POST: Lunchtime Playworker – Woodpeckers

GRADE: 3: Point 4 to Point 6 on Support staff pay scales
(£2174.98 – £2261.82 per annum)

REPORTING TO: Play Care Manager

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE POST:

Carry out play work and make provision for free play in a school-based environment. This will be at lunchtimes, in the Nursery unit and in the outdoor play areas. The playworker will be part of a multi-disciplinary team, a play team, or may only operate as a playworker at particular times, fulfilling the function as part of a bigger job role. The main purpose is to provide children and young people with opportunities for adult led, self-directed play or directed activity. These staff do not have full responsibility for the play environment but make a significant contribution to supporting play.

The role also involves the organisation of lunch for the Nursery aged children.

MAIN TASKS:

To carry out playwork in our Nursery unit and in the outdoor learning areas by establishing play space and facilitating play.

Environment

Work with children and young people to create play spaces and support their play, developing their language skills through dialogue with the children.

Where appropriate, facilitate specific play opportunities for children or young people’s request by planning, preparing for and implementing specific play opportunities

Relationships

Support relationships in the play environment by developing and maintaining relationships with children and young people and supporting relationships between children in the play environment, encouraging dialogue.

Liaise with the Nursery Practitioners, giving feedback about the children; what they have eaten, how they have interacted, relay any points to celebrate or any concerns

Safeguarding children

Follow the organisation’s procedures for safeguarding the welfare of children and young people

Inclusion

Contribute to supporting disabled children and young people in the play environment by planning, preparing for and carrying out playwork with disabled children
Health and safety
Contribute to the health, safety, security and welfare of children by supporting the health, safety and security of children and young people involved in play and responding to emergencies following the correct procedures.

Provide first aid if required

Support children if they have toileting accidents

Food preparation
Contribute to providing food and drink at lunchtime by:

- Liaising with the Kitchen Team and bringing down the hot meals trolley to the Sunshine Nursery Room serving area
- Serving the chosen meal to the correct children, helping them to cut their food, use a knife and fork, encourage them to eat and develop their independence.
- Be aware of children with specific dietary requirements or allergies and ensure their needs are always met
- Assist children who bring their packed lunch as required.
- Encourage social conversation between the children and between adults and children during lunchtime.
- Deal with any spillages on tables or floors, return lunch trays and cutlery to the kitchen, make the room suitable for children to work in following lunchtime.
- As children finish their meal, take those children into the play area and engage them in activities until all children have eaten.

Staff Development

- Attend meetings as appropriate.
- To undertake training courses as appropriate.
- Contribute to the evaluation and development of the role.

Other

- Support the school in its compliance of GDPR - General Data Protection Regulations

This job description was reviewed in November 2019 in line with the Local Authority’s model job description.

It is due for review on or before November 2020.
LUNCHTIME PLAYWORKER - PERSON SPECIFICATION

Employees will need to demonstrate the following requirements in order to perform each of the main activities of the job safely and effectively:

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<th>ESSENTIAL CRITERIA</th>
<th>DESIRABLE CRITERIA</th>
<th>MEASURED BY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Qualifications:</td>
<td>An NVQ Level 2 qualification in an applicable area such as Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools (or willingness to work towards achievement of NVQ L2), or equivalent experience. GSCEs passes A-C in English and maths First aid training/training as appropriate or willingness to do first aid training</td>
<td>Application form, certificates</td>
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<td>Skills and Abilities:</td>
<td>Ability to relate well to children and adults Ability to communicate effectively and work with a range of people. Ability to use your initiative Flexible and adaptable in approach Work constructively as part of a team, understanding classroom roles and responsibilities &amp; your own position within these Demonstration of a 'can do' attitude including suggesting solutions, and achieving expectations</td>
<td>Application form, interview</td>
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Experience: Working with or caring Experience of | Application form, |
| for children of Nursery age | working with children with Special Educational Needs  
Experience of working with children with speech and language difficulties | interview |
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<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td>Have an awareness of GDPR – General data Protection Regulations and how this impacts on their role</td>
<td>Application form, interview</td>
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