Deputy Manager

Little Tree Huggers | Long Melford

We're looking for a warm, experienced and nurturing Deputy Nursery Manager to join our Hygge-Waldorf inspired setting and become an important part of our growing Little Tree Huggers team.

Our approach is gentle, holistic and child-centred, with an emphasis on secure relationships, play, creativity, nature, meaningful experiences and an unhurried childhood.

The Role

Working closely with the Manager, you'll help lead the day-to-day running of the setting, supporting our team to provide a safe, nurturing and inspiring environment where every child feels known, valued and is able to flourish.

You'll support high standards of care and early education, staff development, safeguarding, planning and practice, while helping us maintain the warm, homely atmosphere and ethos that makes Little Tree Huggers special.

You'll also confidently deputise for the Manager when required.

We're looking for someone who:

- Holds a relevant Level 3 Early Years qualification or above
- Has strong experience working within an early years setting
- Has leadership, room leader or management experience
- Has a thorough understanding of the EYFS, safeguarding and Ofsted requirements
- Is warm, calm, organised and confident leading others
- Builds positive relationships with children, families and colleagues
- Values play, nature, creativity and child-led learning
- Is passionate about creating a gentle and nurturing environment for children
- Has an interest in Waldorf/Steiner, holistic or alternative approaches to early childhood

Previous Waldorf experience is welcomed but not essential – a willingness to embrace and develop within our ethos is much more important.

Working Hours

Full time | All Year round | 35-40 hours per week

Start Date

Between November 2026 – January 2027

About Us

Little Tree Huggers is a nurturing Hygge-Waldorf inspired setting in Long Melford, offering children a warm, creative and holistic approach their early years and education.

We're looking for someone who wants to be more than simply a Deputy Manager – someone who would love to help us shape, nurture and grow a very special little nursery, education hub and community.

If you believe childhood should be filled with warmth, connection, creativity and wonder, we'd love to hear from you.