



Outdoor Activity Instructor Apprenticeship



Ackers Adventure is a Charitable limited company - Charity No 1107240

WHO WE ARE...

Ackers Adventure is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status.

Mission Statement

To provide a broad range of outdoor adventurous activities and experiences which inspire, challenge and promote individuals in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Aims:-

To provide a centre of excellence offering a wide range of outdoor adventurous activities in an urban environment for the whole community.

To continue to develop and improve existing and new facilities and services.

To provide a safe environment in which to undertake challenging activities which are both educational and recreational.

Background

Ackers is a unique organisation, situated as it is, in the inner city. It has a nationally held reputation for quality provision of an extremely wide range of activities.

"Ackers" is Brummie slang for aqueduct. The 75 acre site which is just two miles from the centre of Birmingham, incorporates an aqueduct carrying the Grand Union Canal over the River Cole and the confluence of the River Cole with the Spark Brook.

The site was once the BSA (Birmingham Small Arms) company's sports and social club and the test-track for its motorcycles. The factory itself was situated on an adjoining site on the opposite side of the canal. During the 2nd World War the company was extremely important, with over 40 satellite factories all over the West Midlands, manufacturing guns such as Bofors and Browning guns, motorcycles, push bikes, small arms and even Daimler cars. The factory was badly bombed during the blitz in 1941. Unfortunately, after 1945 the company went into decline and ceased business during the 1950s. The site became derelict and remained so during the 1960s and early 1970s.



It was during the late 1970s that the site was developed as a centre for outdoor activities. With the assistance of the City Council, and numerous grants from other agencies and charities, the Ackers Trust was formed and a climbing tower and an artificial ski slope were built. Since then Ackers has continued to be developed and now boasts a ski lodge and tobogganing slope, facilities for canoeing, kayaking and bell boating, a residential centre, a climbing wall, two archery Ranges, a headquarters building incorporating a large hall with offices and meeting rooms, a 20 metre high tower with climbing walls, zip wires and a fan descender.

The Ackers Adventure Company has a board of directors, all who give their time voluntarily, with experience in the areas of education, recreation, management, outdoor activities and banking. Meetings are held monthly and are well attended. Ackers has an excellent reputation for offering sporting activities which are challenging but has high standards of health and safety.

The staff and the board of directors are extremely proud of the Ackers and its achievements since its inception over thirty years ago.



Present Services

Ackers Adventure provides a wide range of adventurous outdoor activities.

Currently the site's facilities include:-

The ARC, a 26 bed residential centre; a ski and activity base with adjoining 100 metre dry ski slope with dedicated snowboard and toboggan slopes and the ABC, an educational /administration base that can accommodate large or smaller groups for meetings, courses and social events.

Ackers Adventure focus is the array of outdoor activities on offer which fall into three categories:-

The Water sports section, which is based on the canal includes canoeing, kayaking, bellboating and raft building activities.

The land based activities have three purpose built climbing structures with an assortment of climbing challenges including the tower, a 22metre structure that incorporates two zip wires in excess of 100 metres and the fan descender, a 20 metre freefall adrenaline challenge. In addition to this there is a bouldering wall and an abseil platform.

The Snowsports activities that include skiing, snowboarding and tobogganing.

Other team building and challenge activities on offer are Archery, Team building, Orienteering, Bushcraft, and other Urban challenges to test the skills of those who take part.

Residential experiences are available using the 26 bed Residential centre (the ARC).

All ages use Ackers, individuals and groups. Main users include:-Schools including academies and free schools, colleges and universities: community and youth groups; and social services.

The Apprenticeship

Level 3 Outdoor Activity Instructor Apprenticeship.

General information

While working at Ackers Adventure you will be supported by both your employer and Channel Training the Training Provider. You will be working towards your Level 3 Outdoor Activity Instructor qualification and will have the opportunity to obtain qualifications such as:

- 2 Day ITC Level 3 Award in Outdoor First Aid
- Safeguarding training and certificate
- Manual Handling (ITC Level 2 Award in safe moving and handling)
- ITC Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the workplace
- COSHH Training
- Customer Care Training
- Prevent Training
- British Canoeing Paddlesport Instructor
- Climbing Wall Assistant & Instructor Award Training
- Snowsport England Level 1 Coach. (dependant on previous Skiing experience)
- Archery GB Leader award.
- Other awards dependent upon individual and employer aspirations



Duties

- Observing and assisting with a variety of outdoor activities, leading to the authorisation to run these activities independently.
- Assist with general centre tasks such as keeping the centre tidy, looking after equipment & site maintenance.
- Assisting with customer care and giving them the best experience possible.
- Working towards completing Apprenticeship work as well as a range of training and qualifications such as First Aid, Safeguarding, Health & Safety, National Governing Body awards (NGB's).

Desirable skills and qualifications, but not essential:

- Some experience in outdoor and adventurous activities
- Over 18 yrs old.
- Experience of working with young people
- 5 GCSE's including Maths and English grade 4/C or above (or be willing to work towards a L2 functional skills if you previously achieved a grade 3/D at GCSE or have passed L1 Functional skills)

Future Prospects:

- Advanced Qualifications
- Instructor Role
- Links with other outdoor providers, centres and clubs.

Essential Details:

Hourly rate: Apprentice national minimum wage

Working Hours: 40 hours a week – annualised (will include weekends and evenings and weekly hours will vary)

Special Conditions:

To carry out duties which may arise from time to time and which fall within the overall scope of the post.

Due to the nature of the work, the post holder will be expected to carry out his/her duties at such times and upon such days as may most effectively further the work of Ackers adventure. This will inevitably include a flexible working pattern to the work.

HOW TO APPLY...

If you would like to apply or require more information please email Steve Jewell
steve.jewell@ackers-adventure.co.uk.

Closing date for Applications 29/11/24





bookings@ackers-adventure.co.uk



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