

Job description:

Ocean Plastics Academy Project Manager



Supervisor: Director of Programmes

Contract: Full-time, permanent

Location: London

Salary: Competitive

Common Seas is a not-for-profit enterprise on a mission to quickly and significantly reduce the amount of plastic produced and stop it polluting our rivers and seas. Our global team works across government, business and society to leverage change by driving new policy, investing in the circular economy and catalysing a cultural shift in how we make, use and dispose of plastic.

We are a multi-disciplinary team, looking for an outstanding Project Manager. This is a crucial, hands-on role, that will not only deliver but shape the future direction of one of our core programmes, Ocean Plastics Academy.

If you are passionate about environmental education and want to work in a dynamic organisation to inspire the next generation to address marine plastic pollution, then read on!

About Common Seas

We believe in healthy seas for everyone. Driven by a deep love of the ocean, we're working hard to bring about the big changes we need to protect the greatest life support system on Earth.

We're a smart, dynamic, pragmatic, professional and supportive team. Our small (but quickly growing) international crew brings together a wide range of skills and expertise, together with an adventurous spirit and a hands-on-can-do attitude. We're proud to be part of an incredible network of thinkers and doers, and we're looking for someone who shares the same kind of energy, passion and dedication.

We love people who take the initiative and learn by doing. Who punch above their weight and make things happen. We hire for the long-term and will give you as much responsibility as you can handle.

Our projects

With roots in ocean exploration, design and policy, we have a track record of finding smart solutions to real-world problems – from new systems to tackle the flow of waste into one of the world's most polluted rivers, to inspiring hundreds of businesses to radically reduce single use plastic.

Check out our website for more information on our four integrated programmes: commonseas.com/projects.

Ocean Plastics Academy

Ocean Plastics Academy is a movement that supports educators to inspire and equip the next generation to solve the marine plastic challenge, and helps schools to become plastic-waste free. By empowering educators and students, Ocean Plastics Academy is:

1. **Building knowledge** through an authoritative and standards-linked set of resources aligned with the national curriculum that support students to build their understanding of the issues year on year. View the platform [here](#).
2. **Driving plastic waste free solutions** through a toolkit that supports schools to radically reduce their single use plastic consumption.
3. **Enabling the next generation of change-makers** to create a plastic waste-free future.

We are seeking someone to...

1. **Ensure 'best in class' Ocean Plastics Academy resources are being taught across primary and secondary schools countrywide.**

At the heart of Ocean Plastics Academy is our belief that – to equip young people with the knowledge to address plastic pollution – we need to integrate exceptional educational materials into formal teaching, across subjects, and year on year throughout a student's school life.

Our free online teaching resources are already being taught in some UK schools, but we need you to continue to develop and update these resources, ensure they are in the hands of teachers, and work with key partners and the Government to embed them within the curriculum.

2. **Help schools and students put learning into practice by driving the radical reduction of single use plastics.**

We are working with a small group of schools to pilot a toolkit that helps staff and students to investigate single use plastic waste and deliver plastic waste-free solutions.

Your job will be to continue the development of our toolkit, to work directly with schools to use it, to create new exciting initiatives to drive engagement, and build a collaborative network of schools that are charting a course to become plastic waste free.

3. **Embed Ocean Plastics Academy into UK Government plans to act on plastic waste**

Ocean Plastics Academy works with a range of like-minded partners to unlock new ideas, insights and opportunities – from exam boards and subject matter associations, to explorers, scientists, pioneering companies and NGOs.

We need you to create and nourish powerful new partnerships to ensure that Ocean Plastics Academy is driving plastics education and school action in the UK, and is central to the UK Government's 2022 single use plastic phase out plan.

4. **Make Ocean Plastics Academy international!**

Common Seas has offices in Greece, the Maldives and Indonesia, and works with over 20 others across the Commonwealth.

Our resources have been designed to make them easily adapted to a global audience – your job will be to support this process, starting in Greece and the Maldives.

Job requirements

- Minimum 3 years proven experience working in education directly or indirectly.
- Deep understanding of teacher needs and networks, and experience in shaping effective targeted outreach.
- Equally excited to be out and about, road tripping to schools across the nation – you are confident, approachable and an excellent public speaker, who is motivated to get into schools and engage with a wide range of students and staff.
- Practical experience working with schools to prevent plastic waste and measure impact e.g. stopping single use plastics, developing re-fill programmes and supporting behaviour change.
- Demonstrable experience in developing exceptional learning materials, lessons and teaching resources.
- Ability to work independently with limited supervision, having the determination to overcome obstacles and get things done.
- Strong network with UK Schools or other educational organisations.
- Experience in partnership development and management – finding like-minded partners to unlock new ideas and enhance our impact.
- Experience engaging with Ministry of Education and/or with strategic partner organisations to advocate for and shape UK Education policies and practices.
- Strategic thinker and doer, who brings a creative and ambitious outlook to the development of project plans and strategies.
- Excellent project management skills, with the capacity to deliver against tight timescales and routinely cope with multiple competing priorities and a varying workload.
- Ability to work professionally and collegially within a creative and agile team that demands accuracy and dedication.
- A willingness to work flexibly to the shifting demands of projects.
- A strong commitment to Common Seas' core mission. Grounded in a love of the ocean and an understanding of ocean conservation and/or circular economy.

Working environment

Based out of our head office in London, with travel to schools around the UK and occasional international trips.

Salary commensurate with experience.

How to apply

If you think this sounds like the perfect role for you, please send us a copy of your CV and a one-page cover letter.

In your covering letter briefly outline what you think UK schools need most to help them become plastic waste free by 2022, and how Ocean Plastics Academy could help deliver this.

Please email your submission with the subject title 'JOB: Ocean Plastics Academy Project Manager' to hello@commonseas.com by 11 March 2020. Please note that we may close the application period earlier if we have identified a suitable pool of candidates.