

PLAYWORKER JOB INFORMATION

Post Title:	Playworker
Responsible to:	Senior Playworker
Grade/Scale:	NJC Scale 4 – 5 (career grade)
Salary:	£12.60 per hour
Annual Leave:	30 days (pro rata based on hours worked)
Probation:	There will be a six month probationary period.

Posts available:

Playworker, 20 hours per week, term time; 35 hours per week, school holidays, based at Homerton Grove Adventure Playground, Wardle Street, London E9 6BX or Clapton Park Play Project, 3 Pedro Street, London E5 0BD, or Pearson Street Adventure Playground, 28 Pearson Street, Hoxton, E2 8EL, as required.

Casual Playworkers, to deliver projects in and around Hackney, as and when required, including our inclusive play project on Wednesday afternoons.

PLAYWORKER – JOB DESCRIPTION

Objectives of the post

- 1) To work on a range of Hackney Play Association playwork projects in order to maximise children's play opportunities, in particular Homerton Grove Adventure Playground, Pearson Street Adventure Playground, Clapton Park Play Rangers Project and other hackney play projects, as required.
- 2) To put into practice the agreed policies and procedures of the organisation in order that legal, regulatory and quality standards are met.
- 3) To adapt to various play settings, playwork teams and organisational contexts whilst retaining a focus on the importance of children's self-directed play.
- 4) To work with colleagues on future development and enhancements to services.

Hackney Play Association works to improve play opportunities for children and young people in Hackney.
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Specific Responsibilities

- 1) To facilitate and support children's self-directed play.
- 2) To introduce ideas and activities and support children's initiatives that help to create a changing, stimulating and rich play environment.
- 3) To contribute to the development of risk benefit assessments and implement health and safety policy and procedures to meet legal responsibilities whilst supporting children's own development of managing risk.
- 4) To implement the safeguarding policy and procedures and ensure that each child's care, welfare and well-being are supported. All staff have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults. The post holder will undertake the appropriate level of training and is responsible for ensuring that they understand and work within the safeguarding policies of the organisation.
- 5) To participate in trips, outings, residential and other events with children and communities that enhance play experiences and contribute to the sustainability of play projects.
- 6) To provide a warm, welcoming and inclusive play environment where individuals are valued and appropriate adaptations are made to maximise all children's engagement with play.
- 7) To implement the behaviour policy and procedures relevant to each setting using appropriate playwork intervention styles.
- 8) To assist with the maintenance, repair, design and development of play structures.
- 9) To provide information about personal availability for work, skills, training needs and potential conflict of interests or commitments in advance in order to support effective forward planning, reliable staffing rotas and assist with service management requirements.
- 10) To work professionally as part of a team, participating in individual and team reflective playwork practice; supervision; appraisal; professional development; recording; reporting; and contributing to quality improvements as required.
- 11) To participate in supervision meetings with the Senior Playworker, including on safeguarding practice.
- 12) To be flexible in participating in and supporting Hackney Play Association projects and events as appropriate.
- 13) To be flexible with hours of work and to be available to work evenings, weekends, indoors and outdoors, in term time and school holidays as required.

Playworker

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

The successful candidate will

- 1) Hold or be working towards or willing to undertake a Level 2 qualification or higher.
- 2) Have undertaken relevant training in play, playwork, safeguarding, health and safety.
- 3) Be able to demonstrate good knowledge and understanding of the role and responsibilities of the playworker.
- 4) Have experience of working with children in a playwork or childcare setting.
- 5) Be able to work as part of a team and using own initiative.
- 6) Be able to communicate effectively with children, colleagues, carers and other professionals.
- 7) Be able to demonstrate ability to prioritise the needs of children and young people.
- 8) Show awareness of and commitment to equality of opportunity.
- 9) Be able to work flexible hours including evenings, weekends and holidays both indoors and outdoors.
- 10) Be enthusiastic and committed to improving play opportunities for children and young people in Hackney.

Desirable

- 1) Hold a current First Aid qualification.
- 2) Have experience of working with children in more than one type of playwork setting.
- 3) Have participated in reflective playwork practice.
- 4) Have undertaken related professional development.

Hackney Play Association welcomes applications from people who wish to job share.