

Job Description

Post Title: Early Years Play Practitioner (MM301)

Evaluation: 493 **Points** **Grade: N6**

Responsible to: Sure Start Children's Centre Manager

Responsible for: N/A

Job Purpose: To support the development of quality play opportunities within the designated Children's Centre area, working in partnership with local partners, parents and the maintained, private and voluntary sector in order to encourage and support parents engagement and development.

To support the Children's Centre Manager in ensuring that the Sure Start centre reflects the philosophy and objectives of Sure Start Childrens centres.

Main Duties: The following is typical of the duties the postholder will be expected to perform. It is not necessarily exhaustive and other duties of a similar nature and level may be required from time to time.

1. To promote the role of play in the social, emotional, intellectual and physical development of young children (birth – 5 years) across and within the Children's Centre areas, through working with parents, carers and children.
2. To model high quality interactions and varied play and learning opportunities for young children, both in groups and individually to develop their social, emotional, intellectual and physical skills, paying particular attention to their language development.
3. To provide innovative and creative play opportunities within a variety of venues within the Sure Start area and at centre events and activities.
4. To play alongside identified parents, using your knowledge to develop the skills to enhance all around development of their children through building a professional, trusting relationship.
5. To develop, deliver and evaluate training sessions to parents/ carers in order to heighten awareness around the value of play and the strategies to maximise children's learning.
6. To work alongside crèche, childcare staff and childminders as appropriate to promote play and learning opportunities in groups or in 1-1 sessions carrying out home visits when necessary.
7. To promote and develop services available to children who require additional opportunities and support.

8. To ensure that all programme delivered are structured to offer learning opportunities to children, appropriate to their age with reference to the Early Years Foundation Stage.
9. To act as the lead professional, providing regular reports and attend necessary CAF meeting as agreed by the centre manager.
10. Provide regular information to the centre manager of the need for equipment to support play and learning programmes for children.
11. To offer practical help, reassurance and encouragement to parents in developing confidence and skills.
12. To participate in the collection of statistical data for monitoring purposes as appropriate, maintaining records as required assuring they are updated regularly and kept securely in line with data protection requirements.
13. To collect money from parents and carers when attending sessions within the centre, ensuring accurate recording and secure storage of the money.
14. To raise awareness and understanding of children and families living in a diverse community, positively challenging any discrimination in a way which promotes understanding and change.
15. To contribute to policy development, providing advice and guidance on policies and procedures as required.
16. To have an understanding of child protection issues and to act appropriately should an area of concern arise, in line with Newcastle City Council's ACPC policies and procedures.
17. To promote and implement the Council's Equality Policy in all aspects of employment and service delivery.
18. To assist in maintaining a healthy, safe and secure environment and to act in accordance with the Council's policies and procedures.