



Acorn Nursery at Cold Harbour

Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 7PD

Sam Jones

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Nursery Manager
£37,440 - £48,256
Permanent
Start date: 11/11/2026

About our School:

At the heart of Acorn Cold Harbour is our day nursery, where babies and young children receive high-quality care and early education in warm, welcoming rooms. Guided by our relational pedagogy, experienced practitioners build secure, respectful relationships with every child and respond thoughtfully to their routines, interests, strengths and stage of development. Alongside the nursery, our dedicated Nature Kindergarten and Outdoor Learning Centre gives children regular opportunities to explore, wonder and develop a lasting connection with the natural world.

Children enjoy a broad, play-based EYFS curriculum shaped by caring relationships, close observation and their own curiosity. Practitioners plan meaningful experiences across the nursery rooms and natural outdoor spaces, supporting communication and language, physical development, creativity, confidence and independence. By adapting environments, routines and experiences to remove barriers to participation, we help every child engage in ways that are meaningful and accessible to them.

Throughout the nursery and Nature Kindergarten, we create a genuine home-from-home environment founded on an ethic of care, where children receive consistent, nurturing support and families are valued as partners. Our inclusive approach recognises that every child is unique: practitioners listen carefully to children and families, work with relevant professionals where appropriate, and tailor transitions.

About the Role:

Are you an experienced Nursery Manager looking for an opportunity to lead a setting with a strong commitment to outdoor learning and Forest School principles?

We are seeking an inspiring and dedicated Nursery Manager to lead our skilled team and continue

delivering outstanding outcomes for children, families, and staff. This is an exciting opportunity to shape a high-quality early years provision where children are encouraged to explore, take managed risks, develop independence, and build a lifelong connection with nature.

Children benefit from a nurturing, inclusive environment and a child-centred, play-based curriculum that combines high-quality indoor provision with regular outdoor learning experiences. Our approach is built on strong relationships, careful observation, and a commitment to helping every child feel safe, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

The Role

As Nursery Manager, you will lead the day-to-day operation of the nursery, ensuring the highest standards of care, education, safeguarding, and compliance. You will inspire and develop your team while championing outdoor learning, Forest School experiences, and high-quality early years practice.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead and develop a positive, inclusive, and high-performing staff team.

- Promote outstanding teaching and learning in line with the EYFS.

- Champion outdoor learning, Forest School experiences, and nature-based play throughout the nursery.

- Ensure every child receives tailored support to thrive and achieve their potential.

- Build strong partnerships with parents, carers, and external professionals.

- Lead safeguarding practice and maintain a strong culture of child protection.

- Oversee occupancy, staffing, budgets, compliance, and daily operations.

- Maintain accurate records and support the nursery through Ofsted inspections.

- Drive continuous improvement and professional development across the setting.

Closing date for applications: 30/11/2026

Alternatively, you can apply here: <https://acornearlyyears.eyrecruit.co.uk/nursery-manager/449?source=careers>