



THE PERSE
SCHOOL
CAMBRIDGE



**Trainee Outdoor Education Instructor
(Climbing)**

Upper School

CANDIDATE PACK



The Perse School Cambridge is one of the country's leading independent co-educational day schools for children aged 3-18.

Every successful school needs an excellent team working to keep things running smoothly and we are no exception.

Support staff play a pivotal role in delivering a safe and efficient educational environment to support our students, covering a wide range of important operational roles including teaching assistants, finance, caretaking, estate management, HR, administration and admissions.

Support staff work in collaboration with teaching staff to ensure our exceptional facilities and teaching and learning environments are delivered to the highest standards.

Working at The Perse School

Our aim is to be a leading employer of choice. This means we strive to be a school where staff say they are proud and excited to work, and feel valued, respected and motivated.

We are committed to providing a very competitive salary and benefits scheme at the same time as offering a wide range of opportunities for personal and professional development. We want our staff to feel engaged and purposeful so that they, in turn, help pupils to be happy and successful.

Our School Environment

As an academically selective school, we are committed to ensuring every child is nurtured and supported to ensure their academic education is balanced by a thorough extra-curricular programme and outstanding individual pastoral care.

Our outdoor education department offers a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for students to develop key life skills needed to thrive in today's world, including problem solving, resilience, communication, leadership and teamwork.

We have thriving music and drama departments with around 70 separate ensemble groups and an award-winning Performing Arts Centre which stages a wide range of events showcasing singing, dance and drama. Our sports department ensures that every pupil has the opportunity to find a sport to enjoy and an approach to living a healthy lifestyle.





The Outdoor Education Department

The Outdoor Education Department at The Perse is a dedicated full-time department that delivers outdoor activities for students attending The Perse School and to members of the public via The Perse Climbing Academy. Outdoor education has a long history at The Perse, starting with the 5th Cambridge Scout Group, which first met in 1909.

Over the years the Scout Group was transformed into a separate organisation known as the Perse Exploration Society (PES) with a wider scope for challenging activities and expeditions. The aim of the Perse Exploration Society is to provide students with leadership and learning opportunities outside of the classroom. Most of all the Perse Exploration Society gives Perse students the chance to experience travel and adventure in some of the remotest places on earth and come away with lifelong memories. Today, the Perse Exploration Society is split into a number of groups which provide students with a progressive outdoor education from Year 3—13.

The Outdoor Education Department also delivers curriculum based climbing games lessons from Yr 9-13 and a wide range of specialist extracurricular clubs and commercial climbing activities. Extra-curricular clubs include Climbing Club, Paddlesports Club, Woodworking Club and Archery Club.

In 2024 we established Perse Climbing Academy, aimed at delivering commercial climbing activities to members of the public from our new purpose-built climbing wall. Further information about the new building can be found here: [The Perse School Sports Centre](#). The Perse Climbing Academy delivers courses to adults and children. We offer National Indoor Climbing Association Scheme (NICAS) courses, public access climbing, taster sessions and bespoke events such as birthday parties and corporate events.

All Outdoor Education Department staff instruct across all areas of provision, developing their skills in both school and public instruction.

For further information, see our brochure [here](#).

Click on the photo below to see our Outdoor Education Department in action:





ROLE SPECIFICATION

Job Description

Love Climbing or Bouldering? Considered making a career out of it?

This role is designed for those who would like to take up a career in climbing/ outdoor instruction. You will be supported by an experienced team of staff and provided with support and training to become a skilled instructor of indoor climbing.

Much of the postholder's delivery will be conducted in our state-of-the-art climbing wall, the largest roped wall within 50 miles of Cambridge. Instruction is varied with delivery of taster sessions, birthday parties, structured school physical education lessons and clubs, bespoke coaching and the National Indoor Climbing Association Scheme (NICAS).

The role is offered as a permanent full-time contract. The post holder will have full involvement across the breadth of Outdoor Education provision at The Perse. They will work across PES provision, games programme delivery, extra-curricular clubs and climbing provision.

The role is divided between training, activity instruction, administration tasks and commercial delivery. This includes an exciting range of school holiday delivery, trips and weekend session instruction, alongside term time programme delivery.

The post holder will be provided with financial support towards relevant national governing body training and award schemes. In year 1, this will likely include the Mountain Training Climbing Wall Instructor Award and British Mountaineering Council FUNDAS courses. For candidates already holding these awards, higher level training courses will be offered.

Responsibilities

- Instruction of climbing activities to include bottom rope, top rope, autobelay and lead climbing. General instruction of balance skills, abseiling and physical training.
- Delivery of climbing games sessions and extra curricular clubs for Perse pupils, including 3 annual trips.
- Delivery of the commercial climbing programme, to include birthday parties/events and supervision of public climbers.
- Assist in the delivery of Perse Exploration Society sessions and extra curricular clubs.
- Delivery of outdoor education sessions in support of the wider programme.
- Regular route setting and holds cleaning (training provided).
- Daily and weekly climbing wall and PPE inspections (training provided).
- General cleaning duties, setup and clear away of equipment.
- Updating NICAS award logbooks.
- Attend and contribute to weekly departmental meetings and training.
- Work towards the completion of the Climbing Wall Instructor Award, Climbing Wall Development Instructor Award and Abseil Module, and Rock Climbing Instructor Award (if not already held).

All Outdoor Education Department staff are required to contribute to equipment maintenance and other administrative duties in the course of their duties. All staff must attend and contribute to weekly departmental meetings in term time and maintain high standards of continued professional development.



Accountability

The post holder is ultimately accountable to the Bursar through the Assistant Head (Extra-Curricular & Partnerships). Day to day accountability will be to the Director of Outdoor Education.

Principal Contacts

Assistant Head (Extra-Curricular & Partnerships) - Mr Richard Morgan

Director of Outdoor Education—Mr Ben Parker

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Skills and Experience

- Be able to demonstrate flexibility and skill when working in a busy school and department.
- Excellent organisational, inter-personal and communication skills.
- Effectively manage commitments and deadlines.
- Up-to date knowledge of relevant legislation and guidance in relation to working with, and the protection of, children and young people.
- Ability to work collaboratively and supportively with colleagues within school and with colleagues in other organisations.
- Ability to work effectively both as part of a team and independently.

This is a training post, with full support for qualifications and training. Candidates are not required to hold any qualifications. An active interest in climbing and/or bouldering is all that is required. Any relevant **qualifications or experience** should be expressed on application.





Job Specific Terms and Conditions

Working Hours

The normal working pattern is to work the total number of contractual weekly hours over 4 days per week plus one weekend day a week. This equates to 10 days of work in every 14: an average of 5 days a week.

Your annual leave is made up of Paid Annual Leave and Time Off In Lieu (TOIL). Paid annual leave entitlement amounts to 30 days for full-time employees.

Annual leave must be taken during the annual closure periods of the climbing wall. These occur over Christmas, Easter and late August each year.

Salary and Benefits

The annual salary for this post is £28,000.

The salary includes attendance on camps, expeditions and trips and is inclusive of the 30 days paid holiday entitlement.

The post holder will also have access to:

- Free lunches in term time
- A workplace pension scheme
- A uniform allowance
- Funding for all professional fees relevant to qualification required for the role
- PPE and leadership equipment relevant to instruction roles
- Professional development funding subject to approval from the Director of Outdoor Education. Funding will be considered for:
 - ♦ Full funding for Mountain Training/British Mountaineering Council qualifications relevant to the role
 - ♦ Full funding for expedition first aid courses
 - ♦ Additional CPD relevant to the maintenance of current qualifications and/or relevant to the role.



TO APPLY

The closing date for applications is **Monday 10th November at midday**, but applications will be considered as they are received; The Perse School reserves the right to make an appointment before the closing date.

Please click on [How to Apply](#) which will take you to the vacancies section of the website to register/sign-in and submit your application. Any queries regarding the application process should be directed to the HR department at recruitment@perse.co.uk

Safer Recruitment

The Perse School recognises that an important element in safeguarding our pupils is a robust recruitment process that incorporates measures to deter, reject, or identify people who might abuse children, or who are otherwise unsuited to work with them. 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: references from previous employers, a Disclosure and Barring Service check at the enhanced level, as well as eligibility to work in the UK (in compliance with UK immigration regulations). All work carried out at the School on a regular basis amounts to regulated activity. This role is also exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. The School is committed to acting in the best interests of the child so as to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. The School requires everyone who comes into contact with children and their families to share this commitment. Interviews will be conducted in person, and they will explore candidates' suitability to work with children.

Recruitment Policy

The School's Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure Policy and Procedure is available for your information on the School website.

The Perse School actively supports equality, diversity and inclusion and encourages applications from all sections of society.





THE PERSE SCHOOL

OUTDOOR EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT



PERSE
EXPLORATION
SOCIETY



VOLUNTEERS
PES



SUMMIT 12
PES



PEAK GOLD
PES



SUMMIT 11
PES



PEAK SILVER
PES



HQ TROOP



PEAK BRONZE
PES



PES ASCENT
GROUP



BRYGG
TROOP



GRANTA
TROOP



BASE CAMP
PES



TRAILBLAZERS
PES

SIXTH FORM

YEAR 11

YEAR 10

YEAR 9

YEAR 8

YEAR 7
(SCHOOL CURRICULUM)

YEAR 3-6
(SCHOOL CURRICULUM)

CLUBS



PADDLESports
CLUB



ARCHERY
CLUB



WOODWORKING
CLUB



CLIMBING
CLUB

Public Provision



PERSE CLIMBING
ACADEMY

