

Job Description



Job Title	Deputy Playworker
Reporting to	Playground Coordinator
Hours	20 hours/week Term-time (Tuesday to Saturday) 35 hours/week Holiday-term (Monday to Friday)
Salary	£16,240.25
Location	IPA's Adventure playgrounds in Islington
Holidays	25 days per year pro rata

Job Summary

Islington Play Association (IPA) manages five adventure playgrounds across the borough and requires excellent playworkers to deliver the service. As a member of our team, you will be offered a range of job opportunities in play spaces, youth clubs and adventure playgrounds in the borough of Islington. You will be expected to deputise for the Playground Coordinator on site as necessary. Annual leave for this role must be taken in term time.

Primary Functions

The Deputy Playworker is part of a team of permanent and casual staff employed to:

- provide opportunities for and enable quality play experiences in line with the playwork principles.
- encourage and enable children and young people of differing abilities to play.
- intervene appropriately and sensitively to the needs and abilities of children and young people.
- operate and maintain the playground and play equipment in a safe and satisfactory condition in accordance with IPA's aims and policies.
- carry out regular health and safety checks and undertake administrative duties required.
- be a reflective playworker and see new experiences as opportunities to develop new skills for working with children and young people.
- to work with the Playground Coordinator to ensure all relevant tasks are carried out to ensure the safety and smooth running of the playground.
- take on the duties of the Playground Coordinator in their absence including Designated Safeguarding Officer duties, monitoring, and Health and Safety responsibilities.

Duties and Responsibilities

Specific duties are as follows:

1. To encourage an inviting and stimulating inclusive play environment which meets the needs of all the children and young people who use it, and to enable those children and young people to obtain the full benefit of the facilities available, both within the playground and within the wider community.
2. To work towards establishing positive relationships with children and young people,

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recognising your role in supporting children and young people, and maintaining professional boundaries.

3. To plan and implement a programme of activities with the children and young people and the team which includes diverse opportunities for playful experiences. This will include daytime, after school, evenings, weekends and holiday plans.
4. To supervise daily signing in and monitoring of children and families including data entry as necessary.
5. To liaise with parents and carers.
6. To build relationships with schools and other organisations that work with and for children.
7. To complete risk-benefit assessments as necessary.
8. To keep the site and building in a safe, clean and tidy condition.
9. To work with volunteers, trainees, visitors to the playground and staff, as required.
10. To attend meetings and training sessions as appropriate.
11. To contribute to development initiatives at the playground and within IPA as a whole.
12. To be alert to and act on concerns regarding any children's safety, health and well-being, acting in accordance with safeguarding procedures and child protection legislation.
13. To complete monitoring such as IYSS and observations of children's play
14. To conduct yourself in a manner compatible with an organisation that works with children, promoting equalities and equal opportunities in all aspects.
15. To undertake other reasonable tasks as directed by your manager(s).
16. To take part in training and personal development opportunities

Person Specification

There are five core competencies required for any role within IPA. You will be:

- Resourceful
- A good listener
- Committed to our values
- Reflective
- An advocate for play

The following qualities and experience are **essential**:

1. Numeracy, literacy and communication skills, including the ability to use IT systems.
2. Understanding of children and young people's differing needs and abilities.
3. Ability to work with children face to face in a playful environment.
4. Ability to work in a small team, adaptable and self-disciplined in an informal working environment.
5. Be welcoming and approachable to children, young people, parents and other visitors, and to work in partnership with the local community.
6. Commitment to IPA's policies, especially Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety and Safeguarding. Safeguarding in particular is a very high priority in our organisation.
7. Willingness to work weekends and during school holidays.
8. An acceptable Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

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The following would be **desirable**:

1. A qualification in playwork, childcare or relevant childhood study
2. A first aid qualification
3. Some knowledge of BSL, Makaton or PECs
4. A basic understanding of Ofsted requirements and child development