



Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation

PAINTER & DECORATOR (ESTATES TEAM)

Department: Estates

Line Manager: Estates Manager

Salary: Starting from National Minimum Wage (Full-Time Equivalent), with a higher salary available for candidates with significant relevant experience.

Location: Durham

Hours: 37.5 hours per week

About Us

Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation is an independent co-educational day and boarding school, committed to delivering high-quality education and strong pastoral care.

We have a strong reputation for academic excellence and outstanding pastoral care and offer a welcoming and supportive working environment where every member of staff makes a valuable contribution to the life of the School.

Our Estates Team plays a vital role in ensuring our buildings and grounds provide a safe, secure and welcoming environment for pupils, staff and visitors.

The Role

We are seeking a practical, enthusiastic and reliable Painter & Decorator to join our Estates Team.

Working alongside our experienced Painter, Decorator & Plasterer, you will help maintain the Foundation's buildings to a high standard through a wide range of painting, decorating and general maintenance tasks.

We welcome applications from candidates with a range of experience, from those looking to further develop their skills through to experienced painters and decorators seeking a permanent role within a supportive team.

The successful candidate will work across the Foundation's two school campuses, supporting the Estates Team in maintaining a safe, welcoming and well-presented environment for pupils, staff and visitors.

Whether refreshing classrooms during the school holidays or helping prepare the Foundation for the start of a new term, your work will make a visible difference to the daily experience of pupils, staff and visitors.

We are looking to appoint as soon as possible.

Key Responsibilities

Painting & Decorating

- Prepare surfaces for decoration, including filling, sanding and making good.
- Carry out internal and external painting and decorating to a high standard.
- Assist with wallpaper removal and hanging where required.
- Carry out minor repairs prior to decorating.
- Ensure completed work is finished to a high standard and in keeping with the Foundation's buildings.
- Maintain decorating equipment, tools and materials in good condition.

Maintenance Support

- Work alongside the Foundation's experienced Painter, Decorator & Plasterer on a range of maintenance projects.
- Assist with minor building maintenance tasks where appropriate.
- Identify defects and report maintenance issues to the Estates Manager.
- Assist contractors when required.

Operational Support

- Assist with room set-ups for examinations, assemblies, performances, lettings and School events.
- Move furniture, equipment and materials safely where required.
- Support the wider Estates Team with day-to-day operational duties.
- Undertake other practical tasks to support the efficient operation of the Foundation.

Health & Safety

- Work safely at all times and in accordance with Foundation policies and procedures.
- Use equipment and materials safely and responsibly.
- Maintain a clean and tidy working environment.
- Report hazards or maintenance concerns promptly.

General

- Work collaboratively with colleagues across the Foundation.
- Demonstrate a professional, courteous and helpful approach at all times.
- Undertake any other duties commensurate with the role.

Person Specification

Essential

The successful candidate will:

- Have practical painting and decorating experience.
- Have good practical DIY and maintenance skills.
- Take pride in producing work of a consistently high standard.
- Be organised and able to work efficiently with good attention to detail.
- Be reliable, punctual and self-motivated.
- Be able to work independently and as part of a team.
- Demonstrate good communication and customer service skills.
- Hold a full UK driving licence.
- Be willing to learn and develop new skills.

Desirable

- Previous experience of working as a Painter & Decorator.
- Experience within a school or similar environment.
- Experience of general building maintenance.
- Basic plastering knowledge.
- D1 driving entitlement.
- Relevant painting and decorating qualifications.

Why Join Us?

Working at Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation offers more than just a job. You'll become part of a friendly and supportive Estates Team, helping to maintain two beautiful school campuses in the heart of Durham.

We offer:

- A permanent, full-time role within a respected independent school.
- The opportunity to work alongside an experienced Painter, Decorator & Plasterer and continue developing your practical skills.
- A welcoming and supportive team environment.
- Free lunch
- Membership of the Foundation's workplace pension scheme.
- Generous annual leave entitlement.
- The opportunity to work across our two beautiful Durham campuses, just a short walk apart.
- The satisfaction of seeing the difference your work makes to the School community every day.

Safeguarding

Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The successful applicant will be required to undergo an Enhanced DBS check, together with all other appropriate pre-employment checks.

Application Process

Please submit a completed application form to hr@dcsf.org.uk.

The closing date for applications is Friday 24 July 2026.

Applications will be reviewed on receipt and we reserve the right to interview and appoint before the closing date. Early applications are therefore encouraged.