



Job title	Education Officer (Families, Young People and Secondary Science)
Division	Gardens, Libraries and Museums (GLAM)
Department	Museum of Natural History
Location	Museum of Natural History, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW
Grade and salary	Grade 6: £29,176 - £34,804 per annum (Pro rata)
Hours	0.5 FTE
Contract type	Maternity Cover
Reporting to	Head of Education
Vacancy reference	143027
Additional Information	There is a requirement to be able to work flexibly over 7 days a week including evenings, weekends and bank holidays.  We would like the post to start in early November











# **About the University of Oxford**

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2016/17 exceeded £564m and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation

#### **Gardens, Libraries and Museums**

The Gardens, Libraries and Museums (GLAM), a group of six departments led by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (GLAM), comprises the University's major collections: the Bodleian Libraries, the four museums — Ashmolean, History of Science, Natural History, and Pitt Rivers — and the Botanic Garden & Harcourt Arboretum. Both individually and collectively, the collections are integral to the delivery of the University's strategic aims of teaching, research and widening participation. Whilst each collection maintains a distinct individual identity, GLAM also works collectively where practicable to ensure sustainability and consistency of standards.

For more information please visit: http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/glam/

# **University Museum of Natural History**

Oxford University Museum of Natural History was opened in 1860 and houses the University's extensive scientific holdings of natural history, which are used for research, teaching, and public engagement with science. The holdings are currently organised into three collection areas: Earth, Life and Print & Digital. The Museum is 'Designated' by Arts Council England as having collections of national and international importance, and these comprise around 7 million specimens that are second in importance only to the national collections. The building, which is Grade 1-listed, is regarded as one of the finest examples of Victorian architecture in Britain, with its glass roof supported by iron pillars, and internal decoration that has a strong association with the Pre-Raphaelite movement.

The Museum is one of the most visited science museums in the UK with nearly 850,000 visitors per year, including over 37,000 school visitors, making it the most popular non-national science museum in the UK and the second most visited university museum in the world (behind the Ashmolean). The public engagement team have a national reputation for excellence and innovation, and offer a wide range of programming to a diverse audience base from under 5s through to older learners. The public engagement team works closely with the collections, research and operations teams to deliver the museum's ambitious strategic plan.

The museum programmes a series of contemporary science and society exhibitions. This series aims to connect the research power of academic departments with the University of Oxford with the very large audiences visiting the museum. This connection between research and the public is enabled by the third distinctive ingredient – the multiple award-winning public engagement team of the museum, in partnership with public engagement officers embedded within the departments. Together, these three components provide the University of Oxford with a unique combination of capabilities and opportunities for public engagement in research. Each inter-disciplinary exhibition is based around a theme relating to the science of the natural environment that aims to draw together different strands of research from across the academic divisions, preferably in an area that has societal relevance or controversy, and aims to make complex concepts and datasets accessible to the general public in a balanced but authoritative way

#### **Purpose of Role**

The vision of the Museum of Natural History is: Advancing, communicating and sharing the sciences of the natural environment with diverse global audiences, by triggering, nurturing and sustaining a lifelong interest in the natural world

### The museum has a strategic priority to extend the reach of family programming

- Develop the family programme to enhance the diversity of museum audiences.
- Enhance the variety of self-guided activities appropriate for all age groups, including digitally led activities
- Enhance the programming to assist families in engaging with contemporary science and Contemporary Science & Society exhibitions
- Deliver family outreach programmes in targeted areas of economic deprivation

#### Key duties and responsibilities

- Project manage, devise and develop the Museum's biannual family science fair 'Super Science
  Saturday' by recruiting and training University researchers to deliver science engagement
  activities based on their research. This is a key part of the museum's strategic plan and supports
  the University's Public Engagement with Research strategy.
- To lead and manage 'Science Saturdays' a special set of activities for family science engagement, by designing, developing and maintaining resources and training for volunteers.
   As well as organising volunteer rotas and evaluating this family provision.
- To manage the Museum Youth Forum by delivering and developing monthly sessions jointly with the Secondary Science Education Officer.
- Supervise and manage volunteers and interns on a daily basis.
- To project manage externally funded projects as part of the Museum's family programme, to include budget management and supervising project team members.
- To advise on family learning and interpretation in the Museum and for the Museum's website.
- To be aware of current information, best practice, advice and policies about family learning.
- Deliver introductions to secondary (science) school groups and occasional session delivery.

#### **Essential criteria**

1. Degree or equivalent experience

- 2. Experience of working with Young People and family audiences in an informal learning setting, and a good understanding of the needs of the audience
- 3. Effective communicator, both spoken and written
- 4. Design skills use of design software such as Adobe InDesign and Photoshop
- 5. Ability to work under pressure and to deadlines
- 6. Ability to work on own initiative, with self-motivation, energy and versatility as well as part of a team
- 7. Excellent computer skills
- 8. Experience of working with volunteers

#### Desirable criteria

- 1. Experience of science communication
- 2. Experience of working with hard to reach audiences
- 3. Experience working within a museum setting utilising museum collections

# How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the 'Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford' document, at www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/.

If you would like to apply, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

#### Information for priority candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments)

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email <a href="mailto:recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk">recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk</a>. Further help and support is available from <a href="www.ox.ac.uk/about\_the\_university/jobs/support/">www.ox.ac.uk/about\_the\_university/jobs/support/</a>. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: <a href="www.recruit.ox.ac.uk">www.recruit.ox.ac.uk</a>.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our erecruitment system. **Please check your spam/junk mail** regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

## Important information for candidates

### **Pre-employment screening**

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at: <a href="https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/">www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/</a>.

## **Data Privacy**

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at:

<u>www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/privacynotices/job/</u>. The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at:

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicyondataprotection/.

# The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69<sup>th</sup> birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at **grade 8 and above**. The justification for this is explained at: <a href="https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/">www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/</a>.

For **existing** employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/.

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at **grades 1–7** have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

### **Equality of Opportunity**

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

# Benefits of working at the University

## University Club and sports facilities

Membership of the University Club is free for all University staff. The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See <a href="https://www.club.ox.ac.uk">www.club.ox.ac.uk</a> and <a href="https://www.sport.ox.ac.uk">www.sport.ox.ac.uk</a>/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

#### Information for international staff

The University offers support and advice to international staff, including a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependents.

See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/.

## Information for staff new to Oxford

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service website includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation and local schools. See <a href="https://www.welcome.ox.ac.uk">www.welcome.ox.ac.uk</a>.

# The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff to settle into Oxford and to provide them with an opportunity to meet people in the area. See <a href="https://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk">www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk</a>.

### Childcare

The University has excellent childcare services with five University nurseries, as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries.

For full details including how to apply and the costs, see <a href="www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare">www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare</a>.

### Family-friendly benefits

The University subscribes to My Family Care service through which staff are eligible to register for emergency back-up childcare and adultcare services, a 'speak to an expert' advice service and a wide range of guides and webinars through a website called the Work+Family space.

See: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/.

#### Disabled staff

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. For further details, including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor, see <a href="https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff">www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff</a>.

#### Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at <a href="https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/">www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/</a>.

#### Additional benefits

Staff can enjoy a range of other benefits and discounts, including free entry to the Botanic Gardens and University colleges, and discounts at University museums.

See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits