



Green Social Prescriber

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in working at St Nicks! Thanks to funding from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, we are seeking a Green Social Prescriber (GSP) to provide 1:1 support to connect participants with nature-based activities to improve their mental and physical health, and to help them feel safer when accessing green space around York.

The ideal person will be caring, enthusiastic and highly organised, experienced in supporting people with multiple or complex needs. You'll be committed to empowering people, with strong communication skills and an ability to work independently to get this pilot project off the ground.

Key Dates:

Closing date for applications: Monday 27 April at 9am

Interview date: Tuesday 5 May / Wednesday 6 May

About St Nicks

We are St Nicks, a local environmental charity with a mission “build and connect flourishing communities through urban greenspace generation, nature-based wellbeing and sustainable living”. Based at St Nicks Environment Centre hidden behind residential properties in the Tang Hall area of York, we have a thriving 24-acre nature reserve that is free to explore 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Our volunteer team help us maintain and manage our reserve for the benefit of people and wildlife.

In addition to managing the local nature reserve (LNR), we have three key pillars to our work:

- **Green Corridors York** strives for “more, bigger, better and more joined up” green spaces. Conserving nature whilst supporting our communities. As a city, we can work together to reduce pollution, challenge harmful developments and improve land management.
- Our **Nature-Based Wellbeing** team deliver both education and mental health support services. At St Nicks we all see and feel the benefits of being outdoors and connected to nature. These benefits can be physical, mental or a combination of both! Our Nature-Based Wellbeing team run a series of Ecotherapy groups to help adults find this nature-connectedness. 92% of Ecotherapy participants told us that these activities meant that they noticed and sought out nature more in their daily lives. We run education and youth activities which capture the imagination of children and families, inspiring them to connect with the natural world and to live more sustainably.
- Sustainability is at the heart of everything we do at St Nicks. When we talk about sustainability, we are looking to ensure we are doing the least harm possible. Whether that is relating to human, social, financial or environmental. Our **Waste & Sustainability** team collect recycling, carry out waste audits and run events across the city. Together our teams work to make York a more sustainable city.



St Nicks is a Real Living Wage Employer and a Level 2 Disability Confident employer. This means we will interview all applicants with a disability who successfully evidence the essential criteria on a person specification and consider them on their abilities, provide an inclusive and accessible recruitment process, and make reasonable adjustments during the recruitment process so disabled job applicants have the best opportunity to demonstrate their abilities.

Our values

Collaboration – Our approachability and inclusiveness ensure that everyone who is affected by our work is involved in shaping it.

Integrity – We are honest, inclusive and have respect for all life through our ethics, authenticity and commitment.

Innovation – We are committed to constructively exploring ideas that help us get closer to our vision by doing things differently and taking pioneering approaches, recognising the learning and development that comes with this path.

Professionalism – All of our actions to our beneficiaries, stakeholders and each other demonstrate our mutual respect, competence, proactivity and the way we make a difference.

Job Description and Person Specification

About the Role

As part of a pilot funded project, we are seeking a Green Social Prescriber (GSP) to connect participants with nature-based activities to improve their mental and physical health and to help them feel safer when accessing green space around York.

The ideal person will be caring, enthusiastic and highly organised, experienced in supporting people with multiple or complex needs. You'll be committed to empowering people, with strong communication skills and an ability to work independently to get this pilot project off the ground.

The GSP will provide 1:1 person-centred support and connect participants with outdoor/green activities like gardening, walking, and conservation volunteering. Co-producing plans that improve social and nature connectedness through understanding what matters to the participant, assessing their needs, setting goals and working to overcome any barriers to access.

They will work to build and maintain strong partnerships with other community groups, charities and statutory services, alongside the Nature-Based Wellbeing programme at St Nicks to create a sustainable, evidence-based, green support offer, as part of this pilot project.



Job Title	Green Social Prescriber
Contract Type	Fixed term: 1-year contract. This role is initially for a 1-year fixed term contract, with the possibility for extension dependent on future funding being available.
Hours	21 -28 hours per week, negotiable. This is based on an FTE of 35 hours per week.
Salary	£ 26788 FTE per annum reduced pro-rata for part time hours
Place of work	Primary place of work is the St Nicks Environment Centre and Local Nature Reserve (LNR) with the opportunity for hybrid arrangements in line with St Nicks policy. We anticipate that this role will involve a significant amount of community-based work.
Working pattern	Negotiable Typically, hours are worked Mon-Fri between the hours of 09:00 – 17:00 with occasional weekend or evening work by prior agreement.
Responsible to	Anna Perrett – Nature-Based Wellbeing Manager
Responsible for	
Purpose	As part of a pilot funded project, we are seeking a Green Social Prescriber (GSP) to connect participants with nature-based activities to improve their mental and physical health and to help them feel safer when accessing green space around York.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Connecting with nature-based wellbeing: connecting participants to local, nature-based activity, including that at St Nicks and across York, such as walking or cycling groups, community gardening, conservation volunteering, green arts and crafts, other physical or wellbeing-based activity taking place in the natural environment.

Person-centered 1:1 support: co-producing plans that improve social and nature connectedness through understanding what matters to the participant, assessing their needs, setting goals and working to overcome any barriers to access - including accompanying them to make introductions to community activities. Where appropriate, support participants in co-production and manage progression to volunteering.

Building and maintaining partnerships: work to build and maintain strong partnerships with other community groups, charities and statutory services, alongside the Nature-Based Wellbeing programme at St Nicks to create a sustainable, evidence-based, green support offer.

Caseload management: maintaining accurate records, managing referrals and caseload, creating and updating plans for participants, and gathering outcomes data.

General duties

- Participate in the day-to-day work of the organisation – such as reporting, attending team, Board and AGM meetings as required, answering the phone, dealing with enquiries from the public, communicate effectively with colleagues ensuring all necessary information is passed on.



- Maintain the strict confidentiality of all information acquired especially with regard to organisational and programme development, donors and beneficiaries.
- To take responsibility for being up to date with current policies and procedures and to adhere to these.
- Keeping updated and being involved with the orchestration of organisational changes and developments through discussions with the CEO and colleagues at staff meetings.
- Maintain a safe working environment and good housekeeping practices at all times.
- All other reasonable duties as required in the delivery of this post.

Working Conditions:

A mixture of indoor and outdoor working with some evening and weekend work to be expected.

Acknowledgement & Agreement

The above is not an exhaustive list of duties, and you will be expected to perform different tasks as necessitated by your changing role within the organisation and the overall business objectives of the organisation.

Person Specifications (Skills and Knowledge/Values and Personal Attributes):

Experience

- Providing 1:1 support – significant experience of managing and prioritizing support for a caseload of clients, offering wellbeing, coaching, mentoring, or social prescribing interventions to help them develop coping strategies, improve emotional resilience and navigate difficult personal circumstances.
- Community connections – experience of signposting others to community, statutory or other support, managing transitions and reducing barriers to access.
- Partnership working – building and maintaining strong connections across internal and external teams, deepening networks and developing opportunities for collaborative working.
- Experience of supporting people experiencing mental ill health and/or multiple complex need.
- Experience of producing clear and effective case notes.

Skills and attributes

- Communications – excellent listening skills, a non-judgmental and empathetic approach. Able to communicate effectively with participants and key partner organisations. Represent the work of St Nicks at events to members of the public and supporters.
- Managing caseload and reporting – able to work flexibly with shifting priorities and manage a varied caseload of individuals, create and update action plans, gather key evidence and monitor outcomes to contribute to reporting on impact.
- Teamwork – able to contribute effectively to a team, and highly motivated to develop a



cross-referral network with key partner organisations to create a sustainable “green” activity offer beyond the pilot project.

- Empathy and emotional resilience – able to maintain safe working practices, establish strong boundaries and adhere to safeguarding policies and procedures.
- A commitment to St Nicks mission, vision and values.
- Ability to manage risk and support people experiencing high levels of need.

Knowledge and understanding

- Community knowledge – a deep understanding of local community resources – particularly green space - and the voluntary and community sector in York.
- Whole-team development - alongside the wider Nature-Based Wellbeing team, contribute ideas and initiative across whole-team activity including young people’s activity and community drop-in sessions.
- Commit to continuous professional development through training, courses and sector-wide learning events.
- Understanding of the principles and a belief in the value of green social prescribing.

Definition of Experience:

Experience = more than one year’s direct experience.

Significant experience = at least three year’s direct experience.

Application Process

If you would like to apply for this role, please submit a CV and covering letter detailing how you meet the criteria outlined in the person specification and an EDI form to eliza@stnicks.org.uk.

Closing date for applications: Monday 27 April at 9am

Interview date: Tuesday 5 May / Wednesday 6 May

If you would like to find out more about St Nicks or the role before applying, we welcome an informal conversation with Anna Perrett (Nature-Based Wellbeing Manager). To book a call please email anna@stnicks.org.uk.