**NURSERY PRACTITIONER**

**(Maternity Cover)**

**About Our Play Out Service**

Play Out is a child focused, outdoor loving, puddle jumping, mud pie making childcare group. Our highly experienced and passionate team is committed to supporting children to develop through a rich learning environment. Play Out Ipswich is situated just outside the town centre, on Felixstowe Road, with close links to the main road and rail network. The nursery operates from 7.30am to 6pm daily.

We are part of Ormiston Families, one of the leading charities working with children, young people, and families in the East of England. We take early and preventative action to support families to be safe, healthy, and resilient.

**About the role**

We are looking for an enthusiastic Nursery Practitioner who wants to be involved in looking after all aspects of a young child’s development. You will play a vital role in helping children to grow socially and emotionally and well as supporting as aspects of their physical and cognitive development.

The role involves being hands on with the children in the setting (ranging from babies to pre-schoolers) joining in with play, reading stories, singing songs and being alongside the children in their day-to-day activities.

Your role will also involve developing a relationship with the parents and carers of the children and being able to talk to them about all aspects of their child’s day in nursery. As part of the team you will also be involved in planning activities for the children in your care and maintaining health and hygiene standards as you go about your daily tasks.

Your working hours for this post will be 37.5 hours per week working 4 days between 8am and 6pm. This post is a maternity cover post and will be a fixed-term contract lasting 9 months from mid-October.

**About you**

Do you have a passion for looking after and developing children and do you have a full and relevant level 3 qualification or equivalent? Then come and join our supportive team here at Play Out, we can offer you free parking, paid company sick pay and an employee discount scheme amongst other benefits

**Safeguarding and DBS requirements for your role:**

Play Out is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. DBS checks or police vetting will be required for relevant posts.

We are an equal opportunities employer; we value diversity and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

**Information about working for Play Out**

**Job Title: Nursery Practitioner**

**Duration:**

The post advertised is permanent Full-time fixed term contract maternity cover.

**Hours of Work and Working Arrangements:**

* The working week will be 4 days 8am to 6pm (37.5 hours per week) Monday to Friday with 30 minute unpaid lunchbreak.
* Contract duration – 9 months.
* The normal working week is between 37.5 hours, Monday to Friday and covers 52 weeks per year.
* You will be required to work flexibly to meet the needs of the service which may include evenings and weekends.

**Location:**

* Your base will be Play Out Nursery, 333 Felixstowe Road, Ipswich IP3 9BU

**Salary:**

* The salary for this post is £24,570 gross per annum (Real Living Wage)
* Salary is paid in 12 equal instalments on the 25th of each month directly into your bank account and covers work carried out in the calendar month.

**Probationary Period:**

* The post is subject to a probationary period of 6 months during which your progress will be monitored in accordance with agreed objectives.
* Your paid company sick pay is also subject to restrictions during probationary period.

**Job Description**

**Job Title: Nursery Practitioner**

**Service: Play Out Nursery Ipswich**

**Job Purpose:**

To work within the nursery team to deliver high quality care and learning experiences for babies and young children.

**Key Areas of Responsibility:**

* To provide all aspects of basic care for the babies/children within the nursery.
* To assist in the planning and provision of age appropriate child and adult led activities within the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.
* To act as Key Person for allocated children, completing observations and maintaining learning journey’s to record their progress and development.
* To maintain relevant records and complete appropriate assessments for key children ie two year old progress checks and EYFS profiles.
* To ensure the nursery provides a high quality, safe, stimulating and supportive environment in which children are recognised as unique, competent and active learners.
* To undertake appropriate training and professional development activities as required.
* To ensure the effective use of equipment and resources and routine cleaning of toys/equipment to maintain the hygiene and safety within the nursery.
* To actively promote the provision with potential and existing parents and outside agencies.
* To adhere to Safeguarding, including child protection, policy, procedures and practices.
* To develop and maintain strong partnership and communication with parents/carers to facilitate day to day caring and early learning needs.
* To implement and maintain effective programmes of parent partnership as part of the nurseries’ inclusive ethos.
* To work within Play Out policies and procedures, including Safeguarding, Access of Storage and Information, Equality and Diversity, Participation, Quality and Health and Safety. Comply with relevant external standards and Quality Marks.
* To carry out any additional appropriate duties as instructed by the Head of Nursery and or Deputy Manager.

**Person Specification**

**Qualifications**

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| **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Full and relevant level 2 qualification or equivalent (minimum) | Current food hygiene certificate |
| Current paediatric first aid certificate |  |

**Experience & Skills**

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| **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Experience of working in an early years setting. |  |
| Baby/toddler room roles – experience of working with children under two/over two. |  |
| Baby/toddler room roles – training specifically related to the care of babies/toddlers. |  |

**Abilities and Knowledge**

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| **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Excellent knowledge and understanding of the EYFS and ability to plan and evaluate age-appropriate activities. | Good knowledge of health and safety legislation. |
| Excellent organisational skills and ability to keep accurate records. | Good knowledge of other legislation relating to early years such as EYFS statutory guidance, Every Child Matters and the SEN Code of Practice. |
| Awareness of OFSTED inspection standards and frameworks. | Competent in the use of MS Word, MS Excel and Outlook. |
| Demonstrate a clear knowledge and understanding of safeguarding theory, policy and practice, including child protection. | Experience of managing own work load and experience of resolving issues. |
| Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, with the ability to communicate effectively with a range of people. |  |
| Ability to problem solve basic issues. |  |
| Good understanding of equal opportunities and diversity. |  |
| A positive professional attitude. |  |
| Knowledge and skills of partnership working with parents. |  |