



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Play Participation Officer (Our Generation Peace IV Programme)
(Fixed term to 31 December 2022)

Location: PlayBoard Head Office, 7 Crescent Gardens, Belfast

Reporting to: Service Delivery and Development Co-ordinator (Peace IV)

Main Purpose: The Play Participation Officer will be responsible for delivering key training and play development activities as part of the **Our Generation Project**, supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

The **Our Generation Project** brings together the expertise of 7 Partner organisations for the delivery of a project that seeks to:

- Improve good relations in communities which have been impacted negatively by conflict through the development and delivery of youth and children's programmes focused on mental wellbeing and resilience
- Ensure quality assurance of the delivery mechanisms, and develop mental health and resilience guidelines for youth focused organisations.

The Play Participation Officer (PPO) will work across Northern Ireland and the ROI as required to deliver PlayBoard's Spaces to Be Community Development training with practitioners and deliver participative play sessions with children, young people, parents/carers and practitioners.

Key

1. The appointed PPO will have a specific remit to deliver PlayBoard's suite of play based community relations programmes [Spaces to Be] in Northern Ireland and the border counties
2. The post holder will deliver training and support participant development with a focus on the role of play as a means of supporting the development of childhood resilience and as a mechanism for positively addressing differences at individual, familial and cross-community level through the following;

- Direct work with School Age Childcare (SAC) groups within the five urban village areas to deliver PlayBoard's 'Spaces to Be – Mapping Identity and Belonging' toolkit that focuses on the creation of innovative 'shared spaces' and building reconciliation through play.
- Delivery of training for staff within participating SAC groups on the 'Spaces to Be' resource, supporting the exploration of difference and promotion of cross-community understanding, alongside practical play based approaches to developing resilience in childhood.
- Running of joint, cross-community play sessions to children & young people and practitioners between partner SAC's within each Urban Village area.
- Running of joint parent/carer sessions aimed at supporting parents attached to participating SAC's to gain a greater understanding of the importance of play from the perspective of developing resilience and exploring wider aspects of diversity and cross-community connection.
- The provision of practical play skills and activities which have been shown to support the development of childhood resilience from age 3 and upwards.

Key Tasks

- To support the development and delivery of cross community, equity, diversity and interdependence training and resources for participating SAC groups sector using PlayBoard's "Spaces to Be" community relations tool kit.
- To design and deliver a diverse range of face-to-face play, play based participation approaches with, and to, Children and Young People, Parents and SAC practitioners
- To monitor, evaluate and provide progress reports on the targets set for the programme.
- To support SAC practitioners to develop their practice in relation to integrated and inclusive play opportunities and experiences.
- To create and contribute to opportunities that support participating SAC groups to engage cross-community in play sessions, training events, workshops and conferences as required.
- To keep up to date with developments in the field of children's rights analysing policy developments, identifying and sharing good practice and identifying and implementing changes in practice if appropriate.

- To foster sound working relationships and work in partnership with statutory and voluntary organisations engaged in the programme.
- To undertake any other duties within the remit of the grade and deemed necessary by the Management Team.
- Deliver accurate management information to support the delivery of service level agreements, key performance indicators and other projects and plans, ensuring that confidentiality is maintained at all times.
- In consultation with the Line Manager monitor and evaluate performance and produce forward plans and reports as required.

This description of tasks is not intended to be definitive and may be changed to meet emerging needs

- The contract for this post is fixed until the 31st December 2022
- NJC Salary Scale Level: SO1 pts: 23-25 (£26,999 - £28,785)
- Location: 7 Crescent Gardens, Belfast
- Holidays: 24 days per annum plus appropriate statutory days.
- Travel mileage costs will be paid for any travel incurred carrying out the duties of the post.
- Hours of work: Monday to Thursday 9am – 5pm
Friday 9am – 4pm

(Additional work outside these hours will be required)



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PERSON SPECIFICATION

Play Participation Officer [Peace IV]

ESSENTIAL

	Essential Factors	Minimum Requirement
01	Qualifications	Have a level 3 qualification [e.g. NVQ Level 3 Playwork] in a relevant discipline i.e. playwork, youthwork, childcare or community development.
02	Experience	A min of 2 years' experience within the past 4 years of face to face delivery with Children & Young People and practitioners within a playwork, youthwork, childcare or education environment.
03		A min of 2 years' experience within the past 4 years of delivering, developing and evaluating training and activity programmes aimed at children, young people and practitioners.
04		Experience in facilitating sessions with Children & Young People.
05		Experience of Writing reports e.g. progress reports / evaluation reports.
06		knowledge

Demonstrate Competency in the following:		
07	Communications	Your communication skills on how you have <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built and Sustained relationships.
08	Teamwork	Contribute fully to the team effort to meet agreed objectives.
09	Initiative / Ability to prioritise and work with Little or No Supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to use your own initiative • Ability to prioritise / manage your own workload
10	Planning Skills	Demonstrated skills in planning play sessions or events
11	Problem-Solving	Be able to generate workable solutions to problems incurred while working with Children & Young People
12	Computer/Technical Literacy	<p>Knowledge and Experience using the following within your working environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS Word to create and report information • PowerPoint to report and present information • Outlook and how/what you use it for • Excel worksheets
13		<p>Flexible in working arrangements and adaptable to new sometimes unstructured working environments</p> <p><i>e.g. early morning, late evening, weekend work and Public Holidays when required</i></p>
14		Full current driving licence and the use of a car for official business, or have access to a form of transport, which will permit the candidate to meet the requirements of the post in full.

DESIRABLE

The desirable criteria will only be used at the discretion of the Selection Panel if PlayBoard receive a high volume of application forms that all meet the essential criteria.

	Desirable Factors	
15	Qualification	A degree or post graduate certificate in, playwork, youthwork, childcare or community development field
16	Knowledge	An understanding of equality and Human Rights, children's rights and child protection
17	Experience	Experience of delivering diversity / community relations programmes



Northern Ireland - Ireland

European Regional Development Fund

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