

**JOB TYPE:** Part-time

**HOURS:** 15 Hours/Week | Term Time and School Holidays

**LOCATIONS:** 7 schools across the boroughs of Lambeth, Wandsworth, and Southwark

## ABOUT THE PLAY PROFESSIONALS

The Play Professionals is a dynamic local charity providing a full programme of educational and recreational activities for children aged 3-11 years, which the children and staff design together.

Our staff work in partnership with primary schools, families, and the wider local community to ensure that children are offered the best possible experience during their time with us and that all those involved in delivering the service work in a professionally supportive environment where professional development is actively encouraged. The Play Professionals staff make it all work!

The Play Professionals expects the best from their staff and volunteers and provides some of the best working conditions to be found in the sector including standard monthly pay, subsidised places for own children, subsidised social events, stakeholder pension, time off in lieu arrangements, paid sick and compassionate leave and holiday time rotas that ensure a good work-life balance.

Training is provided from the outset to support all staff.

To find out more about The Play Professionals locations and the current activities programmes please see our website [playp.org.uk](http://playp.org.uk)

## JOB DESCRIPTION

**The Volunteer Playworkers are often students with limited time availability. They will be responsible for running daily educational or recreational activities and ensuring that children are safe and happy during their visit. They will be part of the local team and will support the Centre Manager and their colleagues in ensuring the good management of the scheme.**

The Volunteer Playworker will be under the supervision of the club's manager and will be proactive in helping to maintain the centre according to the prevailing legislation and meet Ofsted standards. They will assist in planning activities and programmes, promoting the scheme within the community, implementing policies, and supervising junior staff and volunteers. The Play Professionals is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects staff to share this commitment.

In addition to playworker duties, volunteers may be required to support the Marketing Team with the view of gathering data for our social media and marketing purposes. These tasks can be carried out online independently.

## Main Responsibilities

As a Volunteer Playworker you will:

- Be organised and efficient.
- Assist with the daily routine, as part of the team.
- Run the activities programmes, ensuring that children are safe and happy during their visit and that the service is fully advertised to children, families and within the school itself.
- Ensure that the charity's Child Protection and Safeguarding policies and procedures are promoted within the centre and adhered to by all members of staff.
- Assist the Manager and Deputy to:
  - See that the after-school service is run in accordance with current legislation, meets Ofsted inspection standards of 'good' or 'outstanding' and provides a high-quality service to children and families.
  - Identify resource needs, plan programmes, advertise the project within the community and implement policies.
  - Complete routine tasks
- Ensure your own professional development is ongoing and pertinent.
- Carry out any other duties that could reasonably be considered to be within the remit of the Playworker.

## Benefits

Reimbursements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel expenses</li> </ul>
Other Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent training opportunities</li> <li>• Professional, supportive work environment</li> <li>• Opportunity to work overtime at holiday playschemes or through special projects</li> </ul>
Hours of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depending on availability</li> </ul>
Place of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be required to attend any The Play Professionals site.</li> </ul>

## Person Specification

The Volunteer Playworker will be a confident, playful individual with high integrity.

The Volunteer Playworker will successfully balance the needs of the children in their care; the professional needs their colleagues and themselves within the framework and financial constraints of the organisation and the national legal frameworks that are applied to this field.

The Volunteer Playworker will be punctual, reliable, and committed to working with children. They will be committed to their own professional development, to the aims of the charity, and to enjoy being part of a professional team.

## Essential Skills

### Senior and Grade 1

- Diploma/NVQ/CACHE Level 2 in Playwork; Childcare and Education; Health and Social Care; NNEB; BTEC or any other relevant qualification
- Minimum of 6 months experience, paid or voluntary, in a relevant setting

### Grade 2

- Working towards Diploma/NVQ/CACHE Level 2 in Playwork; Childcare and Education; Health and Social Care; NNEB; BTEC or any other relevant qualification

### All Grades

- Current Paediatric First Aid Certificate or be able to train in own time within 3 months
- Current Food Hygiene Certificate or be able to train in own time within 3 months
- Current Health and Safety Certificate or be able to train in own time within 3 months
- Current Safeguarding Children (Child Protection certificate) or be able to train in own time within 3 months
- Proven high professional standards
- Proven ability to organise and facilitate a programme of activities
- Good written and verbal communications skills in English
- Good numeracy and problem-solving skills

## Desirable Skills

- An understanding of issues facing inner-city children
- Evidence of working within a child protection culture
- Evidence of promoting child welfare and safety
- Understanding and commitment to child welfare and safety
- Knowledge of child protection procedures

The Play Professionals is an equal opportunities employer.

## BEFORE APPLYING FOR THE POSITION

Please read the following before making an application.

### Criminal Convictions and 'Spent' Convictions

Because we work with children, The Play Professionals is exempt from the conditions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and subsequent amendments. This means that you must disclose any criminal convictions, and police cautions, even those which are considered 'spent' under the Act.

**This position is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure (DBS).**

**The Play Professionals will not consider applications from people with convictions for any violent or sexual crimes.**

**If you think that a conviction may affect your chances when applying for work at The Play Professionals, please contact us for a copy of our recruitment policy, which gives details of how we treat different convictions and cautions about recruitment.**

**To apply for the position:**

Please complete an application form and return it to The Play Professionals:

Email: [hr@playp.org.uk](mailto:hr@playp.org.uk)

Or

Post: The Play Professionals Human Resources, Richard Atkins School, New Park Road, Brixton Hill, London SW2 4JP

It is not the policy of The Play Professionals to contact those applicants who have not been invited for an interview, so if you have not heard from us after the short-listing date, you should assume that, on this occasion, your application has not been successful. If you want confirmation that we have received your application, please send a stamped address envelope with your application, or ask for confirmation in your email.