

SENIOR TECHNICIAN – ROLE SPECIFICATION

ROLE ATTRIBUTES

- As an archaeologist, your role will involve identifying, investigating, recording and interpreting archaeological data. Wessex Archaeology's ability to provide a high-quality service for its client's rests on the quality of the primary work you do, and the accuracy of the records you make.
- You will use learned and practiced techniques to excavate, or otherwise investigate, archaeological features, deposits and artefacts of many different types and periods, in both urban and rural settings (which may include intertidal and foreshore), and on a variety of different geologies. In doing this you will follow Wessex Archaeology's standard fieldwork methods and processes (as set out in the fieldwork recording manual) and other appropriate instructions.
- As a Senior Technician your greatest contribution will be the application of the depth and breadth of your knowledge and skills to assist with the efficient delivery of projects and tasks. Your specialist abilities will contribute to excavation strategy and successful project completion. An ability and willingness to pass on your knowledge and skill is a key attribute for this role, contributing to the development of others through the sharing of techniques and knowledge will be essential in ensuring a sustainable future for you, your colleagues and the company.
- Archaeological remains are a finite resource and you have a responsibility to produce an accurate and appropriate record of the archaeological remains you expose and excavate. This will form the permanent record essential for the preservation of archaeological information for the future, and upon which any interpretation of the archaeological resource is based. This will require an ability to identify the archaeological deposits, features and finds you excavate, and an understanding of the formation processes responsible for their character and condition.
- The decisions you make, and strategies you employ in the gathering, recording and interpretation of archaeological data will contribute to the preliminary and subsequent understanding of the site. Data gathering will not be limited to work in the field. There will also be tasks undertaken post-excavation, including checking and consolidation of the site archive, and specialist tasks such as processing finds and environmental samples under appropriate supervision. Such works requires the same quality and care in practice and recording, in order to maximise the data recoverable from the archaeological resource. This work will inform the post-excavation assessment of the site's significance, and be the basis for the public dissemination of the results of the fieldwork, including its publication in both academic and popular media.
- Wessex Archaeology is committed to creating a very high-quality product. This is achieved by the efficiency, reliability and excellence of the work you undertake as a member of the team. It is the responsibility of those more senior to help you understand the importance and value of the work you do. At the same time, it is your responsibility to improve, increase and share your skills and knowledge, seeking guidance and support whenever necessary.
- Communication is essential in your role. You must be respectful and mindful of your audiences and act appropriately. Your role will be to pass on your skills and knowledge to others to help with their development. You are likely to be the first point of contact for junior staff and will act as a bridge between them and the site director or manager.

Behavioural Attributes

An Senior Technician is expected to:

- Be open to learning and receiving direction;
- Communicate appropriately and respectfully;
- Provide support, guidance and advice to others
- Be responsible and accountable for your work, actions and decisions.