

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

JOB DESCRIPTION

Designation:	Play Worker	Grade:	SC4
Reports to:	Senior Play Worker	Grade:	
Directorate:	Children and Young People	Department:	Prevention and Family Advice

Main Purpose of the job:

Working with the Lewisham Play Strategy to advance the role of play in the development of young people.

To support the Senior Play Worker in delivering play sessions at Lewisham's adventure playgrounds, supporting volunteers and ensuring that adventure playgrounds are welcoming, safe, clean, educational and fun.

To support play led innovation in the development of activities and structures across Adventure Playgrounds. Ensuring that there are safe, popular, fun and outcome focused activities that appeal to local young people aged 6 to 19 (up to 25 with SEN).

To be responsible for safeguarding on site and during sessions.

Summary of Responsibilities and Personal Duties

- To deliver play sessions at Adventure Playgrounds, providing an informal education through play curriculum and to support young people "where they are at" to positively impact them in line with against Lewisham's mission and vision.
- Use innovative, safe, popular, fun and outcome focused activities that appeal to local young people and support their achievement of outcomes - defined in Lewisham's play strategy. These should utilise and take best advantage of the space and equipment specific to sites including indoors and outdoors sports and play activities.
- Ensure robust early identification of safeguarding concerns and instigate prevention strategies that ensure young people's needs are picked up as early as possible in accordance with safeguarding procedures.
- To support with early help including referral of young people into the Young Thrive service.
- To support the Senior Play Worker to ensure sites are welcoming, safe and comfortable environments and are compliant with relevant legislative requirements including Health and Safety, Child protection, Data Protection and Equalities Act 2010. Liaising with and planning relevant support services where required.

- To enable service users' involvement in designing and shaping services and ensuring the championing of young people's voice. Supporting the facilitation of local youth forums and parent's forums at each unit and use these to ensure service delivery reflects local needs.
- Support the Senior Play Worker in the supervision and support of peer motivators and volunteers
- Assist fund raising and income generation activities
- Be able to work during anti-social hours (evenings) and week-ends on a regular basis as and when necessary. This may include residential trips on occasions.
- Assist in, monitor and report on the performance of the Adventure Playgrounds ,
- Assist with and effectively promote sites to young people, residents, parents, potential customers, funders and partners. Using a wide variety of online and offline forms of communication, community engagement and outreach.
- Assist in identifying your own and others' developmental needs and take part in or source training to address these.
- Support the security, cleanliness and safety of premises and equipment and maintain regular checks to ensure staff and participants are safe.
- Undertake other responsibilities commensurate with post and responsibilities.
- Assist the Senior Play Worker to maintain adequate First Aid facilities and administer First Aid when necessary.

Corporate Requirements

- To participate actively in supporting the principles and practice of equality of opportunity as laid down in the organisation's Equal Opportunities Policy.
- To take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions and to comply with all health and safety legislation as appropriate.
- To, as a statutory duty, adhere to the Council's Corporate Safeguarding Policy and associated policies and procedures and to report concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of children and adults at risk. In order to support you in this, you are required to access safeguarding training at the level which is relevant to this post.
- As a term of your employment, you may be required to undertake such other duties and/or times of work as may reasonably be required of you, commensurate with your grade or general level of responsibility within the organisation.
- Although you will be provided with a base, you may be required to work from various locations in accordance with the needs of your designated locality.

Internal Contacts: These include

External Contacts: These include

To carry out the duties of the post with due regard to the Council's relevant policies, codes and procedures.

To carry out duties with due regard to the Council's values and behaviours

All employees are required to participate in Appraisal and Performance Management processes and to undertake appropriate training and development, including mandatory induction training, identified to enhance their work.

Undertake other duties, commensurate with the grade, as may reasonably be required.

Consideration will be given to restructuring the duties of this post for a disabled postholder.

THIS JOB DESCRIPTION MAY NEED TO BE AMENDED BY THE DIRECTORATE TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE SERVICE.

Number of fully managed staff:

Title:	Grade:	No. of posts:
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Number of partially managed staff:

Title:	Grade:	No. of posts:
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PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: Play Worker

Grade: Scale 4

Department: Prevention and Family Advice

Note to Candidates

The Person Specification is a picture of the skills, knowledge and experience needed to carry out the job. It has been used to draw up the advert and will also be used in the shortlisting and interview process for this post.

Those categories marked 'S' will be used especially for the purpose of shortlisting.

Please ensure that Equality and Diversity issues are addressed specifically in relation to the role for which you are applying when addressing the requirements of this person specification where appropriate.

If you are a disabled person but are unable to meet some of the job requirements specifically because of your disability, please address this in your application. If you meet all the other criteria, you will be shortlisted, and we will explore jointly with you if there are ways in which the job can be changed to enable you to meet the requirements.

<p>1. Equality and Diversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of and a commitment to Equality of Access and Opportunity in a diverse community • Understanding of how equality and diversity relates to this post. 	<p>S</p> <p>S</p>
<p>2. Education and Qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant professional qualification in play work/youth work or equivalent • First Aid Training at Work Certificate (Desirable) 	
<p>3. Knowledge and Ability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with young people (aged 8-25) in non-formal/informal settings. • Applying safeguarding procedures effectively and maintain appropriate professional boundaries. • A good knowledge and understand of recent developments in the lives of young people and communities. • Experience of supporting young people in adventure and open play. • Ability to record the work you do, analyse and utilise the data to improve your practice. • A creative and innovative approach to working with young people. 	
<p>4. Skills</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent communication skills, with the ability to quickly establish positive relationships with young people and motivate them to participate in activities and events. • Ability to communicate effectively (where required) both verbally and in writing with young people, staff, managers and stakeholders, other agencies and the public. • Carry out the secure handling of personal sensitive data in line with (GDPR) legislation. • Excellent interpersonal skills with an emphasis on working inclusively and supportively with young people. • Have a proven track record of working collaboratively and as part of a team as well as on own initiative. • Energetic and enthusiastic, with a positive approach to work and the ability to engage with young people. • Willingness to undertake training and commitment to personal development. • Understands and has a commitment to a child's rights approach. • Ability to communicate in a relevant additional language (Desirable). 	
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Equality and Diversity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of and a commitment to Equality of Access and Opportunity in a diverse community 	S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of how equality and diversity relates to this post. 	S
Knowledge	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with a wide range of young people, including those who may be experiencing difficulties in their lives, and of addressing equal opportunities issues in a non-formal learning environment 	S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarity with a broad range of arts, crafts, sports and games that will stimulate the young people in their care and encourage belonging both to the youth first provisions and to the wider community 	S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarity with a range of strategies, and methods of working that encourage social inclusion, and promote the empowerment and participation of young people, including those with vulnerabilities. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of relevant safeguarding, early intervention, risk assessment and Health & Safety responsibilities. 	S
Skills	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-sufficiency in basic IT skills including data management (VIEWS) and budgeting. 	T
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be adaptable to change the focus of session in response to needs, events, weather etc. 	
Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in working across adventure and open play session 	
General Education	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional qualification in Play Work at NVQ 2 (minimum) or equivalent experience with the expectation of working towards a recognised qualification within a year. 	S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration with the Education Workforce Council. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised Degree in youth and community work or working towards (Desirable) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Aid Training at Work Certificate (Desirable) 	
Personal Qualities	
Circumstances	
Physical Generally, candidates must meet the standard Lewisham requirements for the post.	

DBS Disclosure Required?
No
Basic
Enhanced