

Job Description

Position Details

Position:	Sessional Playworker Level 2
Directorate:	Children, Young People & Families
Service:	IST – Early Years
Position no:	BG Various
Grade:	2
Hours of work:	Up to 35 hours school holiday periods
Work style:	Service Based (various locations across Blaenau Gwent)
DBS required:	Enhanced Disclosure – Child Barred List
Contact:	Sharon.gapper@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Date:	August 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. To work alongside colleagues in the Play team to assist in the general running of provision to ensure children have opportunities to engage in a range of activities including; arts & crafts, games, music, sports and themed days that encourage positive wellbeing and that promote children's right to play.
2. To arrive on site at the designated time to assist with setting up the session, and will be expected to remain after the session finishes to assist with packing away, ensuring everything is left clean and tidy.
3. To facilitate child led self-directed play within play sessions.
4. To act as a resource for children's play and to encourage all children to play regardless of their ability, social background.
5. To contribute to a healthy and secure play environment for children and contribute towards the preparation of resources needed for each session.
6. To contribute to the development and promotion of positive relationships with the children and parents/carers.
7. To undertake and record reflective practice both individually and as a team.
8. To respond appropriately to concerns about safeguarding children.
9. To provide feedback to the team's Lead Playworker.
10. To participate in training and conferences where requested which are relevant to the role.
11. To work in line with the Playwork Principles and relevant quality assurance frameworks.
12. To carry out duties of a similar nature to those described above as may be required from time to time.

Person Specification

Requirements	Essential (E) / Desirable (D)	Assessment methods: Application (A), Interview (I), Presentation (P), Test (T), Probationary Period (PP), other please specify
Qualifications		
Good general education to GCSE level, demonstrating effective Language, Numeracy and Literacy skills.	E	A, I
A relevant qualification in Playwork, childcare, early years, childcare, teaching or youthwork (Level 2)	D	A, I
A commitment to begin working towards a relevant playwork qualification within 6 months of appointment	D	A, I
Be able to demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to, the Playwork Principles.	D	A, I
Experience		
Relevant demonstrable experience of working with children & young people.	E	A, I
Experience of supporting and delivering opportunities for children's play.	D	A, I
Experience of previous practical experience of planning appropriate stimulating play activities and opportunities for children with a range of abilities	D	A, I
Knowledge / Skills		
A good understanding of the importance of play for children, young people and the wider community	D	A, I
Ability to maintain confidentiality and professional boundaries	E	A, I
Ability to communicate clearly and sensitively with families and professionals	E	A, I
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		
Commitment and enthusiasm are required for working in an outside environment during school holidays.	E	A, I
Current driving licence	D	A, I

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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