



Job Description Play/Youth/Support Worker

Job Title:	Casual Play/Youth /Support Worker
Responsible to:	Play & Youth Services Manager/Adult Project Manager/Session Leader
Responsible for:	People on placement, volunteers
Grade:	£11.09 per hour plus holiday pay (Total: (12.42 per hour)
Hours:	Variable

Job purpose:

As a play/ youth/ support worker you will be involved in the planning and delivery of inclusive sessions and activities for disabled children, young people and adults which make use of our extensive indoor facilities and our adventure playground. This includes listening to service users' ideas to design services around their needs, choices and aspirations. You will support and involve the service users in activities which are playful, stimulating and fun while promoting their development, well being and encouraging them to take an active role in their community.

Responsibilities

- To support service users with wide range of disabilities and needs, including those with challenging behaviour, within the Markfield ethos - to enable them to participate in their weekly session. This includes supporting them to interact and build relationships with other service users, helping them to be involved in the group and meeting their personal care needs.
- To assist with planning and delivering sessions, trips, and a variety of play, social and leisure activities for individuals & groups.
- To work positively with colleagues, and to follow the lead of the service manager, to ensure a high quality group experiences for all service users.
- To set up and help run the session together with the session leader and other support workers.
- To welcome the service users to Markfield at the beginning of the session, and support service users with the transition to go home at the end of the session.
- To support and chat to service users during session and snack time.
- To clear up and clean after sessions, leaving the space safe and tidy.
- To participate in the evaluation of sessions and services.

- To work within Markfield policies and procedures including Equal Opportunities, Safeguarding and Health and Safety Policies at all times.
- To maintain confidentiality about service users in line with Markfield's safeguarding policy.
- To contribute to effective teamwork amongst staff and volunteers, including attending team meetings, training sessions, and practice supervision.
- To prepare for and participate in regular supervision and appraisals to review your work, development and training needs.
- To attend training that is identified as necessary for you to carry out your role effectively.
- To liaise appropriately with parents, carers and other professionals.
- To carry out any other appropriate tasks as reasonably required by the session leader or your line manager.
- Some casual workers, depending on their experience and availability, will be asked to escort on bus runs, following an escorting induction.
- Some casual workers, depending on their experience, availability and a full driving licence, will be asked to drive the Markfield minibus, following successful completion of the MIDAS training course.



Markfield Person Specification Play/ Youth/ Support Worker

You must have the following experience, knowledge and skills:

Experience:

- At least one year's experience working with children, young people, or adults in a play, youth or adult support setting.

Qualifications:

- Level 2 (or higher) qualification in either play/youth work, adult support work, or equivalent (desirable).

Knowledge and understanding:

- An understanding of child-centred play and its vital importance in children and young people's development, health and happiness.
- An understanding of the rights of adults with learning disabilities and a commitment and an understanding of equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice.
- An understanding of the practical implementation of inclusion and issues facing disabled children, young people and adults.
- An understanding of the support needs of Disabled people and their families.

Skills and Abilities:

- An ability to plan and deliver high quality, accessible activities and play opportunities for individuals and groups with a wide range of needs.
- Specific skills or interests in at least one of the following areas: music, drama, circus skills, art, crafts, dance/movement, sports, games, or cookery. An ability to use these skills in delivering activities for children and adults.
- An ability to balance risk with developmental benefit and well-being for children, young people and adults, to provide risk and challenge at an acceptable level.
- An ability to contribute effectively to a team.
- An ability to work within organisational policies and procedures.
- A sensitive, clear and friendly communication style.
- An ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of people including services users, colleagues, parents and carers.
- An ability to build positive working relationships with service users, colleagues, parents and carers.
- An ability to work on your own initiative, and to be flexible.

- Good listening skills.
- A warm and patient personality.
- An open-minded and non-judgemental approach to service users and colleagues.
- An ability to work positively with service users who display behaviour that challenges.
- Enthusiasm and willingness to learn new skills.
- Reliable and punctual for work.
- Enjoys working with children, young people and adults.

It will be helpful for us to know if you meet any of the following criteria, but they are not essential to your application.

- A clean driving licence and ability to drive a 16-seater minibus.
- An ability to speak a local community language other than English.
- Skills in non-verbal communication systems such as BSL, PECS, etc.