**Job Title: Play Worker – SEND (Connect Team)**

**Salary: £10.90-£12.72 p.h. depending upon experience/qualifications**

**Location: BLGC Sites**

**Reports to: Inclusion Lead**

**Contract: Permanent Part-time**

**Hours: Options of Monday 16.30-20.30 and/or school holidays**

**The Charity**

Bolton Lads & Girls Club (BLGC) is an innovative, dynamic and progressive children and young people’s charity based in Bolton. Established in 1889, our mission statement is “to enable children and young people, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to live happier, healthier and positive lives by providing somewhere to go that's safe and modern, something to do that is inspiring and engaging, and someone to talk to when they need it the most”.

Open 51 weeks of the year, we provide a vast array of opportunities to improve the lives of our 4,000 active members through universal and targeted services. We employ around 100 people and have the support and commitment of 100 volunteers. Over the last few years we have seen the demand for our services increase significantly and we’ve set ourselves a target to help more young people than ever. We have recently re-opened our main centre in the heart of Bolton following a major £2.6m refurbishment. It’s an exciting time to join BLGC!

**Our Vision and Mission**

**Vision**

Every young person in Bolton has the opportunity to be the best they can be.

**Mission**

We will provide great places to go, positive things to do, and people that care.

**Our Key Principles**

* Keep things simple.
* Always do the right thing.
* Offer excellent customer service.
* Provide an environment for people to be the best they can be.
* Be exceptional in the moments that matter.

**Our Values**

**Driven** **Caring**

We don’t give up and we do whatever it takes. Genuine people who care make the difference.

**Empowering Excellence**

We enable people to be the best they can be. We aim to deliver the highest standards of service and continuously improve through robust quality assurance and innovation.

**Fun**

If you enjoy what you do, you do it better! Work is

serious and we do it with a smile on our face.

**About the role**

The role is to work as part of our Connect team, supporting children and young people with SEND or who have additional support needs including personal care.

We provide safe, creative and appropriate play, and developmental opportunities for children and young people aged 8-25 years. This includes preparing and delivering activities, through both individual and group activities. All of this is done in a nurturing and caring environment ensuring that all children and young people are safe and happy.

The role works directly with children and young people to develop their social skills, building their confidence by delivering a planned, high-quality programme of activity. The programme directly responds to the diverse needs, concerns, and interests of our members during the evenings, school holidays and occasionally on residentials, and provides positive outcomes for young people through appropriate assessment and intervention.

**Main Responsibilities**

* To always understand and adhere to policies and procedures with particular emphasis on equal opportunities, health and safety and safeguarding.
* To contribute positively to plan and deliver positive play activities for children and young people with additional needs aged 8-25 years in small and large settings.
* To work along identified staff members to support young people who require personal care when on session including changing and feeding.
* Use play activities to help children and young people develop socially and emotionally, in a nurturing environment.
* To set up play equipment and making sure all play areas are safe.
* Understand and implement appropriate assessment and intervention where necessary to achieve positive outcomes.
* To work alongside Youth workers, Volunteers and Young Leaders to plan and deliver activities.
* To work flexibly to ensure the needs of our members are met, in particular as part of the Connect team working with disadvantaged children and young people especially those with disabilities or additional needs.
* To encourage and maintain positive behaviour during sessions.
* To promote a positive image of the club through your work with young people.
* To report any behaviour, conversations or comments which are inappropriate within a setting for children and young people.
* To ensure any volunteer is made to feel an integral part of the Bolton Lads and Girls Club ‘family’.
* To undertake such other duties as may reasonably be determined by the operational lead

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Essential**ü | **Desirable**ü | **Method of assessment**ü |
| **Qualifications** |  |
|  | Current First Aid Qualification |  | ü | A/I |
|  | Childcare qualification, or currently working towards one  |  | ü | A/I |
|  |   |  | ü |  |
| **Experience** |  |
|  | Experience of working with children and young people aged 8 – 25 years | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Experience of delivering inclusive nurturing play activities for children and young people with SEND | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Experience and evidence of training in supporting children and young people with personal care needs | ü |  | A/I |
| **Knowledge and Skills** |  |
|  | A good understanding of disabilities that impact young people and how to support them in a youth club setting.  | ü |  | I |
|  | Ability to understand and respond effectively to children and young people with additional needs | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Knowledge and skills in effective behaviour management strategies and de-escalation techniques | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Foster a safe and inclusive environment that promotes independence and self-confidence and report any concerns or incidents to the supervisor. | ü |  | I |
|  | An understanding of health & safety issues that affect the day to day running of childcare services | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Awareness of what constitutes good quality childcare | ü |  | I |
|  | Excellent written and verbal communication skills | ü  |  | A/I |
|  | Ability to multi-task, think creatively, problem-solve, make swift and sensible decisions and prioritise tasks | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Health & Safety including risk assessing activity and situations | ü |  | A |
|  | Understanding of national and local initiatives which influence provision of youth work to young people |  | ü | I |
|  | Delivery of play work within equal opportunities framework |  | ü | I |
|  | Demonstrable knowledge of health & safety, diversity awareness and safeguarding best practice and how these relate to young people and staff within the Youth Club | ü |  | A/I |
| **Personal Attributes** |  |
|  | Confident, motivated and enthusiastic, with a positive ‘can do’ attitude | ü |  | A/I |
|  | A self-starter, able and willing to embrace projects and opportunities and work independently | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Committed to a culture of continuous improvement | ü |  | A/I |
|  | Creativity and enthusiasm | ü |  | I |
|  | Flexible approach to working | ü |  | I |

**Method of Assessment Key:**

A Application Form

I Interview