

Development Officer (Schools & Community Development)



Location

- Dublin / Leinster region
- Daily travel required – vehicle provided

Role Overview

Fencing Ireland is seeking a proactive and energetic Development Officer to deliver schools programmes and support the growth of fencing at community level, particularly within DEIS areas.

Reporting to the Head of Development, this is a hands-on role focused on introducing fencing to new participants, building relationships, and creating pathways from schools into clubs, while ensuring high-quality programme delivery that supports ongoing engagement and retention.

What We're Looking For

We are looking for someone with the right personality, energy, and initiative to grow fencing on the ground.

You do not need to be an elite fencer or highly experienced coach. Training and support will be provided. What matters most is your ability to connect with people, build relationships, and turn opportunities into active programmes.

Key Responsibilities

Schools Programme Delivery

- Deliver fencing sessions in DEIS schools as part of a funded development programme
- Lead Transition Year (TY) programmes, introducing students to fencing in an engaging and structured way
- Deliver primary school programmes over multi-week blocks
- Ensure an engaging experience for schools to support long-term partnerships

Community & Club Development

- Work with local stakeholders (schools, community groups, sports partnerships) to develop fencing clubs in local communities close to the schools
- Support the establishment of new fencing clubs in target areas
- Deliver evening sessions (approx. 2–3 per week) to support club activity
- Create pathways from school programmes into clubs, supporting long-term growth

Equipment & Operations

- Transport fencing equipment to schools and venues (vehicle provided)
- Support organisation and maintenance of equipment
- Ensure safe setup and use of equipment

Events & Federation Support

- Support the delivery of Fencing Ireland competitions and events (approx. 5–6 weekends per year)
- Assist with event setup and breakdown
- Act as a representative of Fencing Ireland

Working Hours

- Full-time, 1 Year Contract with potential to renew
- Busier during the 9-month fencing season, with more flexibility during quieter periods
- Includes evening and weekend work
- This is not a standard 9–5 role and requires flexibility

Candidate Profile

Essential

- Some fencing experience
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Confidence working with young people and community groups
- Self-starter with ability to take initiative
- Ability to build and maintain strong relationships with schools and stakeholders
- Full clean driving licence
- Willingness to travel regularly (Dublin / Leinster)
- Flexibility
- Willingness to undergo Garda Vetting
- Willingness to complete further training (safeguarding, coaching, etc.)

A coaching qualification, either in fencing or another sport, is desirable but not essential as full training will be provided. Experience in teaching or youth work, and in community or sports development is a plus.

Salary

- €30,000 – €34,000 (depending on experience)

If you would like to hear more about this role, or are ready to join us, please send your CV along with your salary expectations and availability to:

recruitment@fencingireland.net

