



### Level 3 Livestock Technician Apprentice

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| Reporting to:  | Farm Manager                                                                                 |
| Working Hours: | Full time (40 hours per week including off-the-job training) Two years fixed term Apprentice |
| Salary:        | Up to £26,701 per annum                                                                      |
| Annual Leave:  | 26 electable days, 8 statutory days and up to 5 efficiency closure days at Christmas         |

#### Job Purpose

This is an exciting opportunity to begin a career within modern commercial agriculture whilst studying towards the Level 3 Livestock Unit Technician Apprenticeship. Working alongside experienced farm staff, you will gain practical experience across a range of livestock enterprises while developing the technical knowledge, practical skills and professional behaviours required within the agricultural industry. You will attend Plumpton College for training as part of your apprenticeship programme and will also have opportunities to undertake additional industry qualifications, including training such as Rough Terrain Forklift and Pesticide Application, where appropriate.

The Livestock Technician Apprentice will support the daily operation of the College Farm while developing practical skills across all livestock enterprises. The role involves caring for livestock, operating farm machinery, maintaining high standards of animal welfare, health and safety and biosecurity, whilst supporting the commercial operation of the farm and its educational activities. Working alongside experienced stock people, enterprise managers and lecturers, you will develop the knowledge and confidence required to become a skilled livestock technician.

#### Key Responsibilities

##### Dairy Enterprise

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| a. Milking cows using Automatic Milking Systems (robots) and the herringbone parlour. |
| b. Monitoring cow performance and robot activity.                                     |
| c. Feeding dairy cattle.                                                              |
| d. Calf rearing and youngstock management.                                            |
| e. Identifying and reporting animal health concerns.                                  |

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| f. Maintaining excellent hygiene within dairy facilities. |
| g. Supporting breeding and fertility programmes.          |

### Beef Enterprise

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| a. Feeding and caring for pedigree Sussex cattle. |
| b. Assist with calving.                           |
| c. Conservation grazing management.               |
| d. Routine livestock handling.                    |
| e. Animal health monitoring.                      |

### Sheep Enterprise

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| a. Feeding and routine flock management. |
| b. Lambing assistance.                   |
| c. Handling sheep safely.                |
| d. Health treatments.                    |
| e. Grazing management.                   |

### Pig Enterprise

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| a. Feeding and caring for breeding and growing pigs.      |
| b. Farrowing support.                                     |
| c. Piglet husbandry.                                      |
| d. Maintaining high welfare standards.                    |
| e. Monitoring electronic feeding and ventilation systems. |
| f. Maintaining hygiene within livestock accommodation.    |

### General Farm Duties

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| a. Operating tractors and farm machinery following appropriate training. |
| b. Bedding livestock.                                                    |
| c. Fencing and estate management.                                        |
| d. Grassland management.                                                 |
| e. Crop establishment and harvesting.                                    |
| f. Assisting with silage making and harvest operations.                  |
| g. Maintaining farm buildings, yards and equipment.                      |
| h. Recording livestock performance and routine farm records.             |
| i. Supporting student practical teaching sessions where appropriate.     |
| j. Maintaining excellent standards of cleanliness throughout the farm.   |

### Health, Safety and Biosecurity

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| a. Follow all College Health and Safety procedures.                     |
| b. Comply fully with the College Farm Operational Biosecurity protocol. |
| c. Maintain the highest standards of animal welfare.                    |
| d. Wear appropriate PPE                                                 |
| e. Report hazards, defects or animal health concerns immediately.       |

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| f. Work safely around livestock and machinery. |
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### Continuous Professional Development

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| a. Engage in CPD and maintain a Professional Development Portfolio to evidence learning and impact. |
| b. Participate fully in College performance management and appraisal processes.                     |

### Training and Development

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| a. Complete the Level 3 Livestock Unit Technician Apprenticeship.                   |
| b. Attend off the job training as required.                                         |
| c. Work alongside experienced farm staff.                                           |
| d. Develop practical skills across all livestock enterprises.                       |
| e. Receive additional industry training where appropriate.                          |
| f. Gain experience with modern livestock technology and commercial farming systems. |

### Further duties

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| a. To undertake any further duties commensurate with the grade and responsibilities of the post allocated by the Line Manager or a member of SMT. |
| b. To adhere to appropriate College policies including (but not limited to) safeguarding, equity & diversity, and health and safety.              |

### Qualifications, Skills and Experience

At Plumpton College we are: Ambitious and Progressive; Enterprising; Professional; Passionate; and Supportive.

### Essential Criteria

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| Enthusiastic about agriculture and livestock farming.                           |
| Willing to learn.                                                               |
| Reliable and punctual.                                                          |
| Physically fit and happy working outdoors in all weather conditions.            |
| Able to work both independently and as part of a team.                          |
| Committed to high standards of animal welfare.                                  |
| Committed to maintaining excellent biosecurity and health and safety standards. |
| Full UK Driving License (or working towards one)                                |

### Desirable Criteria

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| Previous livestock experience through school, college, work experience or family farming. |
| GCSE English, Mathematics and Science (Grade 4/C or above, or equivalent)                 |

## **CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

### **Working Hours**

The role follows the working patterns of a commercial livestock farm. Typical hours are Monday to Friday with early starts where required. Weekend working forms an essential part of the role and is undertaken on a rota (approximately every other weekend). Additional hours may be required during busy seasonal periods such as lambing, calving, silage making and harvest.

### **Annual Leave**

The holiday year is from 1 September - 31 August each year. The annual leave entitlement for this role is 26 working days, 8 bank holidays and efficiency days as stipulated by the Senior Management Team. Annual leave is bookable subject to business needs and should be planned and agreed with your manager. Annual leave is managed via iTrent (the college payroll and HR portal).

### **Continuous Professional Development (CPD)**

This post will be entitled to CPD for updating, personal and professional development. All CPD must be planned, agreed and booked with your Line Manager.

### **Benefits**

The candidate appointed to the post will automatically become a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme and pay contributions as determined by annual salary levels. The pension scheme includes life assurance cover, and the College will also pay a contribution towards your pension. There is also free car parking and a competitively priced dining room service. There is access to a free on-site gym, Employee Assistance Programme, Cycle to Work scheme and staff discounts.

### **Equality and Diversity**

Plumpton College is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities and is dedicated to pursuing non-discriminatory policies and practices and eliminating unfair discrimination on any basis. This means that no job applicant will receive less favourable treatment than another on grounds of gender, marital status, age, racial origin, disability, sexual orientation or political or religious beliefs.

### **Criminal Record Check via the Disclosure Procedure**

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 gives individuals the right not to disclose details of certain old offences when asked about their criminal record as they may be defined as 'spent'. There are exemptions to this if the individual is offered a post which involves contact with children or regular work at an establishment exclusively or mainly for children.

The post you have applied for falls into this category and, therefore, requires a criminal background check.

If a job offer is made, you will be asked to apply for a DBS Disclosure Certificate. The Disclosure Certificate will contain details of current and "spent" convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings held on the Police National Computer, excluding certain specified old and minor offences.

The DBS Disclosure will also indicate whether information is held on government faculty lists of those individuals who are barred from working with children or vulnerable adults (if applicable).

The post-holder cannot begin employment with the College until the DBS Disclosure Certificate is received and considered by the Principal.