



Welcome to our Farm

A Fernham Road, Longcot, Faringdon,  
Oxfordshire, SN7 7PR  
T 01793 780 555  
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E enquiries@farmergows.co.uk  
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## Farm and Wildlife Deputy Manager

Henleaze Farm lies between the villages of Longcot and Fernham, near Faringdon, Oxfordshire. Bought in 2007 there are 7 businesses currently operating on the farm including Farmer Gow's and Countryside Education.

**Position** Farm and Wildlife Deputy Manager, Farmer Gow's Ltd - <https://www.farmergows.co.uk/>

**Address** Henleaze Farm, Fernham Road, Longcot, nr Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7PR

**Supervisor** Anne Gow

- Owner, Henleaze Farm
- Managing Director, Farmer Gow's Ltd - <https://www.farmergows.co.uk/>
- Managing Director, Countryside Education - <https://www.farmergows.co.uk/c/SchoolTrips/>

**Hours** up to 37.5 hrs per week

**Note** Farmer Gow's Ltd has a policy to accommodate both full-time and other flexible working patterns

**Closing Date** Sunday 8 September

## The Position

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Farm and Wildlife Deputy Manager to join the Farmer Gow's team. The business has a 30-year history of connecting members of the public and primary age school children to farming and the countryside.

Henleaze Farm, within sight of the White Horse on Uffington Hill, lies in beautiful west Oxfordshire just outside the market town of Faringdon and roughly half way between Oxford and Swindon. 'Farmer Gow's' on Google maps will show you our exact location.

The farm was reverted to extensive grassland soon after purchase in 2007 and a new woodland was created 2008-10. Hedgerows are in good order – including newly planted – and areas of natural grassland are being developed. The farm's biodiversity has improved greatly in the last 17 years, wildlife is now well established so there is plenty of potential to add further to the visitor experience.



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Grazing animals, including our own cattle, sheep, goats and pigs (low stocking densities) are key to the management of the farm which means that the role will require some animal husbandry skills and experience.

The successful candidate will be a self-motivated, flexible, organised individual with a genuine interest and experience in:

- Providing a welcoming and rich visitor experience
- Excellent customer service
- Team leading and working
- Practical farming and conservation management
- Good governance, record management and information handling
- Using evidence to inform nature conservation management
- Maintaining the highest health and safety standards

## Role Description

The successful candidates will contribute to the work of our team through covering tasks in the following areas:

- Engage with customers through
  - public access – seasonal day visitors, scope to develop environmental engagement
  - countryside education – currently 5 programmes, scope to add further programmes
  - farm shop
  - online shop – including deliveries in the local area
- Promote and support work experience students, particularly those on our 2-year programme - <https://www.farmergows.co.uk/workexperience/>
- Deliver day-to-day farm and woodland management including practical livestock rearing, habitat management and species/habitat monitoring
- Contribute to farm management planning and maintain management records
- Procurement of goods and services
- Implement Health & Safety standards fully for yourself and others, including visitors and contractors



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## Technical Skills and Knowledge

- Qualification and/or relevant experience in countryside management, forestry, agriculture, landscape management or similar – Essential
- Understanding of farming and conservation principles and practice for lowland semi-natural habitats, particularly clay and woodland – Essential
- Experience of using land management machinery and equipment relevant to the role e.g. chainsaw, brush-cutter, knapsack sprayers, off-road vehicles, trailers, tractors – Desirable
- Ecological field skills including the ability to identify key species on the farm; surveying and monitoring – Desirable

## Key Competencies for the roles

### Putting People at the Heart of the Countryside Environment – Practitioner

- Nurture trusting relationships with members of the public and group educational visits
- Understand the importance of people accessing and engaging with farmed and natural environments, and how to balance their needs with nature conservation objectives

### Creating Resilient Landscape – Practitioner

- Understand and apply appropriate management techniques to maintain or enhance the condition of the farm and its wildlife
- Recognise, identify and interpret environmental features on the farm
- Carry out and contribute to relevant monitoring work

### Working Safely – Practitioner

- Understand the duty of care owed to all staff, visitors and contractors and adhere to appropriate company policies and procedures
- Apply the principles of risk management and adopt safe working practices for yourself and the people you work with in everything you do



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If you can demonstrate that you possess the necessary experience, knowledge and skills and aspire to our vision and values, we would like to hear from you.

### **Additional information**

*A driving licence is essential for this role.*

*Flexible working patterns can be accommodated.*

*Out of Hours work is very modest/small – you may occasionally be required to cover periods of absence for which Time Off In Lieu is available.*

### **Further information**

Henleaze Farm was purchased in 2007 to provide a permanent home for the Farmer Gow's business. Countryside Education developed alongside public access, with particular focus on Key Stages 1 and 2. Inspiring today's youngsters to enjoy and care for the countryside, is an important business aim / ethic. There is potential for further development led by new talent.

#### **Owner Businesses**

- Farmer Gow's Public Access to farming and the countryside
- Countryside Education Early Years to Key Stage 2, Day Trips and Mobile Farm

#### **Tenants**

- The Oxford Yurt Seasonal Glamping in wildlife meadow - <http://theoxfordyurt.co.uk/>
- Oxford Oak Camping Seasonal Camping and Glamping - <https://www.theoxfordoakcamping.co.uk/>
- Smart Greens UK Horticulture & Aquaponics, including Educational Services - <https://www.smart-greens.uk/>
- Bark & Berry Dog Grooming - <https://www.bark-berry.co.uk/>
- LissieLou Cake Decorations & Equipment - <https://lissielou.com/>  
Cake School - <https://lissieloucakeschool.com/>