



Job Description

Job Title Fresh Produce Controller/Buyer
Department Buying

Dunsters Farm is an award winning, family run foodservice based in Bury. We are looking to recruit an ambitious and enthusiastic Fresh Produce Controller/Buyer to support us in growing and developing the business.

Main purpose of the job

This is a great opportunity for an ambitious, commercially-minded buyer to join an innovative and growing company. We have heritage from our 60-year history but commit to a 'start-up' mindset and are always looking to grow and continually improve. If you have fresh produce buying experience and would enjoy the opportunity of growing a category at an industry- leading, friendly and fast-developing business please apply, we'd like to hear from you.

What does the role involve?

- Buying a variety of fresh fruit and vegetable produce and morning goods, negotiating the best price in line with the business requirements.
- Being commercially-minded and able to deliver results.
- Entrepreneurial mindset and ambition to grow a category to progress the business and your career within it.
- Given the nature of the role, there will be a flexibility expected in working hours.
- Design an exciting seasonal weekly box contents for B2C and B2B customers, based on availability of produce from our supply base.
- Work closely with suppliers to understand forward weekly availability, build strategic partnerships and stay aware of buying opportunities.
- Achieve margin targets, through the use of up-front planning and validation of accurate supplier invoicing.
- Work closely with suppliers to build long-term relationships to ensure future supply and to build strategic supplier partnerships.
- Inform suppliers of any quality issues, providing supporting information and completing claims where necessary.
- Review and monitor customer quality complaints, putting in place corrective actions or alternative sourcing arrangements.
- Manage supplier relationships, track and report supplier performance and complete supplier reviews and site visits.
- Maintain market knowledge to identify new product opportunities from existing suppliers and build our supply base by onboarding new suppliers.
- Contribute to the business sourcing strategy, ensuring that sufficient supply relationships exist to support the breadth of our planned business growth.
- Contribute to the design and implementation of new technology solutions.
- Work with and support other members of the buying team to ensure that the overall team operates as an effective and efficient unit
- Build strong internal relationships and work closely with other departments such as Sales, Finance, Marketing, Operations and Technology.

What kind of person are we looking for?

- A minimum of 3-years' experience sourcing and buying both local and imported fresh produce.
- A passion for food - particularly fruit & veg and fresh produce.
- Driven, with an entrepreneurial spirit and not letting anything dampen your energy and a willingness push through to achieve results.
- A commitment to continual improvement and high-performance.
- A morning-person – early starts are common in the world of foodservice and flexibility on working hours is required.
- A track record of 'getting things done' and prepared to take a hands-on approach.
- Ability to operate effectively in a team whilst also confident working alone.
- Flexible, with the ability to adapt to the changing priorities and needs of the business.
- Excellent organisational and time-management skills.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- A friendly negotiating ability.
- Keen attention to detail.
- Great excel skills and strong with numbers.
- Ability to work under pressure at busy times.

What are some of the benefits on offer?

- Working in a friendly, family run business
- Annual bonus based on performance
- An extra day's holiday each year (usually around Christmas/New Year)
- Long service awards; up to an additional 5 days annual leave
- Free car parking
- Regular product sampling
- Staff discount scheme
- Annual Team Awards Night
- Pension

What hours will I work?

40 hours per week

Who will I report to?

Commercial Manager