



JOB DESCRIPTION

This job description is not incorporated into the employment contract. It is intended as a guide and should not be viewed as an inflexible specification. It may occasionally vary in the light of strategic developments, following discussion with the post holder.

- JOB TITLE:** **Playworker** (Casual)
- RESPONSIBLE TO:** Duty Manager
- HOURS OF WORK:** Flexible – request shifts that suit you (Shifts available Monday to Sunday in school holidays, regularly on Saturdays and Sundays in term time. Limited term time shifts)
- HOURLY RATE** £9.18 per hour (under 23) £9.50 per hour (23 and over)
- PURPOSE OF THOMLEY:** Thomley is a recreational and informal educational facility for disabled children, young people and adults, their families, friends, schools and groups. Its main purpose is to achieve the following outcomes to:
- Build self-esteem, happiness and quality of life of disabled children, siblings and friends by offering fun, healthy and purposeful activities enabling them to play, learn and socialise together
 - Empower disabled teenagers and adults to achieve personal aspirations by building their confidence to develop skills towards independent living, to participate in appropriate social and recreational activities and to develop vocational prospects.
 - Offer a place where the whole family can spend quality time together, enabling parents and carers of disabled children to meet, widen support networks, access information and lower stress levels.
 - Make the lives of disabled people easier by raising awareness of disability within the community, promoting understanding of the issues they face along with practical measures for inclusion.
 - Thomley is committed to Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults
- JOB PURPOSE:** To offer support to individual families. To support play and leisure for visitors of all abilities in a challenging but safe and secure environment enabling them to:
- Access numerous indoor and outdoor play activities as well as therapeutic resources
 - Meet new friends and have fun
 - Feel understood and accepted

- Develop physically and socially
- Gain independence and build self-confidence
- Enjoy a stimulating and creative environment
- Have the freedom to explore and take risks
- Be a positive role model for young people and families

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

In order to offer a variety of safe and accessible indoor and outdoor play activities for disabled children, their siblings and friends, you will:

Support visitors

- 1) Welcome all visitors and show newcomers around
- 2) Offer support to parent and carers with regard to activities and resources and provide a listening ear when necessary
- 3) Provide accurate information and support where relevant
- 4) Assist in creating a positive and supportive atmosphere

Prepare and supervise play activities

- 1) Be responsible for preparing and providing playwork activities such as art and craft projects as defined by the Duty Manager
- 2) Assist the Duty Manager in organising and supervising activity days for children, adults, toddlers and birthday parties. This will involve:
 - motivating, supporting and enabling children of all abilities to participate in play activities and offering advice and guidance on the use of all equipment
 - facilitating outdoor games and activities
 - assisting facilitation of internal and external workshops with guidance from the Senior Playworker
 - encouraging freeplay
- 3) Prepare topical or seasonal displays around the site, using children's work where relevant
- 4) Be jointly involved in daily evaluations at the end of sessions
- 5) Tidy play areas at the end of each day or when necessary

Ensure health and safety of all visitors

- 1) Be jointly responsible for the safety of all visitors
- 2) Supervise and ensure safe use of indoor and outdoor play areas as requested by the Duty Manager
- 3) Alert the Duty Manager of any risks which threaten the safety or well-being of any individual on site
- 4) Remove broken toys or equipment
- 5) Assist in maintaining records such as daily site checks, accident & incident reports etc
- 6) Be aware of legal obligations towards safeguarding children
- 7) Be aware of all Policies and Procedures
- 8) Attend compulsory training days

Support day to day running of the centre

- 1) Be involved in the day to day maintenance of the site
- 2) Together with the management team, plan for further development of the recreational facilities on site in close consultation with children and their families
- 3) Attend relevant training to develop competencies in Playwork
- 4) Attend staff meetings

KEY COMPETENCIES

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience working with children in a play or educational setting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NVQ level 2 (CACHE level 2) in Playwork or equivalent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of key issues surrounding disability, including equality, access, inclusion, behaviour etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in a charity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good interpersonal skills, including the ability to work in a team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBS check 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First aid training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An aptitude to develop skills and acquire relevant knowledge through training opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with teenage transition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of and a commitment to Equal Opportunities in the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility to work during Term time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of supporting disability and
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competent computer skills
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have Additional skills appropriate for Thomley