

Job Description

Position Details

Position:	Level 3 Playworker
Directorate:	Education
Service:	Children, Young People and Families
Position no:	BG18553
Grade:	3
Hours of work:	Up to 35 hours per week during school holidays (10 weeks)
Work style:	Service Based (various locations across Blaenau Gwent)
DBS required:	Enhanced Disclosure with Child Barred List
Contact:	Sharon.gapper@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Date:	July 2026

Politically Restricted? Yes* No

* The position is politically restricted within the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 as prescribed in the Local Government Officers (Political Restrictions) Regulations 1990

About the Position

Reporting to: Play Sufficiency Officer / Play Co-ordinator

Responsible for: Supporting the delivery of high-quality play opportunities during school holidays for children and young people across Blaenau Gwent. The post holder works as part of a team to provide a welcoming, stimulating environment that promotes children's holistic development through play.

Principal Accountabilities

1. Responsible for planning and delivering regularly weekly sessions that offer a range of play opportunities for vulnerable children and young people aimed to promote the natural environment.
2. To help children and young people identify their goals and build the skills and experience to allow them to reach their full potential, helping them to build friendships and form lasting social networks.
3. To ensure safety and correct supervision of children
4. To assist in developing and maintaining an environment that is stimulating, challenging and supports a range of play types and reflecting the Playwork curriculum underpinned by the Playwork Principles.
5. To ensure that the play opportunities provided are accessible for ALL children.
6. To make assessments that balance risk and play with reference to age-appropriate behaviour and materials.
7. To help develop an atmosphere, environment and culture that encourages personal, social growth and development.
8. To contribute to the maintaining of relevant records about each session, for example: children attending the session, risk/benefit assessments, recording accidents and incidents.

9. To comply with the relevant sections of the Authority's policy statement on Health, Safety and Welfare at Work.
10. To adhere to the principles of the Corporate Equality Policy and ensure commitment to anti-discriminatory and anti-oppressive practices.
11. To engage in reflective practice and team meetings where appropriate
12. Undertake continuous personal development in order to exceed National Minimum Standards.
13. To agree to a commitment to adhere to the local Authorities policies, for example: equal opportunities, GDPR, Risk management, Play policies
14. Support the Local Authorities Play Sufficiency Duty and the work of the Early Years, Childcare and Play Team.
15. To care for and safeguard Council equipment.
16. Undertake any other duties, commensurate with the grade of the post, as directed by the line manager.

Person Specification

Requirements	Essential (E) / Desirable (D)	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Qualifications		
Level 3 Playwork Qualification	E	A
Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate	D	A
Paediatric First Aid	D	A
Previous experience of working in a playwork setting	E	A, I
Forest School Qualification	D	A
Experience		
Experience of delivering play sessions in the outdoor, natural environment	E	A, I
Experience of delivering play opportunities and applying the Playwork Curriculum	E	A, I
Awareness of social problems affecting children, young people and their families in Blaenau gwent	E	A, I
A good understanding of the importance of play for children, young people and the wider community	E	A, I
Knowledge / Skills		
Knowledge of the Playwork Principles	E	A, I
To interact and communicate effectively with children, parents and other visitors	E	A
Able to adapt quickly and flexibly to situations to ensure the smooth running of sessions should unexpected events occur	E	A
Interpersonal skills and the ability to relate positively to children and young people	E	A
Practical experience of planning appropriate, stimulating play activities and opportunities for children	E	A, I
Knowledge of the UNCRC and experience of ensuring the rights of all children are respected	E	A
Knowledge of Welsh Government guidance and legislation for children's play	E	A
Personal Attributes		
Must be able to work within a team environment.	E	A, I

Highly motivated, enthusiastic and energetic with the ability to foster and maintain excellent relationships at all levels.	E	A, I
Warm, caring, and child-centred approach.	E	A, I
Reflective and open to learning.	E	A, I
Reliable, flexible and committed to high-quality provision.	E	A, I
Sensitive to the needs of vulnerable families.	E	A, I
Commitment and enthusiasm to work often in an outdoor environment.	E	A, I
Special Working Conditions / Requirements		
Ability to drive and use of a car for work purposes	D	A
Must be able to work flexible hours and during school holidays	E	A

Minimum Welsh Language Skill Requirements	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Welsh Language Skills Level 0. Level 1-5 is desirable. Training is optional.	
Welsh Language Skills Level 1 Entry / Courtesy (as a minimum) are desirable and need to be learnt when appointed. Training required: "Welcome Part 1 & 2" (10 hours in total)	
Welsh Language Skills Level 1 Entry / Courtesy (as a minimum) are essential. Training required: "Welcome Part 1 & 2" and "Welcome Back Part 1 & 2" (20 hours in total).	

For further information on the above please refer to the [Welsh Language Skills Guidelines](#)

Welsh language skills requirements beyond the minimum stated above e.g. fluent speaker / proficient writer will be outlined within the person specification under qualifications and skills.

Personal Competencies

All competencies are regarded as essential, although it is recognised that some may be achieved over a period of time. All employees are expected to continually develop their competencies in line with the appropriate framework. In addition to those assessed as part of the recruitment process, competencies will be assessed during the probationary period and through the Council's performance coaching scheme.

Competencies – Delivering the Service	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Plans ahead, organises work in advance	
Involves line manager / colleagues in setting and meeting targets	
Reorganises work when necessary	
Sees tasks through to completion whenever possible	
Seeks help if workload becomes unmanageable	
Uses initiative to report issues that arise that impact on others	

Competencies – Improvement and Change	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Is prepared to try new things & feedback results	
Understands that changes are needed if things are to be improved	
Finds new and creative ways of doing things better	
Actively seeks to develop own skills and knowledge	
Learns from mistakes & welcomes constructive feedback	

Competencies – Providing Excellent Customer Service	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Recognises the importance of high standards of customer service	
Is committed to providing an excellent service to all the citizens of Blaenau Gwent	
Understands the links between own professionalism and the possible impact on the Authority's image	
Has a professional attitude that sets an example to colleagues	
Takes pride in own work and that of colleagues	
Is respectful, courteous and helpful at all times	

Competencies – Team working	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Reacts constructively to others' suggestions and requests	
Recognises potential value of others' opinions and actively seeks their contributions	
Asks for help when necessary	
Actively seeks to help others	
Is aware of the impact of own behaviour on others	

Competencies – Communicating	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Adapts content and style to help others understand	
Makes sure that people are regularly informed	
Uses appropriate language, gestures and tone when talking with others	
Checks others have understood & seeks advice when necessary	
Actively seeks to improve all forms of communication with others	
Communicates professionally by using formal channels appropriate to the situation	

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