



Gould League Gardener and Minibeast Carer (Volunteer)

Part-Time Volunteer Position

Based at Gould League's Cheltenham Sustainability Education Centre, 77 Argus Street, Cheltenham

About Gould League

Gould League is one of Australia's oldest environmental education organisations, with a proud history spanning more than 115 years. As an independent not-for-profit, we inspire people of all ages to connect with nature, understand sustainability challenges, and take positive environmental action.

Through hands-on education programs, immersive learning experiences and community engagement initiatives, Gould League helps thousands of students, teachers and community members develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to create a more sustainable future.

As we prepare for the expansion of our new Sustainability Education Centre in 2027, we are seeking a passionate volunteer to help create and maintain vibrant habitats, and a variety of gardens that support both our educational programs and local biodiversity.

About the Role

Do you enjoy gardening, sustainability and the fascinating world of bugs and minibeasts?

We are seeking a reliable and enthusiastic volunteer to help care for our sustainability gardens, composting systems and resident minibeasts. This rewarding role offers the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to environmental education while helping to create engaging outdoor learning spaces for children and the broader community.

The successful volunteer will play an important role in maintaining habitats that support insects, worms and other beneficial creatures, while contributing to the development of biodiversity-rich gardens that showcase sustainable gardening practices.

Key Responsibilities

Garden and Habitat Maintenance

- Assist in establishing and maintaining biodiversity and pollinator-friendly gardens.
- Create and enhance habitats that attract native insects, minibeasts and other wildlife.
- Water gardens during warmer months and assist with general garden care.
- Undertake light gardening activities, including pruning, planting, weeding and mulching.
- Assist with the placement of logs, rocks and habitat features that support biodiversity.

Composting and Sustainability Systems

- Monitor and maintain compost bins and worm farms.
- Feed worms and regularly manage compost systems.
- Assist with the annual cleaning and maintenance of worm farms.
- Help demonstrate best-practice sustainable gardening and waste reduction techniques.

Minibeast Care

- Monitor the health and wellbeing of Gould League's resident educational minibeasts, including stick insects, giant burrowing cockroaches, spiders and scorpions.
- Provide fresh food and water for resident stick insects and other species as required.
- Assist with habitat maintenance and cleaning.
- Support the development of engaging minibeast habitats for educational purposes.

Community Support

- Liaise with Gould League's General Manager and Bookings Manager regarding priorities and tasks.
- Assist, where possible, in seeking donations of plants, mulch and garden materials from the local community and businesses.
- Contribute ideas that enhance the Sustainability Education Centre and its educational value.

Time Commitment

- Approximately **1 to 2 hours per week**.
- Flexible scheduling by mutual agreement.
- Opportunities for increased involvement as Gould League expands its Sustainability Education Centre programs from 2027 onwards.

About You

We are looking for someone who:

- Has a genuine interest in sustainability, environmental education and biodiversity.
- Enjoys gardening and working outdoors.
- Has an enthusiasm for insects, bugs and minibeasts.
- Is comfortable handling stick insects and caring for educational animals.
- Can work independently while also collaborating as part of a small team.
- Has strong communication skills and a friendly, positive attitude.
- Is reliable, proactive and willing to take initiative.
- Enjoys contributing to a community-focused not-for-profit organisation.

Essential Requirements

- Physical ability to undertake light gardening tasks, including carrying watering cans, using basic gardening tools and performing planting, mulching, pruning and weeding activities.
- Ability to move small logs, bags of mulch and garden materials as required.
- Capacity to navigate stairs and outdoor areas across the site.
- Current Working with Children Check (WWCC) or Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) registration.

- Evidence of current vaccination requirements applicable to volunteers working within a school environment.

What We Provide

- Gardening gloves and tools where required.
- Training and support from Gould League staff.
- The opportunity to contribute to a leading environmental education organisation.
- A rewarding volunteer experience helping inspire the next generation of environmental stewards.
- Reference upon request following a successful period of volunteering.

How to Apply

Please email your:

- Cover letter outlining your interest in the role and relevant skills or experience.
- Current resume.
- Contact details for at least two referees.

Email: gould@gould.org.au

Subject Line: *APPLICATION - Gould League Gardener and Minibeast Carer*

For further information, please contact Gould League on **(03) 9585 7860** or email gould@gould.org.au.

Why Volunteer With Gould League?

This is an opportunity to help create thriving habitats, care for fascinating creatures, contribute to sustainability education and support an organisation that has been inspiring environmental action for generations. Your contribution will directly help children and community members connect with nature and learn how to care for our environment.

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