



Head Builder - Muncaster Castle Estate

Contract: Full time

Term: Permanent

Hours: 40 hrs/week average

Salary: £35 to £45k dependant on experience and progression.

Holidays: 28 days including Bank Holidays.

Responsible to: Managing Director.

Accommodation: Accommodation can be provided if not able commute daily to Muncaster castle, Ravenglass.

Work location: In person at Muncaster Castle but will be deployed to carry out work around the estate grounds, facilities and properties.

Role Background:

Muncaster Estate is going through an extensive development programme to renovate and develop its heritage properties, including but not limited to:

- Disused parts of the grade 1* listed castle
- Heritage estate buildings – in particular former farm buildings
- Residential properties primarily from the 19th century
- Various other out buildings and developments

This is a particularly exciting time to join the team at Muncaster as we look to expand and develop with this role having huge opportunity to grow in scope and impact.

Job Purpose:

We are looking for an experienced hardworking builder to manage a range of trades and contractors to safely deliver maintenance and project work to a high standard. You will lead the Muncaster Estate maintenance team and could be working at any one of our facilities, hotels, properties or in the castle itself. You will ensure that repairs and maintenance are carried out to a high standard and support the castle team to prepare for events. In addition, a range of exciting property development and renovation projects are planned - you will be key to managing and delivering the building work to a high standard to the schedule and cost required by the business. You will not be bored!



The Role:

- This role will be split between hands on site work and project management with time dedicated to both
- Plan and manage building and construction projects on existing and new properties associated with the Muncaster Estate
- Plan and manage the day to day activities of the Muncaster Building and Maintenance Team
- Work hands on with the team as required to deliver the above work
- Engage and manage contractors associated with delivering the above work
- Manage the cost of the work to achieve the best value for money outcome for the Estate
- Estimating/ordering of materials and management of contractors

Your qualifications, skills and experience:

The below are in two categories - Essential (E), Desirable (D):

E: Qualified in an appropriate building, civil or engineering trade and willing to do hands on trade work.

E: Several years recent experience working and managing in your trade

E: Can demonstrate a good track record related to the role outlined above from previous employment

E: Can demonstrate good people and project management ability. In particular good assessment of project timings and costings.

E: Experience of managing safe work sites and implementing Health and Safety regulations on a building site

E: UK driving licence

D: Understanding and background in Heritage Projects

D: A clear understanding of building regulations and codes

D: Appreciation of estates and the wider associated businesses including tourism

D: Contract management & implementation

Your personal qualities and attributes:

- Energy and enthusiasm for the role and for the Muncaster programme
- Positive attitude and drive to complete work to time, budget and quality
- Able to plan building work with attention to detail
- Able to manage and motivate the Muncaster team and contractors to achieve goals with minimum friction
- Able to solve problems independently
- Able to make decisions based on logic, experience, and good practice
- Physically fit and able to use ladders, carry out manual tasks including lifting material and using tools

**Benefits:**

- 28 days paid holiday including Bank Holidays
- Company pension scheme
- Discounted food & drink
- Optional Accommodation for you and your family (if needed)
- Free On-site parking
- Company events
- Sick pay scheme
- Working with a friendly family team who all have a great love for Muncaster – it's hard work but there is never a dull moment, and we all have a lot of fun!

Muncaster Estate Background

Muncaster is located on the western edge of the lake district national park on the coast near Ravenglass and is one of The Lake District's most important heritage visitor attractions.

Our stunning site includes an impressive castle with centuries of history plus the associated stables, courtyards and walled gardens, all set in over 70 acres of beautiful gardens and wider estate, with breathtaking views over some of the most famous and picturesque Lake District Fells. We are home to an important and renowned Hawk and Owl Centre, and many popular seasonal festivals and events.

In addition the estate operate two hotels in West Cumbria, various Holiday lets and a significant number of privately rented properties, the majority of which are heritage buildings. In addition to this we have many development projects.

We have been welcoming daily visitors to Muncaster since 1968, and currently host over 60,000 visitors a year, with an ambition to significantly grow this number.

Muncaster has been the home of the Pennington family for an astonishing 800 years, and the family still live in part of the castle, with hands on involvement in the delivery of our visitor offer. Muncaster is very much a family business, including the whole team. We are currently undergoing a transition from one generation of leadership to another, with a desire to step change the business looking to substantially add to our offering.