

Performer and entertainer opportunity

Santa is searching for 2 people to join his top elf team to bring the magic of Christmas to life.

West Boldon Lodge are seeking 2 performers /entertainers to appear in their sold out interactive Christmas event, [Santa's Winter Woodland](#). Whether you're a dancing fairy, a storytelling elf, or you have a seasonal circus performance, if you can help spread Christmas cheer, we want to hear from you.

Performance requirements

Your performance should be Christmas or elf-themed and must be appropriate to take place in a woodland.

You should be able to excite and engage children aged 4-10 and ideally entertain parents too for 10-20 minutes. Your performance could be continuous so families can drop in and out at any time, or a short performance that you can repeat regularly throughout each day.

You may deliver an interactive experience engaging with families or a performance to be watched. You should expect an average of 5 families every 30 minutes.

Your performance must be Covid-safe and as such must not include any close contact with your audience.

You will be required to provide your own costume, resources and equipment as appropriate and must hold appropriate insurance including public liability insurance. We will work with you to create a suitable outdoor performance area, including cover if necessary and feasible, in addition to decoration/set - please detail in your expression of interest whether you will provide any of this yourself.

Event Details

Santa's Winter Woodland (SWW) is an interactive Christmas experience that has been running for over a decade. Families with children aged 4-10 years old will visit West Boldon Lodge to meet Santa and his top elf team. Families will make a toy in the elves' workshop, taste elfy food and drink around a campfire and make a woodland craft in addition to watching or engaging with your performance, before visiting Santa in his woodland grotto.

"Myself, my husband and my two children thoroughly enjoyed Santa's Winter Woodland. It was thoughtful, fun, magical, simple and we enjoyed your attention to detail. It really was a wonderful experience and I congratulate you for providing such a lovely morning" - 2019 visitor.

Families will move at their own pace through the experience, at a rate of 1 family arriving every 5 minutes (though this will fluctuate by the time they get to your part of the experience). We anticipate the total experience will take families 1.5 - 2 hours. There will be a total of 45 families each day, we estimate this will equate to approximately 85 children per day.

SWW takes place at West Boldon Lodge, Newcastle Road, Boldon, NE36 0BG.

Additional information at www.westboldonlodge.co.uk.

Remuneration

In your expression of interest, please detail your charge per day (we will pay for induction/training & dress rehearsal dates - please indicate if these have a different

daily rate). You will need to invoice Groundwork for payment after the date of your final performance. In exceptional circumstances we may issue partial payment in advance if required for materials.

In the event that we have to cancel all or part of the event, your performance will not be required and you will not receive payment for those days, provided we have given you 2 days' notice of cancellation. If we are not able to give 2 days' notice, you will still receive payment. We will consider reimbursement of out of pocket expenses, but this must be agreed in advance.

Dates and times

You must be available for all the following dates and times:

Induction & training: Sat 21st November, 10:00am - 4:00pm

Dress rehearsal: Sat 28th November, 10:00am - 4:00pm

You must be available for at least half, though preferably all of the following dates:

Sat 5th, Sun 6th, Sat 12th, Sun 13th, Sat 19th & Sun 20th December.

On these dates you must be on site by 9:15am at the latest, and ready to start your performances by 10:00am. We expect performances to finish around 5:00pm. Frequent rest breaks can be scheduled throughout the day as long as you can still engage with all families passing through and you will be allocated a 45 minute lunch break during the middle of the day.

How to apply

Please send an expression of interest to westboldonlodge@groundwork.org.uk by **midnight on Sunday 8th November**. Note that if we receive appropriate expressions of interest before that date, we may make our decision earlier.

We want to hear your ideas for spreading Christmas cheer! Tell us all about your performance and how it will entertain our visiting families. We want to know if you've got a wow factor, if you give people a warm fuzzy feeling inside, or if your performance is perfect for our venue. We're also keen to hear about your past experience and what qualifies you for this experience.

We suggest no more than 1 page of text. It may help for you to add pictures, videos or scripts if appropriate, to help demonstrate your idea.

We'll also need to know the dates you are available for, your daily rate(s) and any other costs.

We'll be choosing who to work with based on how well we think you'll entertain our target audience, value for money, and how your performance will fit in with the rest of the event and the setting.

For an informal discussion, if you have any questions, or if you'd like to visit West Boldon Lodge, please email westboldonlodge@groundwork.org.uk or call Tom on 07515 051534.