



Application Pack

Hospice Housekeeper

Closing date for applications: 14th August 2023

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service (Alexander Devine) is a local charity that provides specialist care and vital support to babies, children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions, and their families, across Berkshire and into surrounding counties.

We individualise our approach to meet the unique clinical, emotional and practical needs of each child and their family, ensuring they receive the best possible care and support. Our comprehensive range of care services include Respite care, Specialist play, Symptom management, Family support, End of life care and Bereavement support. We provide care from our children's hospice in Maidenhead as well as in the family home and across the community, including hospitals and schools.

Our hospice facilities offer opportunities for children and their siblings to experience fun, joy and adventures, and help families make precious memories for as long as they have. These include a hydrotherapy pool, sensory room, music room, games room, outdoor playground and sensory garden, six children's bedrooms and two self-contained family flats. We also have a dedicated bereavement suite with its own garden.

Our children's hospice service is free of charge for families, but it costs over £2.8 million a year just to maintain our current level of care. With very minimal government funding, our charity is almost entirely reliant on donations, fundraising and gifts in Wills to meet the costs of running our service. Which means every penny donated makes a huge difference to those we support.

We currently support over 165 children and their families, but we are committed to growing our service and reaching out to every child and family that needs us. In Berkshire alone, we know that there are an estimated 1,371 children with life-limiting conditions. And research shows that this number is likely to increase by at least a further 11% by 2030.

The charity was founded by John and Fiona Devine in memory of their son Alexander who sadly passed away from a rare brain tumour in 2006 at the age of eight. Their personal experience led them to realise a desperate need for a local children's hospice service with a hospice facility in Berkshire.

www.alexanderdevine.org
Reg. Charity No. 1118947



Our values, vision and mission

Our values

Our work is powered by our core values. They are key to everything that we do and the way in which we do it. Our expectation is that our values are upheld in all that we do and in our engagements, both internally and externally.



DETERMINED

And resolute in our service to all those that need us.



EMPOWERING

To enable whoever comes into contact with us, the power and courage to make decisions, ask questions or simply to be.



VALUING OTHERS

We value you and each other, because we are all unique and special in our own way.



INTEGRITY

To be consistent in our ethos and values, principles and actions. To always behave and hold the integrity of our charity as core.



NURTURE

To provide an environment of protection, support, growth and encouragement.



EMPATHY

To know that we will provide a place of safety for everyone to express their feelings, thoughts and emotions, without judgement.

Our vision

We deliver palliative care to children and families through an holistic approach that meets the individual needs of each child and their family.

Our vision is to provide a service within Berkshire and surrounding counties that will give children and families a choice of care and support from a skilled and dedicated team. We work closely with the NHS, local authorities and other services in delivering our care.

Our mission

Reaching out to every child and family who needs us

Determined * Empowering * Valuing others * Integrity * Nurture * Empathy

The role

Hospice Housekeeper

Hours	Part time, 15 hours per week. Hours to be worked flexibly and will include some weekends and bank holidays.
Salary	Band 3 - £8,397 to £9,242 per annum (£20,993 to £23,105 pro rata)
Location	Alexander Devine Children's Hospice, Snowball Hill, Maidenhead, Berkshire
Benefits	Competitive salary Generous holiday entitlement (plus your birthday as an additional day off) Pension Employee assistance programme Free on-site parking Wellbeing programme.

Job purpose

The post holder will be a motivated and organised individual with excellent understanding of the importance of cleanliness. They will ensure the Hospice is clean and well presented for the families and visitors who attend and ensure the family flats are clean and well presented for families who visit.

Responsible for the cleanliness of the whole Hospice, including bedrooms, flats, kitchen, restrooms/rest areas, pool area and general areas.

They will be required to create, maintain and monitor a cleaning rota for the Hospice in liaison with the Director of Care.

Grade	Hospice Housekeeper - Band 3
Managerial reporting responsibility	Caretaker
Professional reporting responsibility	Caretaker

Job Description

Duties in common with other members of staff

- To report and record accidents and incidents.
- To be an ambassador for the charity.
- To uphold and demonstrate the values of the charity.
- To maintain the best appearance of your immediate working area.
- To demonstrate a positive and supportive attitude to staff and volunteers.
- Respect confidentiality applying to all areas of the hospice.
- To adhere to the Infection Control Policies and Procedures set by the charity and the Care Quality Commission.

Areas of responsibility

- Provide housekeeping for the Hospice, using equipment provided.
- Ensure floors and all surfaces are cleaned regularly, in line with schedules, using appropriate equipment and chemicals.
- Maintain electronic schedule of cleaning undertaken.
- Ensure that all work undertaken is in line with Infection Prevention Control guidelines.
- Report any faulty goods or products to the Caretaker immediately.
- Liaise with the Caretaker regarding the use of external contractors for professional cleaning/deep cleaning events.
- Maintain an up-to-date working knowledge of, and represent positively, the work of Alexander Devine.
- Contribute positively to good teamwork and uphold organisational values (DEVINE).
- Contribute positively to good teamwork.
- Ensure that guidelines and policies are adhered to at all times.

- Adhere to C.O.S.H.H. policy at all times.
- Use personal protective equipment at all times.
- Under line management guidance, regularly update and maintain own knowledge of safety rules, fire drills, and internal security and accident procedures and adhere to these at all times.
- Actively participate in appraisal system and attend training programmes to assist in personal development.
- Attend and participate in all mandatory training with reference to use of equipment provided.
- A commitment to, attitude and behaviour that reflects our core values - Determined, Empowering, Valuing others. Integrity, Nurture, Empathy.
- Commitment to ensuring your own wellbeing and that of your colleagues.

This job description reflects the present requirements of the post. As duties and responsibilities change and develop, the job description will be reviewed and is subject to amendment in consultation with the post holder.

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Education, training and qualifications	English Language and Mathematics GCSE or equivalent grade C (grade 4) or equivalent.	
Experience	<p>Experience of providing a housekeeping service</p> <p>Experience of ordering and monitoring stock levels</p>	<p>Experience of housekeeping in a healthcare environment</p> <p>Knowledge of infection prevention and control within a housekeeping role</p>

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Skills	<p>Excellent communication and interpersonal skills</p> <p>Ability to work independently using own initiative</p> <p>Ability to work well in a team</p> <p>Ability to maintain electronic records</p> <p>Ability to prioritise tasks and undertake them in an efficient manner</p>	
	Essential	Desirable
Other	<p>Commitment to the mission and ethos of Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service</p> <p>Able to work within and uphold our core values : determined, empowering, valuing others, integrity, nurture and empathy</p> <p>Able to assess risk to maintain personal safety in a variety of settings</p> <p>Pleasant and helpful manner; calm under pressure</p> <p>Willingness to work unsociable hours as necessary</p> <p>Discretion and respect for privacy and confidentiality</p> <p>Flexible, adaptable and enthusiastic personality</p> <p>Willing to undertake an Enhanced DBS</p> <p>Passed fit to undertake the duties of the post by Occupational Health</p>	

A rewarding and special place to work

Finding ways to recognise, reward and support every member of our team is important to us. Here's four big reasons why you will want to join our charity...



The amazing people that work here

Very simply, the team at Alexander Devine makes our charity such a unique place to work. To quote one of the young people that we support:

"If I had to summarise what makes Alexander Devine so special, I would say it's the people that work there...they are like family to us"

Whichever part of the charity you are working or if you are a volunteer, we are proud of our 'one team' spirit.



An employer that listens and cares

We pride ourselves on ensuring our staff receive regular supervision and support from their line manager, with opportunities for further training and development.

We also have an employee assistance programme, offering our employees a free confidential advisory and counselling service to help with any personal, work or family issues they may face.



A beautiful setting in a convenient location

Our stunning purpose-built hospice is surrounded by beautiful countryside, but also just a stones throw from the M4 and A404, on the outskirts of Maidenhead.

There is free on-site parking for all staff.



A strong focus on work / life balance, taking care of your health and planning for retirement

Making sure our employees have a good work/life balance is vital. In addition to a wellbeing programme, we offer generous annual leave entitlement with a day off for your birthday and an extra two additional days holiday, known as Alexander days each year.

There are also staff discounts on a range of products and services including travel and high street savings.

Further information

Equal opportunities

It is the policy of Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service to provide equal opportunities to any employee or job applicant and will not discriminate either directly or indirectly because of race, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status, religion or belief, marital or civil partnership status, age, disability, or pregnancy and maternity.

Safeguarding statement

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo Child Protection screening appropriate to the post, including an Enhanced DBS check.

How to apply

To apply for the role, please send a covering letter, describing how you meet our person specification and values, and CV to fayd@alexanderdevine.org

Applications must be received by midday on **14th August 2023**