

School Janitor

A school janitor is responsible for the security, safety, repair and maintenance of a school building and grounds. Many primary schools have only one janitor. A large secondary school or college may have two or three.

The Work

You could be:

- supervising the school cleaning staff and monitoring the cleaning contracts which go out to tender
- operating the heating, lighting and security systems
- providing security cover by regular patrols and checking CCTV
- carrying out minor repairs and arranging for larger repairs to be done
- moving furniture, for example at exam times and setting up gym equipment
- dealing with deliveries of goods and mail for the school
- tidying the playground, grounds maintenance and gritting and clearing paths in winter
- dealing with waste collection, disposal and lost property
- keeping the school open for evening and weekend bookings and coming out for emergencies, such as break-ins, during the night.

Pay

The figures below are only a guide. Actual pay rates may vary, depending on:

- where you work
- the size of the school
- the demand for the job.

Salaries for janitors can range between £19,000 to £21,000 a year. A senior janitor responsible for managing cleaning and janitorial staff at several cluster schools might earn between £21,400 and £24,900 a year. You can usually boost your income through overtime.

Conditions

- You work irregular hours, including evenings.
- As the key-holder, you are on call for emergencies, such as break-ins, at all times.
- You usually wear a uniform.
- At times this is a physical job, involving bending, stretching, kneeling and carrying.

Getting In

- You do not need formal qualifications but a good general education is useful.
- It might help if you have experience working in the building trade.
- A driving licence is an advantage and is essential for some jobs.
- You should be physically fit.

- To work in this job you must declare any criminal convictions. Certain types of conviction may prevent you getting in. You will require a satisfactory criminal record check from Disclosure Scotland to show that you are suitable for this type of work. Contact [Disclosure Scotland](#) for details on the type you would need.

Jobs are with local authorities, agencies, further education colleges and private schools.

What Does It Take

You should be:

- aware of security, health and safety
- honest and reliable
- able to work alone or in a team
- practical, with DIY skills
- able to prioritise tasks
- able to communicate well with children, parents, staff and outside agencies.

Training

- Training is mainly on the job.
- You can study while working for Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) such as Cleaning and Support Services at SCQF Level 5.
- The NEBOSH Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety is also useful.

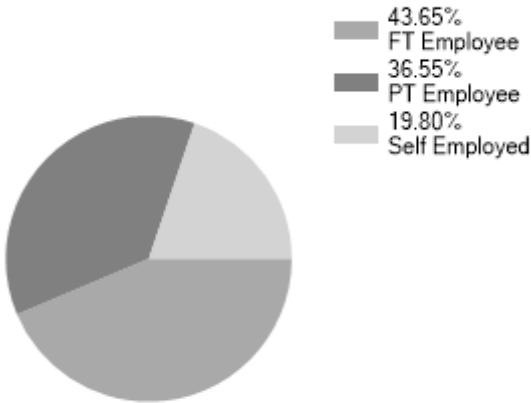
Getting On

- Promotion possibilities are limited.
- You might get the chance to move to a supervisory position in a larger school or college where there are several janitors.
- You could become a senior janitor covering several cluster schools.

Contacts

Statistics

Employment Status UK %

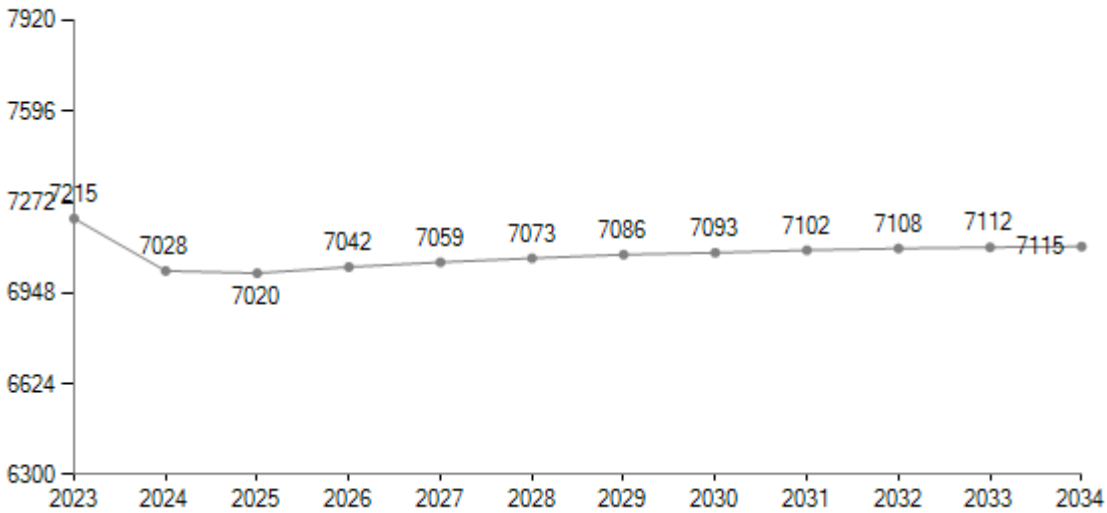


Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

LMI data powered by [LMI for All](#)

Predicted Employment in Scotland



LMI data powered by [Lightcast](#)