

JOB DESCRIPTION: Play Worker (after-school / breakfast / holiday club provision)

“Community Childcare Centres is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, parents, students and volunteers to share this commitment”

Accountable to: CLUB LEADER

Working in partnership with all staff, the Play Worker will form an integral part of the setting operational team. Our children and their families deserve the very best childcare service, and we foster a ‘Can Do’ attitude in our people who role model positive dispositions within their teams. This enables Growing Places to be at the forefront of good practice emulated throughout the company.

Play Workers will be expected to:

- Work alongside the setting Leadership team in contributing to the delivery of the shared vision and philosophy of the setting/company.
- Be a role model and advocate for the ethos and culture of Growing Places, positively contributing to the delivery of the shared vision and philosophy of the setting/company.
- Be passionate, driven and highly motivated in providing a first-class service
- Provide high quality childcare provision, which is flexible in meeting individual need(s)
- Be an effective communicator and be committed to working at the highest standards
- Be positive, enthusiastic and passionate about children’s play opportunities, inspired by the ‘Playwork Principles’
- Work effectively to ensure that high standards of play are maintained at all times and provide creative play opportunities for all children, with consideration always being given to the use of the natural environment.
- Promote the company’s healthy eating policy and to be aware of food allergies and special dietary requirements and to encourage the children to enjoy the social aspects of eating together
- Ensure all company standards and policies/procedures are adhered to

Key responsibilities:

To have a flexible approach to working in the setting and to ensure all responsibilities are completed to the highest standards.

CHILDCARE, ENVIRONMENT AND CREATIVE PLAY RESPONSIBILITIES

With the Club Leader, to ensure each child in your club has access to a wide range of varied and creative experiences that are developmentally appropriate and fulfil individual needs, consideration always being given to the children’s interests and the use of the natural environment, including:

- to be aware of the child’s holistic needs including, health, food, physical, emotional and intellectual.
- contributing to the effective planning and reviewing of children’s play development, ensuring that high standards of play are maintained at all times
- the care and the welfare of the children, with concern for individual developmental needs, any concerns should be identified early and shared with the setting Leadership team
- to assess the individual needs of children, reviewing progress and identifying gaps in provision at staff reflection meetings.

HEALTH & SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

Promote safe working practices and ensure compliance with all health & safety legislation in accordance with Company policies / procedures, including:

- to be responsible for the care and the welfare of the children with concern for individual needs
- to maintain high standards of cleanliness, housekeeping and hygiene in the club
- to practice safe working methods that reflect the company standards, policies and procedures (including opening and closing procedures for the setting), reporting any problems to the Club Leader

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS / CARERS and OTHERS

With the Club Leader, to build relationships and strong communication links within the club community (including local schools, professional agencies) and where possible promote a shared vision to ensure consistency of care for all families:

- Initiate and sustain an effective 2-way sharing of information with parents and carers, confidentiality being a priority.
- To regularly share information with the Play-Leader as required (including issues/ concerns – i.e. staff, parents, health & safety, children's development issues, relationships with other professionals).

PERSONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- To keep up-to-date with new legislation/initiatives in early years' play work and researching best practice to share with all team members
- To be responsible for enhancing your personal and professional continuous development (including training/ coaching/workshops/setting based training/mentoring)

Positive, professional attitude for all responsibilities and any company developments

Any other duties as maybe deemed suitable to the post, as agreed with the CEO and within the context of the contract of employment. Priorities are likely to vary from time to time.