

Cambridge Joint Playschemes

Registered Charity Number 1045987

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Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in working with children with learning disabilities. I enclose a job description for Saturday Clubs, and application pack.

If you could return completed forms as soon as possible. Please note that return postage may be more than the basic rate for a stamp.

Once your application is received we can consider your application and if you are shortlisted call you for interview.

Please note that all applicants must undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service Check and that we must receive two references, one of which must be from your present or most recent employer or a professional.

Do call me if you have any questions about the activity clubs.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Brown', written in a cursive style.

Carol Brown
Playscheme Manager

Enc.

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Background to the Charity

Our first playscheme, CHAS (Cambridge Holiday Activity Scheme), ran in 1992. Childsplay followed in 1993 and the two charities merged and became a registered charity in 1995. Cambridge Joint Playschemes (CJP) merged with another specialist playscheme, Kaleidoscope, in 2000.

CJP was founded by parents and professionals involved in the care of children with learning disabilities, who recognised that both the children and their families would benefit from specialist holiday activities.

Over the years CJP expanded and ran five different playschemes in the Summer, two at Christmas and three at Easter. We had over 110 children on our books and all our playschemes were consistently over-subscribed. We no longer provide holiday playschemes and now concentrate on providing Saturday Activity Clubs. These are varied and include, Cinema Clubs at the Arts Picture House in Cambridge, Swimming, Bowling, trips to local museums and arts and craft activities.

CJP has two aims: Firstly, to give children with learning disabilities the chance to join in stimulating activities and to socialise in a safe environment. Secondly, to give their families respite from caring, and the chance to do things with their other children that they may otherwise be unable to do.

As a voluntary organisation CJP is run by a Management Committee. The trustees come from a variety of backgrounds. Many of trustees have children who attend the schemes or have done so in the past. They also have a wide variety of professional experience in relevant fields.

Feedback from users, carers and professionals confirm that CJP meets a real need for holiday activities for children with disabilities. Flexible timetables of appropriate activities and outings and a high staff ratio on all schemes mean that individual needs are met and the children are enabled to participate.

Our staff all attend training sessions to ensure that they are equipped to provide an excellent standard of care.

A large proportion of our time is spent raising the funding for the playschemes to operate. Meeting the demand for places is expensive and parental contributions only go a short way towards the costs. We rely on grants and donations from a variety of sources to run the schemes and to update our equipment so that we can expand the choice of activities on offer.

Cambridge Joint Playschemes

Child Protection Policy

- 1 Cambridge Joint Playschemes recognises its duty to children and the need to respect them as individuals and protect their vulnerability.
- 2 The Cambridge Joint Playschemes recognises the part it has to play in the field of child protection and our duty to prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse or neglect of all children with whom we come in contact. We are committed to providing a safe environment for any child in our care.
3. We will ensure that any concerns in relation to the safety of a child involved with any activity organised by the Cambridge Joint Playschemes committee will be treated seriously and those concerns passed onto the appropriate agency so that these concerns can be assessed and appropriate action taken if necessary.
- 4 We also recognise the necessity of ensuring that any agency providing staff to work on the Playschemes has an appropriate child protection policy and procedures in place and that they are registered with the appropriate authority and that their staff have been through the necessary checking procedures. We also recognise that if any concerns about a child or a member of staff of any agency providing staff, are raised, that the agency needs to report or deal with the issues appropriately.
- 5 We will ensure that a member of the committee of the Cambridge Joint Playschemes is designated a "Child Protection Co-ordinator" and that they receive or have received appropriate training. The Designated Child Protection Worker will act as the first point of reference for any child protection issues.
- 6 We will ensure that all committee members have a copy of the Child Protection Policy and are aware of any procedures that would need to be undertaken.
7. We will produce a procedure to deal with any child protection issues involving the Cambridge Joint Playschemes.

Children have a right to be safe.

Policy Adopted
Reviewed

1 March 2005
October 2007

Cambridge Joint Playschemes

Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form

Please note that this form will be removed prior to shortlisting. The information that you provide will be strictly confidential.

This data will assist CJP in monitoring the effectiveness of its equal opportunities policy, comply with statutory requirements under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as well as other employment legislation and good employment practices.

This information will only be used as part of the ongoing analysis of our service, to assess the effectiveness of existing policies and develop new ones.

Position applied for

Name (Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss)

Date of birth **Male / Female**

Do you have a disability **YES / NO**

If yes, Please describe the nature of your disability

.....

What is your ethnic group?

a) White (British / Other - please specify).....

b) Mixed (please specify).....

c) Asian (British / Indian / Pakistani / Bangladeshi / Other - please specify)

.....

d) Black (British / Caribbean / African / Other - please specify)

.....

Signed Date

Print name

Thank you

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Job Description Playworker 2011/15– Saturday Clubs

Cambridge Joint Playschemes is a local registered charity running holiday playschemes for children with learning disabilities, some of whom also have physical disabilities.

- Title:** Playworker or volunteer
- Salary:** **£6.73 - £7.23 per hour** depending upon experience within the playscheme. Holiday pay of 10.5% is added.
- Responsible to:** The Co-ordinator but also to the Playscheme Manager who has overall responsibility for the charity.
- Dates:** Every Saturday morning, Cinema Club and Activity Club alternating. Staff work on a sessional basis
- Location:** Arts Picturehouse Cinema Regent Street Cambridge for the Cinema club and various location around Cambridge for the Activity Club.
- Hours:** Staff time is from 10.20am to 12.30 pm actual finish time dependent upon the film for the Cinema Club and 9.30 – 12.30 pm approx for the Activity Club. Staff may work 2 – 4 week slots. Work is on a sessional basis.
- Training** Staff will be offered training You are paid for this time.
- Children:** All children who attend are aged between 4 – 19 years of age and have severe to moderate learning disabilities. The children all attend our main playschemes

Purpose of the job:

As part of the team of helpers, you will enable the children to participate in a mainstream activity. It is our intention that all children should have a stimulating, fun and enjoyable time.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

1. To participate in the outing as part of the team of Helpers under the guidance of the Co-ordinator.
2. To be responsible for one or more named children as a key worker, and to be aware of their individual needs such as behaviour strategies and dietary requirements.
3. To help children with personal care where necessary eg. Taking children to the toilet, dressing children after swimming or helping children at meal times.
4. To liaise with parents or carers as necessary

5. To be conversant with the guidelines and policies of Cambridge Joint Playschemes and to act in accordance with them at all times.
8. To attend meetings and training sessions as required in addition to the core hours. (You will be paid for any such extra hours you are required to work.

Reporting, Authority and Responsibility

Normally, you will be under the authority of the Co-ordinator. The Playscheme Manager. Is not normally involved in the day to day running of the schemes but will have overall responsibility for all staff.

Uniform

The Management Committee has adopted a tee shirt as a uniform for all those working on the playschemes. This has been done to help children, parents, visitors and others, particularly when the children are out on trips, recognise who the staff are. You are required to wear the uniform provided and to return it at the end of your employment.

Confidentiality: You are required not to disclose any confidential information relating to the playscheme or to any child attending the playscheme.

This Job Description is intended for the guidance of applicants and may be amended to incorporate more specific requirements appropriate to individual schemes. Exact details will be confirmed on appointment.

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Personal Specification - Playworker

The work is demanding but rewarding. We wish to appoint a well-motivated and enthusiastic team of staff. The following notes are intended as information for prospective applicants.

Essential:

Candidates should

- i) be over 17 years of age.
- ii) have energy and enthusiasm, and initiative.
- iii) have a willingness to take part in all activities
- iv) be willing to undertake in-service training as appropriate.

Desirable:

- i) Have previous experience of children, and preferably with disabilities, although training will be given.
- ii) An understanding of disability issues

Personal Qualities:

- i) Good rapport with children and sensitivity to the wishes and feelings of their families.
- ii) Flexibility and self-confidence, a hands on person.
- iii) Good written and verbal skills.