



Join us to help improve the lives of disabled children and their families by becoming our next Family Worker

Job Title: Family Worker

Hours: 37 hours per week – including alternate Friday and Saturdays

Location: Edinburgh

Salary: £29,052 per annum

JOB PURPOSE

The Yard is an award-winning charity that runs adventure play services for children with disabilities and/or additional support needs and their families. We offer creative and inclusive adventure play experiences alongside wraparound support for the whole family. We believe in fostering communities of friendship and peer support without judgement. Since we opened in 1986, our services have grown significantly, but we will always retain our holistic approach and ethos of child-centred and child-led play services.

We are looking for an individual who has a strong understanding of the needs of families, who have children with a disability or additional support needs, either through professional or personal experience. You should be able to provide information and emotional and practical support to families with children with a wide range of support needs. You will have strong skills in building relationships with people and be able to empower parents and carers to understand and access the support available from external services. You should also be able to create a sense of community that will enable peer support for families that require this support.

If successful, the candidate can expect a non-hierarchical, supportive and understanding work environment, where the team is highly passionate and committed to our mission. Personal development is encouraged and supported, and regular training is provided. We are an accredited living wage employer and offer a wide range of benefits.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Reports to Whole Family Support and Participation Manager

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Family Worker is to provide practical and emotional support to families who attend The Yard:

- Ensure that families have access to up-to-date information regarding accessible inclusive opportunities and signpost to appropriate local, national and digital support.
- Be a reliable and trustworthy point of contact for families using The Yard and Edinburgh Disability and Neurodivergence Hub (EDAN) services who need additional support.
- Provide structured and unstructured support sessions to enable families to benefit from the knowledge and experience of other parents and carers with lived experience.

Scotland Yard Adventure Centre (known as The Yard) is a registered Scottish Charity SC002538 and Private Limited Company registered in Scotland 101671.

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- Support the development of processes to help The Yard to understand the needs of the families using the service.
- Work closely with the Whole Family Support and Participation Manager to ensure that families' needs are being addressed and identify appropriate ways to meet the support needs of families.
- Work in partnership with internal and external partners to deliver structured support sessions to meet the identified needs of parents and carers within the service.
- Supporting the operational delivery of the Edinburgh Disability and Neurodivergence Hub (EDAN).
- Engage with the parents and carers of children and young people to support the use of their voice in the development of services and act as a point of contact for feedback from families.
- Undertake relevant and appropriate recording to evidence support offered to a family.
- Where appropriate liaise with external organisations to refer families for additional support e.g. advocacy
- Ensure that support is underpinned by our safeguarding policy and that people receive support that is trauma informed and neuro-affirming.
- When working with families effectively maintain a high degree of confidentiality in accordance with the Data Protection Act.
- Ensure that you continue to develop your knowledge and skills by undertaking regular training and other learning opportunities.
- Disclose any changes in your circumstances, including any convictions or cautions that would alter the terms of employment, and of the PVG Scheme.

AUTHORITIES AND LIMITATIONS

Authority to purchase up to the limit of the delegated authority approved by the Board

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, QUALIFICATIONS, COMPETENCIES

Essential qualities and experience:

- Demonstrable experience of working with families in a holistic manner to support capacity building
- Excellent and demonstrable relationship building skills.
- Knowledge of children's rights, trauma-informed and inclusive practice.
- Understanding of child and adult protection practices.
- Experience of working with children and young people with a range of disabilities and additional support needs.
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Excellent organisational skills and administrative abilities.
- Fully competent in MS Office, including MS Word, MS Excel and databases.
- Ability to work flexible hours including weekends and evenings, in line with service requirements.

Desirable qualities and experience:

- Knowledge and experience of family support services
- Experience of working in a collaborative way with other organisations

- Knowledge and experience of facilitating young people's social activities
- Demonstrable research and analytical skills
- Proven track record of implementing evaluation processes.
- Confident and credible presenting to groups and individuals
- Leadership skills and team building capacity.
- First Aid at Work Certificate
- Health and Safety at Work
- Clean Driving Licence