

Playworker/Senior Playworker Job Description

Responsible to: The Director

1. Purpose of the Job

- To create a safe, fun and welcoming environment for all children and their parents or carers and others interested in childcare within our local community.*
- To play proactively with all children across the age range, organising, supervising and engaging in indoor and outdoor activities.*
- To assist in the day-to-day organisation of the club.*

2. Principal activities and responsibilities

- Provide safe, creative and play opportunities, preparing activities and proactively engaging with all aspects of the activity programme for the 3 - 12 year old children to keep it fresh, stimulating and fun.*
- Promote an inclusive social, physical, creative, emotional and intellectual play space for all children using a range of resources and personal skills so that all feel valued and involved.*
- Build relationships of trust with children, parents and staff alike in order that you are accessible and a 'go to playworker' promoting the highest levels of reliable childcare possible.*

- *Contribute to maintaining and continuously building on the quality of the club by offering new ideas for service improvements in collaboration with the children, team, colleagues and or parents/carers.*
- *Assist in the safe escorting and delivery of children to and from school at the beginning and or end of the day in line with all Health, Safety and Safeguarding processes.*
- *Clear up from daily activities including simple cleaning duties identified through own observation and as requested by the club manager.*
- *Work collaboratively as part of a team with other staff in the club including attendance at staff meetings and training events.*
- *Carry out all responsibilities within agreed policies and working within an equal opportunities and safeguarding framework.*

Playworker/Senior Playworker Person Specification

*Essential Requirements (*please note)*

1.Education

*The post holder will ideally be in possession of one from the following relevant child care qualifications *OR be in the process of studying for one of them, OR will be happy to study for one:*

- ✓ Degree in a related field of Education, Playwork or Childhood studies*
- ✓ NVQ Level 2 or 3 in Playwork or Child Care & Education*
- ✓ BTEC National Certificate or diploma in Childhood Studies or Caring Services*
- ✓ NNEB Diploma in Child Care*
- ✓ Cache certificate in Childcare studies*

2.Experience

- ✓ In the event of not being formally qualified applicants will be considered equally if they are able to make the connection between life experience of child care in a 'home' environment and that required in this formalised play environment.*
- ✓ Relevant experience of working with children aged between 3-12 years olds, ideally in a kids club or holiday scheme at home or abroad.*

3.Skills

The post holder will be able to provide warm, consistent and high quality care through their ability to:

- ✓ Provide and facilitate a safe, creative and stimulating play care environment appropriate for 3-12 year old children.*

- ✓ *Adaptable and able to engage all children in a range of play based skills to include: game playing (indoors and out), storytelling, music, sports and exercise, arts and crafts, cooking, role play, treasure hunts, board games etc*
- ✓ *Set clear limits and offer appropriate positive reinforcements and sanctions when necessary.*
- ✓ *Recognise and respond sensitively to all children's individual and unique needs.*
- ✓ *Communicate confidently and sensitively to children, staff, parents and other professionals both verbally, non verbally and where necessary, in writing.*
- ✓ *Demonstrate 'exquisite' listening and questioning skills.*
- ✓ *Organise work depending on priorities and resources. Good attention to detail.*
- ✓ *Work in partnership with parents and with staff through the promotion of team work.*

4. Personality

- ✓ *Get on with a wide range of diverse individuals and groups to include children, their families, team members, schools and the wider community.*
- ✓ *Highly reliable and consistent.*
- ✓ *Engender a sense of warmth, fun and safety into the club, helping to create a 'go to' play space.*
- ✓ *Driven, use initiative, with a desire for high standards in all aspects of personal and work conduct.*
- ✓ *Discreet and respectful of all individuals, embracing diversity*
- ✓ *Creative and open to new ideas and willing to share these with everyone.*
- ✓ *Committed to learning and development of children, self and colleagues.*
- ✓ *Resilient and emotionally robust.*

5. Knowledge

- ✓ *Commitment and knowledge to treat all children as individuals and with equal concern*
- ✓ *Understanding of developmental and emotional needs of children between 3&12 years old*

- ✓ *Up to date and informed on age appropriate everyday current themes that address children's play, specifically at a local level and generally at a national level.*
- ✓ Knowledge of other cultural and ethnic groups and the ways that children can learn and understand more about difference
- ✓ *Knowledge of how to create a safe and hygienic environment to play and eat in*

6. Health

This is a fairly physically demanding post therefore the post holder must be resilient, adaptable, emotionally stable and in good health.

Desirable Requirements

In possession of a current DBS /Police Check.

A current driving licence

A current first aid certificate

Computer confident

A relevant health and hygiene certificate/food hygiene certificate.