Senior Catering Assistant

Ref: 900450

We are seeking an organised, pro-active person to help run our busy catering function. You will assist with the supervision of the food and beverage services to the students, staff and other guests. You will be confident in working as part of a busy team, be numerate and have a good standard of communication in English. You will assist with organising staffing to ensure food service times are adequately managed and will be responsible for overseeing the operation of the cash and card tills.

About Somerville College

As a college Somerville is a friendly and diverse community with a reputation of openness and inclusiveness. It is among the most international of the Oxford colleges that admit both undergraduate and graduate students. We currently have approximately 550 undergraduate and graduate students, many of whom live on site, and around 270 academic and support staff.

About the Catering and Kitchen Teams

Our dynamic Kitchen and Catering Teams provide a varied range of catering, from high-end fine dining to conferencing and student meals. As well as the term time provision of breakfast, lunch and dinner for our own students, fellows and staff seven days a week, full catering facilities are provided during the vacation periods to residential summer schools visitors staying in the College. Catering for individual bed & breakfast guests is also an important regular activity at this time.

For further information about the College, please visit www.some.ox.ac.uk
Main responsibilities

Meal Service/Functions
• To assist with the supervision of the delivery of catering services within the college.
• To help when necessary with the organising of food service staff and preparation required for meal services ensuring food prepared by the Kitchen is ready for service on time.
• To oversee the operation of the tills at meal service and process the cash takings for each session, ensuring everything is secure at the end of each evening.
• To take student and senior member meal numbers, setting tables accordingly
• To assist in the monitoring of stock levels of non-food products and order when necessary.
• To assist with office administration including filing and typing of weekly menus, catering function memorandums, and other documentation when necessary.

Food Hygiene & Health & Safety
• To ensure that work practices during meal services follow the College’s Health & Safety Policy and relevant legislation.
• To ensure that the food & beverage service areas are clean in accordance with the department cleaning programme and to the standard of hygiene and cleanliness set within the College’s Food Hygiene Policy.
• To adhere to the College’s Health and Safety Policy by: carrying out duties in accordance with training and instruction received; informing the Dining Services Manager of any potential hazard or danger; and taking reasonable care at all times to guard the personal safety of all persons who may be affected by the job holder’s actions at work.

Other Duties
• To undertake any appropriate training identified by the Dining Services Manager.
• To maintain at all times a professional working relationship with the kitchen and food service teams.
• To carry out any additional and appropriate duties as required and to act at all times in a courteous and professional manner.

Selection Criteria

Essential
• Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering
• Previous experience of working in busy catering environment
• Able to work as a member of a team
• Able to read and write and English
• Able to follow instructions and guidelines
• Ability to communicate appropriately with others
• Understands when to seek advice
• Positive attitude towards work
• High standard of personal hygiene and general physical fitness
• Willing to take a flexible approach to work duties, to include cover for staff holidays, sickness and helping with additional functions

Desirable
• NVQ 2 in Hospitality & Catering, or equivalent
• Understanding of food allergies
• Supportive of the traditions of the College
Terms and conditions

Full terms and conditions of employment will be provided in writing to the successful candidate. The information below is for guidance only and does not constitute the contract of employment.

| **Duration** | This is a permanent full-time post and the appointment will be made subject to (i) satisfactory employment checks as detailed below within under ‘Pre-Employment Screening’; and (ii) satisfactory completion of a six-month probationary period. |
| **Salary** | Band 2 of the Somerville College pay spine (£19,513 to £20,581). Upon successful completion of the probationary period, individual salaries are increased in May of each year to the next spine point within the respective salary band, until the top of the pay band has been reached. In addition the College pay spine is uplifted for cost of living on a regular basis, normally annually. |
| **Hours of Work** | Normal hours of work will be 37.5 per week, working on a 5 out of 7 rota comprising early and late shifts in alternate weeks. Shifts will include an unpaid meal break. Some flexibility with working hours will be required on occasions in order to meet the demands of the post. |
| **Holiday Entitlement** | Support staff are entitled to 38 days of paid leave per annum, inclusive of eight public holidays. Agreed College closure days and bank holidays taken are deducted from the total leave entitlement. |
| **Pension** | The post holder will be eligible for membership of a contributory Group Personal Pension scheme, from the commencement date of the appointment (subject to age requirements). |
| **Life Assurance** | College Employees are covered by free life assurance for the duration of their employment (subject to age requirements). |
| **Meal Entitlement** | Meals on duty will be provided free of charge. |
| **Sickness Benefit** | A maximum of six weeks’ sick pay at full pay, calculated in any rolling twelve month period, subject to satisfactory notification of absence and production of medical certificates. |
| **Employee Assistance Service** | A confidential 24/7 telephone advisory and counselling service is available to all College employees. |
| **Childcare** | Somerville runs a small on-site Nursery and further details can be found at http://www.some.ox.ac.uk/living-here/st-pauls-nursery/ |
| **Training** | The College will support the post holder to undertake any relevant training to enhance his or her work performance, and financial support for these development activities will be provided where appropriate. |
| **Smoking policy** | No smoking or vaping is allowed in any part of the College. |
| **Parking** | Unless related to a disability, there will be no parking available on College premises for the post holder. |
Application Procedure

There is no closing date for this vacancy. Applications will be assessed as they arrive and suitable candidates invited to interview. The post will remain open until a suitable candidate is appointed. Early application is therefore advised.

Your application should comprise

1. A completed application form (including a personal statement and details of at least 2 referees)
2. A curriculum vitae (CVs submitted on their own will not be considered)
3. An Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

Email your completed application form to: recruitment@some.ox.ac.uk please quote vacancy reference 900450 in the heading

Equal Opportunities information collected does not form part of the selection process and will not be circulated to the selection panel. Completion of the equal opportunities monitoring form is voluntary. Data collected is used to monitor the effectiveness of the College’s Equality and Diversity Policy and helps the College to meet its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Communication regarding the status and outcome of your application will be made via e-mail.

Equal Opportunities statement

The policy and practice of the University of Oxford and of Somerville College require that all staff are afforded equal opportunities within employment. Entry into employment and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. Subject to statutory provisions, no applicant or member of staff will be treated less favourably than another because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. Where suitably qualified individuals are available, selection committees will contain at least one member of each sex.

Data Protection

All data supplied by candidates will be used only for the purposes of determining their suitability for the post and will be held in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the College’s Data Protection Policy.

Pre-employment screening

If you are selected for the post, employment with the College will be conditional upon satisfying the following requirements.

1. Eligibility to work in the UK

The Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 makes it a criminal offence for employers to employ someone who is not entitled to work in the UK. We therefore ask applicants to provide proof of their right to work in the UK before employment can commence.
Please note that you will need to provide original documents and where any documents are not in English a certified translation will be required. **Do not include these documents with your application.** You will be sent a request for the relevant information at the appropriate point in the selection process.

2. **References**

You are asked to give us details of two people who have agreed to give a reference for you. If you have previously been employed your referees should be people who have direct experience of your work through working closely with you for a considerable period. If you have been employed, at least one of your referees should be your formal line manager from your most recent job. It is helpful if you can tell us how each referee knows you and your referees should not be related to you. Your referees will be asked to comment on your suitability for the post, to provide details of the dates of your employment, and of any disciplinary processes which are still ‘live’.

*We will assume that we may approach your referees at any stage unless you tell us otherwise, so please state clearly if you wish to be contacted before a referee is approached.*

3. **Medical fitness**

Please note that any offer of employment will be conditional upon receipt of a completed pre-employment medical health assessment questionnaire and confirmation from the University of Oxford Occupational Health Service that the candidate is medically fit for the post (allowing for any reasonable adjustments that may be required, in line with the provisions of the Equality Act 2010).

The purpose of the pre-employment medical health questionnaire is to:

(i) assess the candidate’s medical capability to do the job for which they have applied:

(ii) determine whether any reasonable adjustments or auxiliary aids may be required to accommodate any disability or impairment which they may have

(iii) ensure that none of the requirements of the job for which they have applied would adversely affect any pre-existing health conditions the candidate may have.

The appointment will not commence until medical fitness for work, and any reasonable adjustments that may be required, is confirmed by the University Occupational Health Service.

November 2021