



The Duke of York's
Royal Military School

Candidate Information for the role of Head Groundsperson—Supervisor

Required for Summer 2024 (Immediately)





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Introduction

In 1801, His Royal Highness Frederick Duke of York laid the foundation stone in Chelsea of what was to become The Duke of York's Royal Military School, a School for the children of military personnel which opened in 1803. Then in 1909, the School relocated to its present site in Dover, Kent and in 2010, we became the first full state boarding academy, opening our doors to any family wishing to choose this unique and iconic School for their child's secondary education.

A £24.9 million refurbishment project in 2014 has delivered a new sports centre, high-quality accommodation and teaching blocks and a performing arts centre.

The Duke of York's Royal Military School has a rich military heritage that provides the backbone of the School; benefitting the ethos, values and learning culture of the School. It is proud to provide a stable, caring and understanding environment for the children of members of the armed forces, but also children from all backgrounds.

*'Looking forward
with confidence
And looking back
with pride'*

Academic Achievement

A non-selective School which consistently performs significantly above the national average. The progress our students make during their time at the School is a significant strength. Supervised prep, Saturday morning lessons, small classes and proactively encouraging each and every student to achieve the very best they can, ensures high academic standards. The School operates to an independent School model; it is busy and dynamic, where Saturday morning School is part of our routine with sport, performance and activities in the afternoon.





The Role

Head Groundsperson—Supervisor

The Head Groundsperson will play a crucial role in supporting the Facilities Management department by maintaining and enhancing the School's 160-acre grounds. Responsibilities include supervising equipment and materials maintenance, ensuring adequate stock levels of consumables, and managing multiple site priorities. The candidate will develop a Grounds Future Strategy aligned with the School's vision, improve standards, and address the needs of the grounds, which house the largest collection of Grade 2 Listed Buildings in the area.

Additionally, the Head Groundsperson will ensure the appealing appearance of trees, shrubs, flowers, and lawns, maintain playing fields, and keep the grounds free from harmful insects and plant diseases. The ideal candidate will be methodical, detail-oriented, organised, and committed to maintaining high standards.





Job Purpose

The Head Groundsperson will support the Facilities Management department, ensuring and enhancing the maintenance and appearance of the School's 160-acre grounds. Responsibilities include supervising equipment and materials, maintaining stock levels, and developing a Grounds Future Strategy. This role demands dedication, attention to detail, and excellent organisation to manage multiple priorities and improve the grounds' standards across the School site.

Key Responsibilities

- As the Head Groundsperson, you will ensure all GM staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
- Close liaison with the Facilities Manager with regard to any ground's maintenance issues, including equipment, or unavailability of pitches in accordance with the School calendar.
- Ensure all sports pitches are available for School matches and that any external lettings have pitches available.
- Maintain the site grounds to a very high standard, seeking to raise standards across the estate and team.
- In conjunction with the FM department snow and ice plan, ensure that all site access roads and pathways are clear and safe.
- To undertake some seasonal bedding to improve the outlook of the site for staff, students and visitors.
- Undertake such reasonable duties as requested by your Line Manager, Principal or Senior Leadership Team.



Additional Responsibilities

Personal responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of all staff and students that may be affected by the postholder's acts and/or omissions. In conjunction with the Facilities Manager and Health & Safety/Compliance Officer, ensure that all grounds maintenance activities, equipment and storage is compliant with relevant health and safety standards, requirements and best practice.

Personal responsibility for equal opportunities awareness and ensuring that the postholder is aware of, and carries out, the provisions contained in the Equal Opportunities policy.

Responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Please refer to the full job description on the School website for further details relating to the role.

Person Specification



Details about the Post: Head Groundsperson—Supervisor

Title	Head Groundsperson—Supervisor
Type of Post	Full Time, Permanent
Start Date	Summer2024 (Required Immediately)
Salary	DOYRMS Band 6 (Starting at £26,797 per annum + inflation in September 2024 TBC)

Advert	The Duke of York's Royal Military School is seeking to appoint a hard-working, detail-oriented and organised Head Groundsperson to lead the Grounds Maintenance team and take responsibility for a Grounds Future Strategy.
Reporting To	Facilities Manager
Role	The Head Groundsperson will support the Facilities Management department, ensuring and enhancing the maintenance and appearance of the School's 160-acre grounds.
Hours of Work	37 hours per week, Monday to Friday

Remuneration



Salary and Benefits

- Starting at £26,797 per annum (+ inflation in September 2024 TBC) rising to £29,472 through performance management and appraisal.
- Access to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), a defined benefit scheme with employee contributions linked to starting salary of 5.8% and employer contributions of 22.5%.
- Death in service benefit of three times salary (provided as part of LGPS participation).
- A professional, hardworking and supportive environment and team.
- Free parking on-site.
- Cycle-to-Work salary sacrifice scheme.
- Free lunch in the School dining hall during term-time.
- Use of fantastic, free, on-site facilities such as our gym and swimming pool.
- Possibility of relocation to the School, along with accommodation at a subsidised rate (subject to availability and need).



Application Process

An application form can be downloaded from the School website:
www.doyrms.com/staff-vacancies

In order to apply, candidates should complete their application form and email it to Recruitment@doyrms.com together with a covering letter explaining their reasons for applying and their suitability for the role.

Closing Date and Interviews

The closing date for this role is 19 July 2024. Completed applications should be sent by email to the HR Department at Recruitment@doyrms.com.

Candidates will be contacted via email if they are shortlisted for an interview. Interviews will take place on Monday 22 July 2024.





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