

In return, Liverpool Hope University offers a supportive working environment, excellent employment benefits and the opportunity to work on one of the most attractive university campuses in the UK while gaining valuable qualifications and practical experience.

Job Description/Key duties of the post

Job Title	Apprentice Gardener	Code	5BSE02A
Subject/Service Area	Estates		
Reports to	Head of Gardens and Grounds		
Accountable To	Estates Services Manager		

Purpose of Job

The Apprentice Gardener will work closely with our small team of Gardeners gaining hands on experience working of all aspects of gardening duties at all three university campuses decorative gardens that provide a safe, visually diverse and relaxing environment for our students.

Key Tasks / Responsibilities

- Undertake all aspects of general garden maintenance and preparation (including propagation, digging, edging, hoeing, pruning, plant labelling etc.)
- Planting of new replacement bulbs, flowers, shrubs, hedges etc.
- Assist the Head of gardens and Grounds in the design and planting of new areas
- Hedge and tree pruning in accordance with TPO regulations.
- Lawn maintenance and cultivation to the required standard
- Operate machinery (including lawn mowers, ride on mowers, hedgecutters, strimmers etc.) in a safe manner in accordance with the University's Health & Safety policy.
- Maintain lawns, plants, trees etc, with the appropriate fertilizers, plant/tree food etc. in a safe manner in accordance with the University Health & Safety policies.
- Assist with pest, disease and weed control via the application of herbicides, fungicides etc. according to Health and Safety regulations
- Assist the clearance of gardens and pathways of leaves.
- Assist with the maintenance of sports pitches (grass and astro-turf)
- Report any risks and Health & Safety issues within the University grounds.
- Complete the required training modules of the apprenticeship scheme.

These key tasks are not intended to be exhaustive, but they highlight a number of major tasks that the post-holder may be reasonably expected to undertake

Person Specification

Methods of assessment

Application form (A)

Interview (I)

Presentation (P)

Educational Requirements	Essential (E)/Desirable (D)	Method of Assessment (A/I/P)
Good Standard of general education	D	A
City and Guilds Level 2 or equivalent qualification	D	A
Experience	Essential (E)/Desirable (D)	Method of assessment
Commercial Gardening Experience	D	A & I
Experience of working as part of a team	D	A & I
Good interpersonal and communication skills	D	I
Skills and Knowledge	Essential (E)/Desirable (D)	Method of assessment
Flexibility in relation to working patterns and arrangements as required	E	I
Ability to follow safe ways of working practices.	E	I
Maintain a high standard of appearance (e.g. uniform and high visibility jacket etc.)	E	I
Ability to meet physical demands of the role including: standing, walking, lifting, climbing, pushing, pulling, balancing, stooping and handling	E	I
Full UK Driving Licence	E	A & I

Contact for Queries

David Kerry
Estates Services Manager
kerryd1@hope.ac.uk

Conditions of service:

This post is based at Hope Park campus. However, you may be required to work in other areas of the University as and when required.

The post is permanent, subject to the normal probationary period of 12 months.

Salary for this post is £22,932 per annum. New appointments will normally be made on the first incremental point of the advertised grade within the salary scale. In certain circumstances, it may be appropriate to offer a candidate a higher incremental point of the advertised grade. A higher salary will not be offered purely on the fact that it has been requested. Any starting salary above the first incremental point of the advertised grade must be justified and **supported by evidence**. Salary is payable monthly in arrears by bank giro credit on and around the 20th of each month.

The annual leave runs from 1st September to 31st August. Holiday entitlement is 28 days per year plus statutory Public Holidays and Liturgical days. This entitlement is pro-rated for part-time staff.

Further Information

Liverpool Hope University has two main teaching campuses – Hope Park in the Liverpool suburb of Childwall and the city centre Creative Campus.

We have invested more than £60 million in buildings and equipment over the past eight years and we are proud of our campuses. Stunning listed buildings sit alongside modern architecture, and with beautiful gardens and facilities, which make Liverpool Hope University a unique place to work and study.

Mission and Values

Liverpool Hope University is an ecumenical Christian Foundation, which strives:

- to provide opportunities for the well-rounded personal development of Christians and students from other faiths and beliefs, educating the whole person in mind, body and spirit, irrespective of age, social or ethnic origins or physical capacity, including in particular those who might otherwise not have had an opportunity to enter higher education;
- to be a national provider of a wide range of high-quality programmes responsive to the needs of students, including the education, training and professional development of teachers for Church and state schools;

- to sustain an academic community, as a sign of hope, enriched by Christian values and worship, which supports teaching and learning, scholarship and research, encourages the understanding of Christian and other faiths and beliefs and promotes religious and social harmony;
- to contribute to the educational, religious, cultural, social and economic life of Liverpool, Merseyside, the North-West and beyond.

Liverpool Hope's Values

Hope strives to meet the following values, which are integral to the fulfilment of its Mission:

- be open, accessible and inclusive,
- take faith seriously, being fully Anglican, fully Catholic, fully ecumenical, fully open to those of all faiths and beliefs,
- be intellectually stretching, stimulating, challenging,
- be hospitable, welcoming, cheerful, professional, full of Hope; creating supportive communities in aesthetically pleasing environments,
- be well-rounded, holistic, integrated, a team, a community of communities, collaborating in wider partnerships.

Equality and Diversity

Consistent with its Mission, Liverpool Hope strives to be a University where the individual and individuality matter. We hold students, staff and visitors in high regard and we seek to foster a working and learning environment that recognises and respects difference. All staff are expected to comply with the University's Equality and Diversity policies in the performance of their duties.

Health and Safety

Liverpool Hope University is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all staff at work and of students, visitors and others by continuous improvement in standards of health and safety. All staff are expected to comply with the University's Health and Safety policies in the performance of their duties

Sustainability

Liverpool Hope University is committed to enhancing the quality of its environment for its staff and students working and living at the University and the wider community; and aims to manage its operations in ways that are environmentally sustainable, economically feasible and socially responsible. All staff are expected to work in accordance with, and promote the University's sustainability practices.

Benefits of working at Liverpool Hope University

Liverpool Hope offers its employees a full range of benefits:

Pay and Pensions

- Competitive rates of pay defined using the HERA job evaluation scheme
- Pension schemes with generous employer contributions

Home and Family

- Generous Annual Leave Arrangement
- Opportunity for flexible working arrangements

Training and Development

- Induction training for all new staff
- Staff development opportunities

Health and Well-Being

- Hope Park Sports fitness suite and classes with discounted membership
- A range of food outlets with healthy eating options
- Staff counselling service
- Staff cycle scheme
- Support with lifestyle changes
- A range of social activities and groups
- On-site chapel, multi-faith prayer room and Chaplaincy
- Eye testing scheme

We also provide a variety of staff discounts ranging from reduced price Theatre tickets to discounts on beauty treatments.

Library services

Liverpool Hope's Library Service provides access to a wide-ranging collection of physical and online resources to support learning and research. The service also provides different types of study space across both campuses to support the wide range of learning styles and needs, from individual study rooms to group spaces, and from silent study to more relaxed social learning

Car Parking

All users of University car parks are required to pay for their use. The University has a scalable charging system for annual permits and pay and display facilities for occasional users.

We recruit staff nationally and internationally as we seek out the best to help build Hope for the future. If you join us, you will be doing so at an exciting and challenging time as we work to build a liberal arts inspired university of distinction in the UK.

How to apply

You can download the application form by the link below:

[How to apply](#)

Useful Links

www.hope.ac.uk/lifeathope/welcome

<https://www.hope.ac.uk/gateway/staff/peopleservices/>

www.hope.ac.uk/jobs





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