

Early Years Creative Session Leader Role and Application Details

Job Title: Early Years Creative Session Leader

Organisation: Wakey Wakey ARTS

Reporting to: Claire Reilly, Founder/CEO of WWA

Fee details: £40 per 1 hour session (40 mins of delivery, 20 mins stay and play), plus setup and pack down. Session plans and props are provided, and mileage will be reimbursed.

Deadline for applications: 9am, 7th September.

Brief description of organisation:

Wakey Wakey ARTS is an arts organisation producing creative wellbeing projects for young people facing, or at risk of, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).

We know that a high proportion of young people are affected by ACEs, and that if left untreated these can lead to maladaptive coping mechanisms such as self-harming or substance misuse, creating a negative and possibly fatal cycle of behaviour for the rest of their lives.

We believe that participation in mainstream arts can have an intensely positive impact on young people and families. Therefore, we facilitate participatory arts opportunities for young people with the aim to reverse, reduce or prevent the negative effects of ACEs.

This includes one-off arts interventions projects, ongoing collaborations with health and education partners, mentoring for over 16s, and weekly dance and sensory play classes.

Role context and details:

Due to recent funding success, we are hoping to introduce a new Practitioner into the team to cover delivery of *Wiggles and Giggles* (our under 5s dance and sensory play concept) and *The Parenthood* (our under 2s creative play concept for adjusting Parents) at **The Centre, Ferndown**.

Through the use of movement, music, props and play, we aim to:

1. Provide opportunities for children to develop motor skills and sensory perception through movement and play-based activities
2. Promote dancing and singing as a tool for self expression, having fun and learning new skills
3. Remove barriers to accessing baby and grown-up 'arts and play' provision which might otherwise feel emotionally or financially challenging
4. Reduce social isolation and improve wellbeing in Parents/Carers at a vulnerable time of life
5. Equip Parents/Carers with the tools to play and bond with their babies
6. Provide the space/time for Parents/Carers to learn positive habits and techniques through peer observation and through seeking advice from peers and supporting staff



Sessions are delivered on a 'Pay What You Can' basis for participants, to make it accessible for all. As a result, you may be required to manage SumUp transactions on your phone or preferred device, or to carry a donations box with cash in.

Detailed session plans, props and playlists are provided. **Sessions are due to take place on a Thursday morning for 50 weeks (excluding two weeks at Christmas/New Year) starting from 8th October.**

You will be required to replenish packaged snacks/drinks for the sessions as your stock decreases. Any expenses will be reimbursed upon receipt of your invoice.

Depending on funding agreements, there may be a small evaluation to do with participants throughout delivery of the project, however Claire can support this if needed.

Our approach to partnership working:

We are committed to working in partnership within the venues we deliver, with the sessions being considered a useful 'tool' for developing their early years and family audiences. This is because we are committed to supporting the wider arts and cultural sector, and are always striving for increased community engagement with the arts.

With this in mind, it is essential that we keep an open conversation with venue staff about how the sessions are going, that we respect and look after their spaces/property, and that we continue to represent the high-quality delivery that WWA has become known for within the arts/wellbeing/youth fields.

In this vein, we are also committed to supporting professionals within the arts industry to sustain and diversify their own careers. We will therefore gladly help you with career and education progression, as well as providing relevant training to support you to grow into this role so that it feels a comfortable, joyous and fulfilling experience for all.

You will need to have:

- Demonstrable experience facilitating arts and/or play-based activities with children and/or families
- Demonstrable interest in improving community wellbeing (physical and emotional health)
- A professional or educational background in the Arts and/or Childcare
- Access to a car with the ability to pack and unpack resources (a trolley will be provided if you do not have one)
- Use of a Spotify Account (without ads)
- A valid DBS certificate and a subscription to the update service
- Personal Liability Insurance as a Practitioner
- Registration as a self-employed worker.

**Desirable criteria:**

- Our base for exchanging resources is in Broadstone (Poole). It is therefore desirable that you're in close driving distance to this area as we may need to be in physical contact regularly (depending on the frequency of sessions and the locations of your delivery)
- Ideally you will have your own speaker to play music from
- Ideally you will have lived experience of being a primary carer for a child or children under 5.

How to apply:

- 1) Please submit an expression of interest responding to the person specification, and a brief run-down of your relevant educational/professional experience (feel free to copy and paste from your C.V.) via email to wakeywakeyarts@gmail.com. The deadline is 9am on 7th September.
- 2) Interviews will be held in the week commencing 14th September. Interview questions and a brief response task will be provided at the shortlisting stage.
- 3) There will then be a half day of training/familiarisation of props before possible work begins in October.

If you have any questions about the work, please do not hesitate to contact Claire on wakeywakeyarts@gmail.com, or by calling 07552 215774.