

Vacancy: Shetland Space Centre Education Officer

It's an exciting time to be part of the team at Shetland Space Centre and the SaxaVord Spaceport in Unst, the UK's most northerly island. We are recruiting for two graduate posts, this Education Officer post and a Sustainability Officer.

Background

- The SaxaVord Spaceport is the UK's first vertical launch spaceport. The vertical launch programme is of historic significance to the UK and closes the full range of space offerings to the world in conjunction with satellite & rocket manufacturing and data driven innovation.
- The SaxaVord Spaceport will be the location where the historic Pathfinder launch will take place in 2022. The Pathfinder launch will bring together all elements of the UK space sector to "path-find" for the UK in order to establish a UK "one-stop shop" for the global space industry.
- The UK space sector has one of the highest education requirements with an emphasis on STEM. The UK Space sector will introduce 30k new jobs into the sector between now and 2030.
- It is the shared goal of the SaxaVord Spaceport, the Shetland community and Highlands and Islands Enterprise to establish an educated emerging space workforce in Shetland.
- SaxaVord Spaceport will build an education pipeline to support its future workforce, support the emerging Shetland space-based economy, and the local Unst community.

During summer 2021, SaxaVord Spaceport recruited a temporary Education Officer, who planned and executed a Shetland-only Astronaut Job Camp and then a transatlantic Astronaut job camp. He was also involved in the Shetland Islands Council Space Education and Skills Working Group. Our latest vacancy provides an opportunity for an Education Officer to build on the success achieved to date.

The key roles and responsibilities include:

- **Assist** in the development of the Overarching STE(A)M strategy, integrated with the Shetland Partnership plan, the Shetland Space Project Board Terms of Reference, and local education initiatives.
- **Serve** as the outward face of SaxaVord's Space Education Program.
- **Attend** and be the key point of contact for the Shetland Education and Skills Working Group.
- **Co-ordinate** an education communications strategy to include social media updates and input to the Radio SaxaVord podcast series.
- **Develop** a space education and skills curriculum for Shetland with the goal of becoming the UK exemplar.
- **Assist** in the establishment of a Space related R & D Program.
- **Plan and Coordinate** Space 101 day, Space camps and the Astronaut Job Camp.
- **Research and investigate** the options for a SaxaVord Spaceport apprenticeship, scholarship, and internship program.

Candidate Experience:

Due to the funding requirements of this post - which is part-funded by HIE - applicants must be a graduate, and have graduated within the last four years.

It is expected that the candidate will have a degree in an education/education related/social science/science background. Teaching qualifications and experience are desirable but not essential.

Direct experience of being involved in an education project of some sort to a school/community group or business would be advantageous.

An understanding of Space is not essential but an interest in the developing Space Sector and how SaxaVord Spaceport will play a part in that is vital.

Candidate skills:

The ideal candidate will be a self-starter, able to work under pressure and to agreed deadlines.

The ability to work as part of a team as well as networking and communicating on a regular basis with a wider range of education stakeholders and groups will be important.

With several public-facing duties, including activities at schools, community groups and meetings, the successful candidate must be comfortable with public speaking and have good communication skills.

Working with others to develop a clear vision of the education strategy, having a creative flair and an ability to complete projects is essential.

Contract:

This is a fixed term contract for 12 months and has a salary of £25,000, based on a working week of 37.5 hours. Occasional work at the weekend or evenings will be involved.

The successful candidate will report to Yvette Hopkins, Director of Partnerships and Innovation, but be closely involved with many other team members.

Additional details:

The position is Shetland-based. Temporary accommodation may be available at Saxa Vord in a shared staff house for a short time.

The deadline for starting the role is November 1st, however a start date in mid-October would be preferred.

How to apply:

Please send your CV to hr@shetlandspacecentre.com by 12pm on Monday 27th September 2021. Ensure that you include contact details for two referees (one personal one last work experience or academic). If you wish to apply for both graduate posts, please submit a CV for each role.

Further information regarding the roles can be obtained from Yvette.hopkins@shetlandspacecentre.com