



# Children's Centre Practitioner

Scale point: 15-20 | Based in Kingston | Permanent |

## About the service

This post is based within the Kingston Children's Centre Service. Children's Centres are places where all families with children under five, and expectant mothers and fathers, can go to help their children to get the best start in life. The facilities and activities are designed for young children and their families.

Children's Centres across Kingston and Richmond are key contributors to the Protect and Early Help agenda and their core purpose is to identify, reach and help the families in greatest need. The aims of service provision are to support child development and school readiness; support parenting skills; promote good physical and mental health for the whole family; ensure safeguarding; support parents to improve skills that enable them to access education, training and employment; and address risk factors so that children and their families are safe, free from poverty and able to improve both their immediate wellbeing and their future life chances.

## About the role

The Children's Centre Practitioner will support the delivery of children's centre provision across a geographical area. They will facilitate a range of activities and events including outreach to target families in line with the core purpose and Ofsted Statutory requirements. Responsibilities include; improving life chances of children and reducing the risk of harm and family breakdown by facilitating the provision of children's centres services to meet the core purpose. To support the Multi-Agency Teams and raise awareness in the community about the range of services on offer at the Children's Centre while providing families with support and information to access a variety of services available in the local community. To support the Centre Lead Practitioners and Centre Manager in developing innovative and creative ways of communicating/and engaging with challenging and hard to reach parents/carers. To enable and support parents and carers to access statutory and non-statutory services and facilities provided in, or on behalf of Children's Centres and their partners in the community.

## About you: our role specification

### Qualifications

- Level 3 in early years childcare and education, or a willingness to gain such a qualification, with proven experience of leading learning & development in a previous position.

### Skills and experience

- Minimum 5 years post-qualification experience working in childcare provision with children under 5.
- Experience of monitoring progress of children's development and planning quality experiences to support next steps in learning.
- Proven track record of engaging families with children aged 0-5 years in diverse communities in an education, community or outreach setting.
- Experience of working with confidential and sensitive information.
- Experience of creating purposeful play environments to support the different learning styles and needs of children 0-5.
- Experience of using a wide range of methods/techniques to engage isolated individuals/communities.
- Knowledge of EYFS and how children 0-5 learn.
- A working knowledge of child protection procedures and legislation, understanding its importance in the welfare of children and families.
- An understanding of the role of Children's Centres within the community.
- Experience of keeping and maintaining records (in accordance with local policy).
- Experience of addressing specific equality or diversity issues within your practice with colleagues/service users and taking action to solve them.

### Personal attributes

- A passion for Achieving for Children's vision, mission and values to support children and young people to live safe, happy, healthy and successful lives.
- Good organisational abilities including: time management, and problem-solving.
- Willingness to actively participate in professional development and training.
- Ability to work as part of an effective and supportive team, leading and supporting others in the area of children's learning & development
- Commitment to resource-sharing and collaborative working within Achieving for Children and across organisational boundaries in the best interests of children and families.
- Ability and willingness to travel around the borough.
- Willingness to work outside of normal office hours when required.

*The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties commensurate with the grade of the post, including deputising or or working flexibly across the week to meet the business demands. This job profile is provided for guidance only.*

Version\_0.1\_ February 2021