



Job title: Music & Activity Practitioner

Work Location: Based in Cockenzie, but work can be across various locations in East Lothian

Division/Department: Youth Services

Reports to: Head of Youth Services

■ Full-time
■ Part-time

Salary: £28000 (pro rata)

Hours: 24-37.5 hours

Start Date: 1st May 2025

Overview of Organisation:

Heavy Sound is a Community Interest Company, incorporated in 2015, based in East Lothian. We work with disconnected young people and adults, re-engaging them through strength-based activities of interest including music, biking, sports, creative arts, education, mentoring and 1:1 therapy. By building trusting relationships we help inspire positive opportunities for further learning, life skills development, and future training and employment.

Job Role:

The successful candidate will be a music practitioner with experience of taking a trauma-informed, therapeutic approach. An additional skillset in creative arts, or sports/biking/outdoor pursuits/other activities would be highly desirable.

- You will be facilitating 1:1 and group sessions as well as developing and delivering music-based projects with young people, all of whom have experienced trauma. Your work will focus on providing opportunities for participants to enjoy music and be playful with their own musicality in a trauma-inclusive environment. Sessions and projects are adapted to suit the young people's individual needs and interests. They may include listening to music, creating music videos, writing, recording, and producing the young people's music, learning songs and playing together, or facilitating therapeutic group activities such as drumming workshops or beat making. You will work in a resource-oriented way to empower and encourage the young people to explore their musical interests and have fun with music. Our participants have diverse needs. You should be adaptable, patient, and able to create an inclusive space where every young person feels valued and inspired.
- We are looking for someone with an additional skillset in creative arts, sports/biking/outdoor pursuits/other activities to deliver 1:1 and group sessions as described above.

Successful candidates must possess a positive can-do attitude, a real talent for engaging young people, demonstrate self-motivation, and exhibit a strong ability to adapt to changing circumstances in order to thrive in our dynamic work environment.

Flexibility in working hours is essential, as the role includes a weekly evening drop-in, with occasional cover needed for absences in our evening outreach programme supporting youth clubs in East Lothian, and occasional weekend events work.

Full-time or part-time considered depending on skillset.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Facilitate **1:1 and group music sessions** with young people, adapting activities to their individual needs and interests.
- Develop and deliver **music-based projects** that encourage creativity, self-expression, and personal development.

- Use a **range of musical equipment** (e.g., DAWs like Ableton Live, DJ decks, drum machines, instruments) to support participants' musical exploration.
- Facilitate **1:1 and group activity sessions** (creative arts, sports/biking/outdoor pursuits/other activities) with young people, adapting activities to their individual needs and interests.
- Create a **trauma-inclusive** environment, using music/activities as a tool for engagement, wellbeing, and empowerment.
- Build positive, **trusting relationships** with young people, supporting them in developing life skills and achieving qualifications.
- Maintain **accurate records**, including session notes, impact monitoring, and CRM system updates.
- Work collaboratively with **partner agencies** and **other team members**, supporting colleagues with their projects and participant activities to ensure cohesive and effective delivery.
- Support the **safeguarding and wellbeing** of all participants in line with Heavy Sound's policies and child protection principles.
- Be responsible for the **upkeep of the studio**, including maintaining inventory, cleaning, and resolving technical issues or repairing broken instruments and equipment.
- Be flexible in working hours, including a **weekly evening drop-in** and occasional cover for outreach youth club sessions in the evening.

Education and/or Work Experience Requirements:

- Experience working with young people in a mentoring or support capacity.
- Awareness and understanding of the principles of safeguarding and child protection.
- Strong understanding of complex trauma and trauma-informed person-centred practice.
- Strong musical skills and ability to be adaptable, flexible and work in a therapeutic way with music.
- Good working knowledge of a DAW, ideally Ableton Live, and/or DJ decks/drum machines and other electronic music equipment and acoustic instruments
- An additional skillset in creative arts, biking, sports/other activities would be highly beneficial
- Experience in writing session notes and monitoring, evaluation and recording of service impact
- Good IT Skills (Outlook, Word, Excel, MS Office) and ability to maintain updated, accurate records on a CRM system
- Experience planning, delivering, and facilitating, and co-facilitating groups project activities
- Experience and capacity to support young people achieve qualifications
- Ability to work collaboratively with partner agencies
- Ability to work as part of a team, but also independently able to be accountable for individual responsibilities
- Commitment to working in accordance with Heavy Sound's policies and procedures
- Full UK driving license
- Successful candidates will have to apply for the PVG scheme through Disclosure Scotland

Benefits:

- Generous annual leave
- Employers pension contribution
- Access to bike repairs
- Access to counselling
- Access to music and gym equipment
- Training and learning opportunities

Contract Length

1 year contract with opportunity to extend based on funding

How to apply:

Please send a cover letter and CV to: info@heavysound.org

Closing date for applications: 31st March 2025

Interview dates: 7th, 8th April 2025 (or thereabouts)

Start Date: 1st May 2025 (subject to successfully completed PVG check)