The Dewey School
growing inside...out
at the Canterbury Shaker Village

Early Childhood Lead Teacher

Program Description:
It is the mission of The Dewey School to provide a joyful early learning environment for children ages 3-6. Children are viewed as capable and competent citizens who express themselves through a variety of ways. Opportunities to grow through play and student interest are fostered, a sense of community is developed and valued and exploring nature is embraced outside and in!

Teacher Position Description:
Start date: August 18, 2025
Full Time (exempt) Position: approximately 40 hours per week

Responsibilities & Duties:
The goal of the Teacher role is to develop and support the implementation of Reggio-inspired nature-based pedagogy in collaboration with the teaching team. The Teacher strives to communicate in a way that honors children as inherently capable individuals who use many languages and forms of expression in their interpretations and interactions. As a team, we understand that the children are the curriculum and strive to further their learning experiences in alignment with both nature-based and Reggio inspired philosophies. As a member of the team, the Teacher is a willing participant in all community activities of The Dewey School that deepen and foster our relationships with the community we serve as well as the Shaker Village. The Teacher embodies the mission, vision, and values of The Dewey School at all times when interacting with peers, parents, children, and the community.

Educational Responsibilities:
- Initiate and facilitate developmentally appropriate investigations and co-learning opportunities for children inside and out.
- Engage students in play-based experiential and experimental learning in school and nature-based settings to develop respect and reverence for the natural world.
- Support an organizational climate that fosters trust, collaboration and inclusion among the Dewey School Community – children, families, educators and board of directors, and Canterbury Shaker Village.
- Create an environment of social and emotional maturity and respect that promotes the foundations of a democratic society.
- Facilitate the daily schedule and rhythm of the classroom environment inside and outside.
- Develop strong relationships with all children to support their unique educational journeys in our multi-age setting.
- Communicate regularly with parents in a way that instills confidence, warmth,

and care.
- Respect and follow the accepted policies, practices, and procedures of the school including those in The Dewey School Employee Handbook and Risky Play Guide.
- Meet when necessary before and after school to discuss and share information and events that affect the children or the program.
- Perform classroom related duties as required for classroom team, including snack preparation, cleaning, washing dishes, participation in the daily maintenance of the classroom environment inside and outdoors

Leadership Responsibilities:
- Collaborate with the teaching team, organize and prepare classroom emergent curriculum materials and environment, documentation displays, and family communication, as needed.
- Collect and organize ongoing assessment and documentation materials of children as the basis for curriculum development and reflection to parents.
- Collaborate with administration, families, and external agencies to ensure equity for children with special rights (needs). Maintain all related documentation.
- Participate and assist in developing a Reggio inspired classroom environment and participate in planning for the upcoming school year (typically two weeks in August before school begins)
- Attend team meetings to consult on program planning, plan for individual children, and to help foster a collaborative work environment.
- Participate in professional development including scheduled on-site training sessions, continuing education through workshops, lectures, and courses, etc., and visits to other programs.
- Understand and follow the rules set forth by the State of New Hampshire Bureau of Child Care Standards and Licensing for child care workers, He-C 4002.30.
- Engage respectfully with others; co-teacher relationships are cooperative, collegial, and supportive, respecting each person as a lifelong learner.
- Support and participate in Dewey community events (Solstice celebration, end of year celebration, etc.)
- Other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications/Requirements:
- Associate degree (or equivalent of ECE credits) in Early Childhood Education or related field.
- Three credits in child growth and development.
- Proficient knowledge of and a commitment to Reggio Emilia approach, emergent curriculum, child-led learning, and nature -based education.
- Minimum of three years' experience working with young children and families.
- First aid and CPR certification

Compensation and benefits:
Compensation: Pay is commensurate with experience, training, and credentials and

paid on a bi-weekly basis.

Benefits: In addition, the following benefits are offered:

- 11 paid days of renewal: Labor Day, Indigenous People's Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving (three days), New Years (three days), Civil Rights Day, and Memorial Day. As well as 3 vacation weeks: Holiday Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break.
- Paid inclement weather days (as determined by the Merrimack Valley School District and Shaker Regional School District).
- 3 paid days of in-house professional development.
- Three regularly scheduled or their equivalent paid personal/sick days (non-accruing).
- Membership to the Canterbury Shaker Village.

If you can imagine your day connecting early learners to nature while co-constructing learning through developmentally appropriate play inside and outside please email your cover letter and resume to Alexis Matthews-Cheney at director@deweyschool.net.

The policy of The Dewey School prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, gender, religion, race, color, creed, sexual orientation, handicap, national or ethnic origin, or marital or parental status in the recruitment and employment of employees, admission of students, or in the administration of its educational policies.