

The Nursery Scholarship at Great Dixter

Description

The Nursery was started by Christopher Lloyd in 1954, specialising in good garden-worthy plants. Operating in a traditional way, the nursery uses skills and techniques that are no longer seen in larger or more commercial operations. 85% of plants grown by us are produced on site. The nursery is unusual in growing in a loam based peat free potting medium which we make ourselves.

The Nursery scholar will spend a year working in the nursery at Great Dixter learning from the team of friendly and knowledgeable staff.

They will learn to manage propagate and cultivate annuals, perennials, ferns, shrubs and trees from the garden here at Great Dixter, take part in regular plant idents and attend on site lectures. Scholars will be asked to complete a monthly horticultural diary as a record of their time with us which will be shared on the Great Dixter website with the scholar's agreement.

The aim of the scholarship is to ensure that these historic but effective methods are passed on to the next generation of nursery workers. Previous scholars have gone on to work at York Gate Leeds, Kew gardens London, the National Trust Plant Conservation Centre Devon and open nurseries of their own.

The scholarship is primarily a practical training position: while scholars will have the opportunity to attend study days and other courses on site and beyond, applicants should be aware that learning will mostly be through hands on learning.

The placement begins in September 2025 at the same time as our garden scholars. The nursery scholar is a paid position (National Minimum Wage) and there is the option of living in subsidised accommodation on site. Anyone joining without a RHS Level 2 in horticulture will receive time off and funding to gain an RHS qualification during their time with us.

Eligibility

Applicants must be a UK citizen or have the right to work in the UK.

Selection Criteria

Successful applicants will have:

- Interest and motivation to work in the sector
- Skills that the placement would develop or enhance
- A desire for self-development and their own goals

Desirable:

- Qualifications, including vocationally relevant qualifications
- Previous horticultural training / work experience

To Apply

Applications will be accepted until the 8th April 2025. The selection committee will consider all applications equally. Interviews will be held at Great Dixter on the 16th April 2025.

Please complete the following application form and submit a covering letter and CV. Submit application materials to Catherine Haydock at education@greatdixter.co.uk or by post using the address: Catherine Haydock, Great Dixter, Northiam, Rye, East Sussex, UK, TN31 6PHS

Application Form - The Nursery Scholarship at Great Dixter

PERSONAL DETAILS

1. Full name: <i>(first. last)</i>	
2. Telephone numbers:	
<i>Home:</i>	
<i>Mobile:</i>	
3. Email address:	
4. Permanent Address:	

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

5. Please tell us about your employment history: <i>e.g. list Dates, Employer, Job Title, and a brief description of your duties (last 5 years or last 3 roles)</i>
6. Please list your qualifications: <i>(vocational and other)</i>

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Vocationally relevant:

Other qualifications:

7. Please tell us about any other relevant knowledge and experience: (*e.g. practical gardening and horticulture, volunteer work*)

REASONS FOR APPLYING

**8. Please tell us why you wish to become the Nursery Scholar:
(200 words maximum)**

9. Please tell us about your personal career development plans:

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(e.g. what area of horticulture do you see yourself working in, what are your short-term and long-term goals and aspirations)

10. This scheme aims to expand and improve nursery skills in the UK. How do your own goals match with or compliment this aim?

11. Please share any other information you would like to give in support of your application.

PERSONAL DETAILS

12. Do you have a clean current driving licence ?

Yes No

13. Do you have a criminal record?

Yes No

If YES please provide details:

14. Please let us know if you require any reasonable adjustments, owing to a disability which you wish us to take into account when considering your application?

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15. How did you hear about the Scholarship?

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16. Provide three professional references. We would like you to provide their name, title, contact details, and describe the nature of your relationship.

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