



The Meadow Pre-School
Fitzwilliam
Playleader
Application Pack

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for taking the time to read this pack in considering if this is the role for you. If you are energetic, dynamic, dedicated and passionate about Early Years Education and Care, suitably qualified and have experience in the field I would love to hear from you.

As a Key worker you will work alongside our Manager and Deputy Managers and be part of our learning environment in our successful and exciting Pre-School, based at Wrenthorpe Academy, you will also have the support of the Executive Headteacher, Pre-School's admin officer and the Trust's Central Team.

We are looking to add to our excellent team of dedicated staff, most of whom have been with us for many years. We work closely with parents and carers, our schools, professionals and outside agencies such as special educational needs support services, social services and paediatric therapists.

The wellbeing of our staff is important to us. Our teams are supported via staff supervisions and annual performance management appraisals. Professional Development for all staff is built into our development plans to ensure that everyone can be the best practitioners that they can be and we keep up to date with our practice and provision for children.

Our mission is to provide high quality early years education and childcare in a friendly, safe, caring and stimulating environment where all children and adults are valued and treated as individuals, respected, feel confident and part of our Waterton Pre-Schools family.

If this sounds like something you want to be a part of then come and join us, make a difference, nurture our children to enable them to reach for the stars!



I love how independence is encouraged by the staff and children are encouraged to follow their interests.

Claire

Keyworker

I look forward to hearing from you.
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Becky Cook".

Mrs Becky Cook
Executive Headteacher

About us

The Meadow Pre-School is a new pre-school situated in Fitzwilliam near Hemsworth. It is one of two Pre-Schools to be opened this year within Waterton Pre-Schools; part of the successful Waterton Academy Trust.

Waterton Pre-Schools is looking for a practitioner to join us on our journey in creating and developing a pre-school for the children and families of the community, providing the care and education they deserve.

Our aim is to create a safe, happy and inspiring environment with highly skilled and trained staff that help to support children to thrive and achieve their true potential in an environment that is best suited to their needs. You will become an integral part of a team of passionate staff who work tirelessly to create an enjoyable learning experience for our children. The team will include an Executive Headteacher, a Senior Manager, a Manager, a Deputy Manager, Keyworkers and Playleaders.

The Meadow Pre-School offers sessional and full day care for children aged 2-5 all year round.

This is an exciting role and brings with it an opportunity to work closely with the Pre-School Executive Headteacher, Pre-School Manager and Deputy Manager to shape the direction of the service. Appropriate induction, training and support will be given to ensure the postholder is successful in this role.

Our Pre-Schools are supported by our central business support team which has grown in experience, knowledge and size over time and are highly regarded by our schools.

The post is to commence 19th February 2024.

We are looking to appoint someone who:

- Is committed to supporting our common purpose of providing our children with the best possible Early Years Education and Care
- Has a knowledge of the EYFS and can provide a range of suitable activities and opportunities to play in a well maintained EYFS environment to enhance learning
- Is committed to inclusion and can respect and cater for individual children's needs
- Is a good communicator and able to deliver high standards
- Will be a friendly and welcoming presence in the setting and develop positive working relationships with parents, carers and professionals
- Is patient and calm

In return, we can offer:

- A friendly, welcoming pre-school set within a thriving and inclusive school
- A supportive and forward-thinking leadership team
- A commitment to your professional development
- Free parking
- Free childcare within one of our settings
- A cycle to work scheme
- An excellent pension package.
- Free DBS and update service
- Free training
- Free uniform
- Free refreshments
- A health and wellbeing package

Job Description

Job Title:	Playleader A	Playleader B
Employer	Waterton Pre-Schools	Waterton Pre-Schools
Reporting to:	Pre-School Manager / Deputy Manager	Pre-School Manager / Deputy Manager
Salary:	Grade 3 (£22,737 - £23,114 FTE) £12,560 - £12,768 (Actual)	Grade 3 (£22,737 - £23,114 FTE) £8,971 - £9,120 (Actual)
Workplace:	The Meadow Pre-School, Wakefield Road, Fitzwilliam, WF9 5BP	The Meadow Pre-School, Wakefield Road, Fitzwilliam, WF9 5BP
Hours:	24 hours and 30 minutes per week Term Time Only	17 hours and 30 minutes per week Term Time Only
Job status:	Temporary	Temporary

Purpose of the Post:	To work with colleagues to provide a stimulating, educational and varied programme of activity and play whilst ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children in line with the policies of the provision which enables all children to develop to their full potential
Responsibilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in preparing the classroom for the activities and tidying away afterwards • Listen to, encourage, stimulate children’s learning and ensure their safety and wellbeing • Assist keyworkers with plans and ideas for sessions or update on progress observed • Interact with children providing guidance and direction on resources and activities as required to support the children’s intellectual, physical, social and emotional development • Ensure a designated area of the classroom/outdoor space enhances children’s learning and interests and is maintained with appropriate resources • Supervising or assisting children with snacks ensuring requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations are met at all times • Report to the Manager any matters needing attention or further assistance in accordance with policy, e.g. concerns about a child or equipment needing repair • Assist in monitoring the safe entrance and exit of children from the provision interacting with parents and encouraging involvement • Care for children’s personal needs, e.g. washing and changing children as required • To participate in organised visits or events, assisting as directed • To share information passed on by parents / school staff with colleagues as needed to provide high standards of care • To undertake basic administrative tasks, e.g. accident log, timesheet • Other duties commensurate with the grade of the post as directed by the Manager
Expectations of All Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full working knowledge and compliance with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality, HR and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person. • Be aware of and support difference and ensure equal opportunities for all • Working knowledge of the EYFS • Contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the Pre-School • Appreciate and support the role of other professionals • Attend and participate in relevant meetings as required • Participate in training and other learning activities and performance development as required
Additional Information:	The duties and responsibilities highlighted in this Job Specification are indicative and may vary over time. Post holders are expected to undertake other duties and responsibilities relevant to the nature, level scope of the post and the grade has been established on this basis.

Responsibilities for Resources:	Employees (Supervision): None Financial: None Physical: Effective use of resources
Customers and Clients:	The post holder works with young children and has direct impact on the wellbeing of children through undertaking tasks or duties related to the post. Some interaction with parents and on occasion with school staff and outside agencies.
Working Conditions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-School classroom, pre-school garden. • The post holder may be subject to some exposure to adverse weather conditions. • The post involves contact with people which through their circumstances or behaviour occasionally places emotional demands on post holder. The nature of the post may involve periodic requirements for considerable physical effort, e.g. lifting or carrying of children or resources.
Characteristics of the post:	The ability to occasionally attend meetings out of hours as required by the Manager or Senior Manager. Employees are encouraged to participate in wider training activities in order to enhance their own personal development. All employees have a responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people. Employment checks required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Enhanced DBS safeguarding check • Evidence of entitlement to work in the U.K. • Evidence of essential qualifications – see page 1 of this job specification • Two satisfactory references • Confirmation of medical fitness for employment

Person Specification

AF: Application Form

I: Interview

CQ: Certificates/Qualifications

R: Reference

OT: Occupational Task

Education & Training		Essential	Desirable	How Identified
Formal qualifications & relevant training	Level 3 qualification in early years childcare or child development		X	AF/C
	Level 2 qualification in early years childcare or child development		X	
	Safeguarding training		X	AF/C
	Paediatric First Aid qualification or willingness to undertake training		X	AF/C
	Food Hygiene qualification / training		X	AF/C
Experience				
Ability to undertake duties of the post	Experience in an early years or relevant setting		X	AF/I/R
	Successful implementation and working within the EYFS statutory framework		X	AF/I/R
	General Data Protection Regulation awareness		X	AF/I/R
	Experience of report writing		X	AF/I/R
Knowledge				
Includes abilities	Thorough knowledge of EYFS and safeguarding procedures		X	AF/I/OT
	Knowledge of particular health and safety issues relevant to age range		X	AF/I/OT
	Sound understanding of child development and meeting children's needs		X	AF/I/OT
	Experience of working in partnership with parents and stakeholders		X	AF/I/OT
	Creative in designing a programme of engaging activities to enhance learning		X	AF/I/OT

	Ability to be organised and diligent	X		AF/I/OT
	Knowledge of Ofsted expectations and framework		X	AF/I/OT
	General administrative skills and a range of IT skills		X	AF/I/OT
Physical Skills				
Includes any specific physical requirements of the post (subject to the provisions of the DDA Act)	Ability to participate in physical play and active-based learning	X		AF/I
Suitability to work with children and young people				
Issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people	Satisfactory DBS disclosure and standard Trust pre-employment checks Ability to work in a way that promotes the safety and well-being of children and young people	X		I/R DBS
Additional Requirements				
	Friendly, patient and enthusiastic in nature	X		AF/I
	Ability to communicate effectively and relate well to children and adults	X		AF/I
	Professional approach	X		AF/I
	Committed to professional development in connection with the post	X		AF/I
	Work in accordance with our core values and behaviours	X		AF/I
	A commitment to equality/diversity in the workplace and the wide community	X		AF/I
	A commitment to safeguarding and promoting welfare for all	X		AF/I

Next Steps

Further Details

For further information about the post, please contact Senior Manager Vickey Bruce on 01924 370 770 or email vbruce@watertonacademytrust.org

Please indicate on your application form which role, A or B you are applying for or if you would like to be considered for either.

To Apply

Completed application forms should be returned by email to meverett@watertonacademytrust.org by the closing date below.

Applicants are requested to submit a completed application form which can be downloaded from the recruitment page on the trust's website. www.watertonacademytrust.org

Selection Timeline

Closing date: Monday 26th February 2024

Shortlisting: Tuesday 27th February 2024

Interviews: Monday 11th March 2024

Waterton Academy Trust is committed to ensuring children and young people are fully supported and safe. We are dedicated to the safeguarding of all children and young people whilst promoting their welfare and expect all staff and volunteers to share this responsibility. The Trust has policies and procedures relating to safeguarding and child protection available on request.

Waterton Academy Trust follows safer recruitment processes which all applicants will be subject to. This includes the interview process containing questions about the safeguarding of children and the disclosure of criminal records and other vetting checks.

An enhanced DBS check is required for the successful candidates, this process is completed by an online third-party company. All successful candidates are required to join the DBS update service with an annual cost of £13.

The position is also subject to two satisfactory references. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to provide details of any unspent convictions and those that would not be filtered, prior to the date of the interview.

We are committed to treating all applicants fairly and have a policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders which is available to applicants on request.

Waterton Academy Trust is wholly committed in ensuring that all employees, future employees and applicants are treated equally regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, maternity, race, religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation.