



WOLVES
LANE
CENTRE

WOOD GREEN, N22

FEBRUARY 2026

RECRUITMENT PACK

FOOD GROWING LEAD



FOOD GROWING LEAD

- Job Title: Food Growing Lead
- Closing date: 17.00 GMT, 15th March 2026
- Interviews: 1 April 2026 and practical TBC
- Reports to: Operations and Facilities Manager
- Location: Wolves Lane Centre, Wood Green
- Pay: £18.50 gross per hour
- Hours: Part time (4 days or 32 hours per week)
- Type of Contract: 2-year fixed term contract
- Annual Leave: 28 days full time including bank holidays
- Pension: 3% employer pension contribution on eligible earnings

About the Role

The Food Growing Lead is responsible for the development of Wolves Lane's productive growing systems, strengthening the commercial and wholesale output of the site while holding the values of the centre as a community-rooted horticultural space. This role ensures that food production, learning, and inclusion work together. The Food Growing Lead supports trainees, sessional workers and volunteers within a working production environment, balancing crop planning, quality and consistency with learning and community access.

Wolves Lane Centre has been the home of Ubele since January 2018 and Ubele has been a Consortium member of Wolves Lane Centre since 2019, alongside OrganicLea.

This role is a key hire for the development of Wolves Lane Centre. You will be employed by Ubele Initiative CIC and seconded to Wolves Lane Consortium and reporting directly to the Operations Manager.

ABOUT WOLVES LANE

Wolves Lane Centre is a former council-run plant nursery and community food growing site in the heart of North London. Today it is a multi-use horticultural centre where food growing, learning, enterprise and community life come together. The site is home to a range of growers, programmes, and partners, including Black Rootz, a Ubele project, grounded in social justice, food heritage, and growing practices from across the diaspora.

Our vision is of a thriving, community-rooted food growing and learning space where land, food and people are deeply connected, and where diverse and marginalised communities shape how food is grown, shared, and understood.

Our mission is to grow food using agroecological and ecologically responsible methods, to create accessible pathways into volunteering, learning and land-based work. Using food and growing as a tool for community wellbeing, skill building, and empowerment. We also act as a platform for collaboration between grassroots groups, growers, educators, and enterprises working towards fairer food systems.

ABOUT THE UBELE INITIATIVE

The Ubele Initiative was established in 2014 as an African Diaspora-led intergenerational social enterprise. In 2023 Ubele became a not-for-profit community interest company (CIC)

Our mission is helping to build more sustainable Black and racially minoritised communities across the UK. Over the past few years, we have designed and delivered a wide range of local, regional, national, and international initiatives which seek to create and build community wealth. We do this by pursuing the objectives in our strategy, for which we have recently undertaken a review.

Ubele supports community-led organisations and groups with their community assets (people, organisations, and physical space). We use social action, community enterprise development, participatory learning & skills development, and next-generation leadership initiatives.

You can find further information about us here: www.ubele.org

JOB DESCRIPTION

Growing & Production Leadership

- Lead crop planning, seasonal production and day-to-day growing across glasshouses and outdoor beds
- Improve consistency, yield and quality of produce while working within agroecological principles
- Contribute to strengthening commercial and wholesale routes while aligning with the centre's social and environmental values
- Maintain high standards of crop health, soil care, composting and biodiversity

Public Engagement & Site Activity

- Support and contribute to public-facing activity at Wolves Lane, including farm tours, workshops, open days, and community events. (note: Wolves Lane is not currently open on Saturdays; occasional evening or weekend activity may be required around key events, planned in advance.)
- Act as an ambassador for Wolves Lane Centre, engaging confidently with visitors, volunteers, partners and funders during events and day-to-day site activity
- Work closely with colleagues to ensure growing activity supports learning, volunteering and community engagement programmes

Team Support & Learning Environment

- Provide day-to-day supervision and support for food growers, apprentices/trainees and sessional workers
- Integrate learning into production, ensuring the site functions as a working training environment
- Work alongside volunteers in a way that supports both productivity and skill development
- Foster an inclusive and respectful working culture

Site & Systems

- Support organisation of growing spaces, tools and materials
- Lead on the record keeping related to crops, yields and production systems
- Work collaboratively on infrastructure and improvements that support long-term resilience of the site

Working in a Shared, Community Context

- Work in coordination with Consortium partners and site users
- Ensure growing activities sit respectfully within a multi-user, community-focused site
- Contribute to the centre's wider vision as a space that supports Black, Brown and other minority communities in land-based work

Health, Safety & Good Practice

- Follow and support good practice in health and safety across growing areas
- Model safe tool use, manual handling and site procedures
- Contribute to maintaining a safe and welcoming working environment

Other

- To attend and participate in internal and external meetings as required.
- Ensure compliance with organisational policies, including safeguarding, health and safety and equality at all times.
- To attend relevant training to fulfil the requirements of the job.
- To undertake other duties which may from time to time be required and which are appropriate to the responsibilities of the post.

Person Specification

Essential

- Significant practical experience in food growing or market gardening with a minimum of 2 full commercial growing seasons
- Strong knowledge of agroecological or sustainable growing methods
- Experience supervising or supporting others in a growing environment
- Ability to balance productivity with a learning or community context
- Good organisational skills and ability to manage seasonal workloads
- Commitment to working with diverse communities and in an inclusive environment
- Confidence working outdoors year-round in a physical role
- Desirable
- Experience working in an urban or community-based growing project
- Experience working with apprentices, trainees or volunteers
- Experience supplying wholesale or commercial customers

February 2026

How to apply:

Instead of a traditional cover letter, please share your CV and answers to the following questions in a maximum of two A4 pages:

- What about this role attracted you to apply for it?
- Addressing each point in the person specification please address how your skills and experience, including transferable skills, mean that you would be a great candidate for the role.

Applications should be sent to recruitment@ubele.org with "Food Growing Lead" in the subject line. Applicants must be legally eligible to work in the UK.

Once we receive your application you will be sent a link to our diversity form which assists us in measuring the diversity within our recruitment processes. This form is voluntary, anonymous and confidential, only accessible by our HR team. The answers you give are in no way linked to your application and cannot be traced to your name.

We can offer:

The Ubele Initiative fosters a caring intergenerational creative and flexible work environment that promotes collaboration, team wellbeing, respect, and professional development.

Ubele encourages professional development as a part of our culture and values. Ubele provides opportunities for training in mental health and first aid, collaboration, and mentorship. Ubele hosts away days, annual retreat, local and international courses, learning sessions and social events.

Support

- Access to Bright Wellbeing 24hr advice line and counselling service.
- Access to Health Assured App
- Access to Bright Safe Health & Safety management software and a variety of training courses.

The Ubele Initiative CIC is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees. We particularly encourage applications from communities that have historically been excluded from philanthropy and from underrepresented groups including candidates who are LGBTQ+, from Black and racially-minoritised communities, with a disability, impairment, learning difference or long-term condition, with caring responsibilities, from different nations and regions, and from less advantaged socioeconomic backgrounds. Please notify us if you require any reasonable adjustments to be made to the recruitment process by sending an email to recruitment@ubele.org with your request.

THE
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@ubeleinitiative
<https://ubele.org/>