

Play Volunteer Role Description

Role/ Title	Play Volunteer
Responsible to	MYC Group Coordinator
Description	Play Volunteers engage in child-led play with children 0-5yrs, interacting in a supportive and attentive way, while their mums access individual and group therapeutic support. We follow a child-led approach, allowing the children to guide and direct play while providing safe structure through the morning including the provision of a range of toys and craft, snack time and plenty of time outside to run and explore (weather permitting!). Sessions run every Tuesday and Friday through term time, with families accessing the project for up to 2 years. We hope that Play Volunteers undertake the role for a minimum of 6 months.
Duties/ Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assist in the set up and clear up for the session, setting out toys and equipment • ensure the Meeting House and garden are left as found • develop positive and trusted relationships with the children through child-led play • assist with snack time • be alert to keep children safe during indoor and outdoor play • observe and support interactions between children • share any observations from the sessions with MYC Coordinator during debriefs • report all Safeguarding concerns to MYC Coordinator or Safeguarding Lead
Skills/ Knowledge/ Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be aged 18 or over • be kind, caring and non-judgemental • enjoy being with children • be a positive role model • have patience and compassion • maintain confidentiality • physically fit enough to cope with the demands of setting up and putting away play equipment, some of which is bulky/heavy • willing to spend substantial periods of each group session outdoors all year round.
Desirable experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting/working/volunteering with children under 5yrs or have children or grandchildren of their own
Training and documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete the prescribed Safeguarding training and background reading • attend introduction and training • subsequent training opportunities offered relevant to the Play Volunteer role • Enhanced DBS check
Time commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consistently attend at least 1 morning per week at MYC group (Tuesday and/or Friday, 9:30am-12:30pm). As a guide, each month you should volunteer on at least half of the sessions running on your chosen day(s) • the minimum commitment needed is two terms/approx. 6 months. However the ideal volunteer will be able to join us for a year, in order to build positive and trusted relationships with the children and mums. • Regular attendance at team meetings following the group sessions and 2 to 3 one-to-one review sessions per year.
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quaker Meeting House, 16 Colebrook Street, Winchester SO23 9LH
Benefits	<p>As a Play Volunteer you can expect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a comprehensive induction • recognised safeguarding training provided by the NSPCC which can be used towards CPD in other organisations too • regular support and debriefs • ongoing training opportunities that are relevant to the role offered • opportunities to attend regular volunteer get-togethers provided