**COMMUNITY PLAY SUPPORT WORKER JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Job Title: Community Play Support Worker**

**Responsible for: No staff; volunteers**

**Responsible to: Play Service Manager/ Director and Trustees**

**Hours of work: 24 hours per week on a Monday & Tuesday and Thursday**

**Annual Leave: 25 days / year + 8 stat days pro-rata**

**Salary: £22,059 – £24,569 pro-rata**

**Main purpose of Job:** To work in conjunction with the Play Service Manager &Director

to plan an agreed work programme for children in Nurture groups or individual play support with children & families

To facilitate, nurture and support children’s play with individual

children or siblings and work to an agreed set of outcomes agreed with the child and family

To work with other staff at play events during school holidays and provide cover for Community Play sessions for holiday and sickness as well as additional capacity as needed

**Main responsibilities:**

1. To facilitate and lead weekly term time Nurture Group sessions, keyworking 2/3 children per Group
2. Working as part of a team facilitating Family Play Hubs either in the local community after school or with families in the home where individual support is more appropriate
3. Supporting individual children in play support sessions in school, at home or the community
4. Being part of the team at community playdays and other programmes during the main school holidays
5. In conjunction with the Play Service Manager, after receipt of a referral for support, to plan a work programme for individual children and their family to work towards agreeing and improving outcomes for the child and/or family
6. To understand play cues and work within the play frame using appropriate intervention
7. To facilitate a range of play opportunities with the individual child at the centre of the process, using good understanding of child development and play types to ensure that achievable targets are set in relation to outcomes for the child
8. To partnership work with the child’s family to support and enable positive change
9. To manage unacceptable behaviour and implement behaviour strategies to support the child’s achievement of successful change and support other adults to do this
10. To complete records including use of a Database and Outcome Framework tool used in evidencing the benefits of the service for the child and as a mechanism for developing reflective practice
11. To attend and contribute to monthly Planning and review sessions, Team Meetings, Monitoring for funders and Management reporting
12. To enable children and families to contribute to the impact measurement of the service using Outcome framework, focus groups and collection of feedback
13. To attend multi-agency meetings as required and act as a Lead professional where appropriate
14. To work as part of a team with other Community Play Support Workers, providing cover for staff sickness and holidays and to provide additional staff where required

10. Risk assess every aspect of the job in line with Health & Safety requirements and balancing the need to provide challenging and risky play opportunities for children.

11. To safeguard children at all times, through appropriate provision, keeping children safe from harm and contributing to multi-agency meetings in relation to child protection as needed

12. Follow work protocols for lone working and ensure that end alerts are used after sessions

13. Regularly record and evaluate young people’s responses to the project in order that the project can continually meet their needs. and encourage appropriate levels of participation

14, Ensure all policies and procedures including Safeguarding Children policies and procedures are followed at all times

1. To follow all required cleaning and hygiene regulations including disinfecting shared resources, cleaning touchpoints and surfaces as well as toilets and sinks after use to ensure that we can remain Covid secure at work and in the work environments where you are based.
2. To complete any other task relevant to the work of Bath Area Play Project

**General Responsibilities**

1. Support and encourage participation, actively involving children and parents to understand and be involved in the whole process of support

2. Raise awareness and promote the importance of play to young people, families and the communities in which they live.

3. Assist with the planning and delivery of holiday Play Days and other group planning taking into account individual children’s needs.

4. Attend training sessions as required.

5. Attend meetings as required including Trustees meetings and team meetings

6. Compile regular work reports for Trustees as well as completing reports for Monitoring purposes for funders

7. Work in a non-discriminatory way at all times and ensure that consideration is given to the wider inclusion of all children in play opportunities, school and community events and play days

8. Using family work principles consider the needs of more vulnerable children and provide support through home visits and targeted intervention as appropriate

9. To evaluate the project involving children and the local community

10. Safeguard children at all times, undertaking a duty of care for children under your responsibility and liaise with the named Safeguarding Officer for BAPP with any concerns

**Person Specification**

* Ideally hold a Level 3 qualification in Playwork or equivalent working with children
* Hold a current clean full driving licence as the role requires driving the BAPP van to and from groups and activities
* Have completed or be willing to complete relevant level Safeguarding training, CAF/TAC/TAF training
* Hold or be willing to train in Paediatric First Aid
* At least 2 years practical playwork experience in a community setting
* Experience of working in partnership with parents to support children
* Experience of working with school-age children in a non-school environment
* Understanding of play cues, the play frame and appropriate intervention
* Good working knowledge of behaviour management strategies and experience of implementation
* Good working knowledge of anti-discriminatory practice
* Understanding of some of the issues faced by disabled and socially isolated children and young people
* Ability to safeguard children and understand responsibility of care
* Good IT skills as most recording is done electronically
* Good initiative and ability to manage your own workload
* Good communicator and listener
* Flexible
* Confidence in working alone in line with our Lone Working Policy

**Hours and days of week**

24 hours - 3 x 8 hour days on Mondays and Tuesdays and Thursdays based in BAPP office, school and community space but with flexibility outside of stated and agreed contact times with children & families.

On each working day, there will be one Nurture Group in a different school each term and either some individual support work with a child and family or a Family Play Hub, after school.

Nurture Groups are planned termly in advance; running 4 times a week Monday to Thursday, 1.5-2 hours either morning or afternoon so there needs to be some flexibility. The Family Play Hubs are after school Monday, Wednesday & Thursdays but can include some daytime hours, hours after school and possibly occasional evenings. There is also the preparation, debrief and recording for key children and families you are supporting.

The service has to be responsive to the needs of the children referred which may include support in the home and attendance at or contribution to multi-agency meetings.