

Join us to help improve the lives of disabled children and their families by becoming our next Playworker



Job Title: Playworker

Hours: Part-Time - Weekends

Location: Kirkcaldy, Fife

Salary: £12.80 per hour

JOB PURPOSE

The Yard is an award-winning charity that runs adventure play services for children with disabilities and/or additional support needs and their families. We offer creative and inclusive adventure play experiences alongside wraparound support for the whole family. We believe in fostering communities of friendship and peer support without judgement. Since we opened in 1986, our services have grown significantly, but we will always retain our holistic approach and ethos of child-centred and child-led play services.

The purpose of this post is to plan and deliver play sessions at The Yard. The applicant will be expected to deliver, with other members of the Play Team, a range of inclusive, social, recreational and adventure play activities both on The Yard's premises including a range of activities such as arts and crafts, loose parts play, water and sensory play etc. Where appropriate you will engage with parents, carers and other supporting adults of children ensuring that the whole family feels valued and part of an inclusive community.

We are an accredited living wage employer and offer a wide range of benefits.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Reports to Reports to Play Team Leader. Support Sessional Playworkers

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Play an active role in the set-up, delivery and development of recreational activities, in line with the organisation's values, aims and policies
- Engage children in creative play and the management of suitable activities for the different ages and interests of children
- Encourage and enable children and young people with a range of disabilities to play and socialise in an inclusive way that supports the development of their emotional wellbeing
- Always ensure the safety of the children and young people within the centre. This includes undertaking risk assessments, fire drills, having an awareness of allergies and other medical conditions and the maintenance of hygiene in food preparation
- Work with children and young people as individuals and as part of a group, within The Yard's premises
- To develop and maintain professional relationships with parents, carers and other organisations, ensuring there is always adequate communication with parents and carers to understand and appreciate the child's needs
- To contribute data to our database systems in order to support our work and support our children and families
- To provide ongoing support to sessional staff in achieving their personal development goals in accordance with the Yard's formal review procedure
- To contribute to reflective diary sessions and operate as a reflective practitioner

Scotland Yard Adventure Centre (known as The Yard) is a registered Scottish Charity SC002538 and Private Limited Company registered in Scotland 101671.

- Occasional leading of sessions, as the service requires
- An awareness of Care Inspectorate procedures and regulations and of the SSSC Code of Practice
- Operate and maintain the facilities in a safe, clean and tidy condition in accordance with The Yard's policies
- Act in accordance with The Yard's Staff Handbook and policies
- Attend and contribute to staff meetings and training sessions as appropriate
- Maintain and develop awareness of ongoing developments in play work, youth work and related areas
- To maintain a high degree of confidentiality in accordance with the Data Protection Act and GDPR legislation in respect to staff, clients and activities
- Any other reasonable duties commensurate with the duties of a Playworker

Implicit in this job description is the Scottish Social Services Council Code of Practice. This is to:

- Build and maintain the trust and confidence of individuals and carers.
- Recognise that individuals have the right to take risks and will work with them to understand and manage those risks.
- Be accountable for the quality of your work and take responsibility for maintaining and improving your knowledge and skills.
- Uphold public trust and confidence.

AUTHORITIES AND LIMITATIONS

There are no financial authorities for this role.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, QUALIFICATIONS, COMPETENCIES

Essential qualities and experience:

- Knowledge and experience of facilitating indoor and outdoor play opportunities and environments and leading recreational activities
- A demonstrable understanding of, and experience in, the value of play and working with children and young people with disabilities
- A commitment to put equal opportunities and the rights of the child into practice
- A proven ability to work in a flexible and creative manner, as an individual and as part of a team
- Knowledge and experience of facilitating young people's social activities
- Strong communication skills, both written and verbally
- The ability to register successfully with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC), and undertake a successful PVG check
- Computer literate, especially with the Microsoft package and online database systems
- Ability to work flexibly to support our service

Desirable qualities and experience:

- Working towards or in receipt of an SVQ 3 or higher in a relevant discipline
- First Aid Certificate
- Experience of working with and supporting volunteers
- Food Hygiene Certificate

Experience of alternative communication systems such as Signalong, Makaton and PECS