



JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Playworker

HOURS: Variable (with regular evening and weekend work)

SALARY: £9.00 - £10.14 per hour (depending on experience)

BASED: The Valley Project, Stirling Crescent, Bradford, BD4 0BL

RESPONSIBLE TO: Project Co-ordinators

POST OBJECTIVES

- To work as a member of the playground team on an open access play facility within the community. To provide a provision for recreation and other leisure-time activities for children and young people aged 6-16 years old.
- To assist in the co-ordination, promotion and evaluation of a play programme that integrates all children in a safe and stimulating environment.

SPECIFIC ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Playwork

- To ensure that a warm, welcoming and inclusive play environment is provided where individuals are valued and appropriate adaptations are made to maximise all children's engagement with play.
- Involve children and young people in creative and stimulating play in order to allow them to develop and test their own abilities and to promote their educational, physical and emotional development.
- To be a resource for children's play, adopting a 'minimum intervention, maximum response' approach.
- Engage in the provision of arts & craft, gardening, loose parts play, games, sports, drama, music, cooking, and outdoor activities.
- Supervise play activities, ensuring they are safe, fun, creative and relevant for inclusive play and to support those with additional needs.

- Undertake monitoring and evaluation methods and the collection of appropriate data and evidence to measure
- Undertake required Continuing Professional Development to ensure play best practice is followed.

Health & Safety

- Maintain and monitor the physical aspects of the playground to the appropriate health and safety standards.
- Ensure the safety and well-being of children using the playground.
- Assist with daily Health and Safety checks in line with the playground's Health & Safety policy.
- Ensure that Health & Safety issues which cannot be dealt with are brought promptly to the Project Co-ordinator's attention.
- Aware of safeguarding policies and procedures.

Playground Maintenance

- Help maintain the playground in a clean, tidy and attractive condition.
- Carry out physical tasks necessary to maintain safe and secure premises.
- Ability to carry out maintenance or prepared to be trained.

General

- Assist with implementing the Playground's risk benefit assessments and policies, in particular Equal Opportunities, Anti-discriminatory Practice, Health & Safety and Child Protection.
- Promote the aims and objectives of the playground.
- Take part in Trainings, Supervision meetings and debriefings.
- Undertake training and other staff development activities.
- Ensure cleaning of the playground is completed prior to each session.
- To be flexible with hours of work and to be available to work evenings, weekends, indoors and outdoors, in term time and school holidays as required.

(The Valley Project expects its employees to work flexibly within the framework of the duties and responsibilities specified above. This means that the post holder may be expected to carry out work that is not specified in the job profile but which is within the remit of the duties and responsibilities.)

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Skills & Abilities	Essential	Desirable
Be able to work independently and within a team, be pro-active and use own initiative.	X	
Be able to communicate effectively with children, colleagues, carers and other professionals.	X	
Be able to collect and record data both manually and using IT	X	
Be able to plan and deliver a range of playwork based activities.	X	
Be able to demonstrate an awareness of and commitment to equality of opportunity.	X	
Be able to work flexible hours including evenings, weekends and holidays both indoors and outdoors.	X	

Experience & Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
Experience of working with children aged 5-13 years.	X	
Knowledge of play theory		X
Experience of living and/or working in a community that is culturally diverse and financially challenged.		X
Good knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures	X	
Understanding of the importance of risk in children's play.	X	

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
Hold a 2 Level playwork qualification or higher (youthwork and early years qualifications will also be considered) or be willing to undertake training to achieve this.		X
Hold a current First Aid qualification.		X
Hold a Food Hygiene certificate.		X
Satisfactory Enhanced DBS check or be prepared to undertake one.	X	

Personal Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Have a positive and solution-focussed approach to the job – enthusiastic and committed to improving opportunities for children and young people.	X	
Bring energy and positivity to the play environment	X	
Demonstrate tolerance, humour, warmth and understanding in personal interactions with children, staff, volunteers, parents/carers	X	
Take initiative and is responsive to the needs and ideas of children and young people	X	