

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job title: Lead Creative Practitioner

Reporting to: Take Art Early Years Service Director

INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO THIS POST
KEY TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To develop and lead a high quality arts programme within the participating Children’s Centres• To broker and support relationships between the participating Children’s Centres and the Somerset’s Arts Promoter Organisations• To work with the project coordinators to explore synergy and relationships with other potential partners and stakeholders which might lead to additional resourced opportunities.• To provide equality of access to all young children.• To ensure that all children’s and families’ needs are at the centre of the project at all times.• To work in and contribute to “an integrated services model” (whole team of workers in the Children’s Centres – Health, education, community services) within a locality team (SCC EY geographic grouping).• To engage in a process of action research to develop this ‘pathfinder’ role <p>In the delivery of this dual facing role, in more detail this means:</p> <p><i>Focus on children</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To foster the creative development of children.• To raise the profile of arts activity within the centre internally and externally• To aim for creativity to become sustainable and embedded in the centre.• To develop models of practice tailored to individual Children’s Centres.• To plan and coordinate opportunities for children and their families to experience live performance and visual arts opportunities and to work alongside other artists both in the centre and in the community• To devise and implement appropriate creative learning environments based

on a secure understanding of what children know, understand and can do.

- To develop whole staff understanding of creativity and the arts in the early years when planning the learning environment and to engage with whole staff in this planning.
- To support observation in collaboration with other early years practitioners, project researcher and parents/carers.
- To ensure appropriate partnership with parents to assist their own and their children's learning; to consult with and listen to parents and children regarding their needs and requirements, their hopes and aspirations.
- To be involved in outreach to settings within the centre's reach.
- To be involved in research and evaluation processes

Focus on arts organisations

- To create links with Somerset arts organisations
- To develop increased opportunities for artists to work with young children
- To explore possibilities for commissioning arts work
- To work with arts organisations staff and other artists to increase their knowledge and expertise in early years arts and creativity and to raise the quality of practice
- To develop relationships with the children and young people's directorate
- To assist in in-service creativity training to Somerset arts practitioners and venues across the county

2. Work Experience	
Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experienced arts practitioner • Own creative practice in music or visual artforms • Ability to demonstrate an understanding of how children learn. • Experience of working with Early Years settings. • Driving licence + car or access to own means of transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of latest EY practice • Experience of multi-agency working. • Experience of providing training to professionals, practitioners and/or parents • Experience of working with other agencies' professionals.

JOB TITLE	Children's Centre Lead Creative Practitioners
LOCATION	Bridgwater + Shepton Mallet
FEE	£15,000 self employed fee per annum
HOURS OF WORK	0.6 x 37.4 hours per week
CONTRACT	One year contract initially, with possibility to extend to second year
DISABILITY DECLARATIONS	Applications for all vacancies are particularly welcome from people with disabilities.
CRB DISCLOSURE	Evidence of Somerset enhanced criminal records bureau (CRB) check via the disclosure procedure.