

Job Description

Job Title: Playworker

Reports to: Lead Playworker or in their absence MASKK Manager/Duty Manager.

Working Relationships: Children and their parents/carers who use the club.
The MASKK team including casual staff, volunteers and Trustees.
Relevant individuals and organisations, which may include schools, childcare and play related organisations, registering authorities, funders.

Job Summary: To work as part of a team to provide a fun and safe play environment within the organisations policies and procedures and in line with the Playwork Principles. Including escorting of children from school or home to the setting and to local parks and events.

Principal Duties:

1. Assist the session leader to provide a safe and caring environment, including setup and pack up.
2. Understand and follow statutory duties in relation to Safeguarding and Child Protection.
3. Ensure safe collection and delivery of children from the school/home to the setting or from the setting to and from green spaces, events and trips.
4. To join in with games and activities, promoting Play and the Playwork Principles.
3. Ensure that refreshments are provided and meet the required standards of hygiene, health and safety. Contributing to the cleaning and care of the kitchen and facilities.
4. Consult with children and involve them in the planning of activities and refreshments.
5. Contribute to carrying out administration and financial procedures, record keeping, ordering and purchasing in accordance with club systems.
6. Administer first aid as appropriate.
7. Support an inclusive and can-do environment, including supporting children with SEND to participate & personal care as appropriate.
8. Contribute to good communication with all members of the organisation and with the wider community including parents, schools, and childcare and play related agencies.
9. Undertake training which may be required by the registering authority and to contribute to professional development.
10. Monitor and maintain a healthy, safe and secure working environment.
11. Carry out all responsibilities and activities within an equal opportunities framework.
12. Work within agreed policies.

Playwork Principles:

1. All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and well being of individuals and communities.
2. Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.
3. The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.
4. For playworkers, the play process takes precedence and playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.
5. The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.
6. The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.
7. Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.
8. Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and well being of children.