

Role Description

Job Title	Practice Educator (Playwork)
Working Location	Various
Accountable To	Director of Operations
Role Type	Volunteer

Role Summary	The Playwork Practice Educator supports the training, learning and development of Community Playworkers and Senior Practitioners within the charity. This role ensures that staff and volunteers have the knowledge, confidence, and reflective skills to deliver high-quality, inclusive, and child-centred play opportunities.
Key Responsibilities and Accountabilities	<p><u>Lead and Facilitate Learning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver induction and core playwork training for new Community Playworkers and Senior Practitioners. • Facilitate reflective practice sessions, supervision discussions, and peer learning opportunities. • Model effective playwork practice during sessions and provide on-the-job guidance. <p><u>Support Workforce Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify training needs and support the development of learning plans for individual staff. • Mentor staff to apply playwork principles, safeguarding practice, and behaviour support strategies. • Promote professional values of inclusion, equality, and respect for children's rights to play. <p><u>Quality and Practice Improvement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe practice and provide constructive feedback to support continuous improvement. • Support Senior Practitioners to plan, evaluate, and evidence the quality of play opportunities. • Contribute to the development of playwork resources, training materials, and guidance documents. <p><u>Collaboration and Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work closely with Programme Delivery Managers and the Assistant Director to align training with organisational priorities. • Participate in meetings, reviews, and evaluations to share insights on workforce development. • Encourage a culture of reflective learning and professional growth across the playwork team.
Working Pattern and Commitment	Our volunteers work flexibly according to their availability. The successful applicant will complete work when they are

	<p>able to; we expect this role to take 4 hours of work a month. The successful volunteer must be able to travel to Medway and Swale to support our colleagues when working on programme.</p> <p>This post is subject to The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975; the successful candidate will undergo Enhanced Background Checks before appointment. All spent and unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings that would not be filtered in accordance with current guidance must be declared on the application form.</p>
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Person Specification

Professional Experience		
Essential/Desired	Criteria	Assessment Method
Essential	Level 3+ qualification in Playwork, Early Years, Youth Work, or similar.	Application
Essential	Experience working directly with children in play, early years, youth work, or community settings.	Application, Interview
Essential	Experience supporting or mentoring colleagues or volunteers.	Application, Interview
Essential	Experience observing and providing constructive feedback on practice.	Application, Interview
Desired	Experience delivering training, workshops, or educational sessions.	Application, Interview
Desired	Experience in planning and evaluating learning programmes.	Application, Interview
Desired	Additional training in mentoring, coaching, or adult learning.	Application
Skills and Abilities		
Essential/Desired	Criteria	Assessment Method
Essential	Strong communication, facilitation, and interpersonal skills.	Application, Interview
Essential	Ability to inspire, guide, and motivate staff and volunteers.	Application, Interview
Essential	Ability to provide clear, supportive feedback and promote reflective practice.	Application, Interview
Essential	Organised, self-motivated, and able to manage a flexible workload.	Application, Interview
Desired	Confident in creating training resources and materials.	Application, Interview
Desired	Ability to assess learning needs and adapt approaches to different audiences.	Application, Interview
Personal Attributes		

Essential/Desired	Criteria	Assessment Method
Essential	Passion for play and children's development.	Application, Interview
Essential	Patient, empathetic, and supportive when working with staff or volunteers.	Application, Interview
Essential	Committed to inclusion, equality, diversity, and children's rights.	Application, Interview
Essential	Reflective and open to learning from others.	Application, Interview
Knowledge		
Essential/Desired	Criteria	Assessment Method
Essential	Sound knowledge of playwork theory and principles, including the importance of child-led play.	Application, Interview
Essential	Understanding of safeguarding, health & safety, and inclusion in play settings.	Application, Interview
Essential	Awareness of reflective practice and professional development in playwork.	Application, Interview
Desired	Knowledge of the HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) programme or community play initiatives.	Application, Interview
Desired	Understanding of workforce development, mentoring, and coaching techniques.	Application, Interview