

JOB TYPE: Part-time

HOURS: 15 Hours/Week | Term Time Only

PAY: Up to £14.64 per hour

LOCATION: Address: **Woodmansterne School and Sixth Form**, Stockport Road, Streatham - London SW16 5XE

Starting from September 2026

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

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Playworker is responsible for running daily educational or recreational activities and ensuring that children are safe and happy during their visit. They will work as part of the local team and will support the Centre Manager and their colleagues in ensuring the good management of the scheme.

The Playworker 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 the absence of the Centre Manager, the Playworker will support the Deputy in their temporary management role. As permanent members of the team, they will attend weekly staff meetings.

Main Responsibilities

As a Playworker you will:

- Be organised and efficient.
- Assist with the daily routine, as part of the team.

WORK WITH US

To apply: Please complete our [application form](#) and return it to hr@playp.org.uk

- 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

Pay	• Up to £14.64 per hour • Salaries are paid on the last Friday of every month in arrears
Other Benefits	• Free childcare benefit: Enjoy complimentary places for your own children (aged 3–11) at The Play services and holiday programmes after the 6-month probation period. • Work pension scheme • Paid holiday 28 days per year, pro rata including bank holidays and 5 Inset days* • Paid sickness or compassionate leave 10 days per year, pro rata* after successful completion of probation • Excellent training opportunities • Good promotion prospects • Professional, supportive work environment • Opportunity to work overtime at holiday playschemes or through special projects *Entitlement is shown at all year-round levels and is pro rata to individual contracts
Hours of work	• From 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm Monday to Friday • Term Time Only • Contract hours are annualised, and the year runs from January to December
Place of work	• Attendance at other The Play Professionals sites may be required. We operate at eight different schools within the boroughs of Lambeth, Wandsworth, and Southwark.

Person Specification

The Playworker will be a confident, playful individual with high integrity. They strive for high personal and professional standards and can work well using their own initiative as well as being part of the established team.

The 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.

WORK WITH US

To apply: Please complete our [application form](#) and return it to hr@playp.org.uk

They will face daily challenges and must be capable of responding promptly and appropriately including keeping good records.

The 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 opportunity employer.

BEFORE APPLYING FOR THE POSITION

Please read the following before making an application.

Safer Recruitment & Safeguarding Statement (Required for Compliance)

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All staff are expected to share this commitment.

The successful candidate will be required to undergo:

- Enhanced DBS check
- Verification of identity and right to work

WORK WITH US

To apply: Please complete our [application form](#) and return it to hr@playp.org.uk

- Full employment history check and explanation of any gaps
- Minimum of two verified references (including most recent employer)
- Completion of mandatory safeguarding training before starting

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Only candidates who meet the essential criteria will be shortlisted.

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.

Please make sure that you understand the hours of work and rate of pay before applying.

The Playworker works 15 hours a week during term time only. If you are in receipt of benefits, or child tax credits and/or have been recently unemployed, check with your local centre/agency for advice on how this employment will affect you.

To apply for the position:

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

Email: 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.