

Recruitment Pack



EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

EARLY YEARS PLAY WORKER

EARLY YEARS OUTREACH SERVICE

ERN06288

EXTERNAL

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Advertisement

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Person Specification

This Recruitment Pack should contain all the information you require to complete your application.



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DEPARTMENT:	Education
JOB TITLE:	Early Years Play Worker
JOB STATUS:	Part Time / Term Time - 39 Weeks
DURATION:	Fixed Term until March 2027
NUMBER OF VACANCIES:	1
GRADE:	4
TERM TIME HOURLY RATE:	£12.846 - £13.7489
PRO RATA ANNUAL SALARY:	£6,697 - £7,168
HOURS PER WEEK:	10
WORK PATTERN:	Variable between 09:00 – 15:00
LOCATION:	Various

We are seeking an Early Years Playworker to join the Early Years Outreach Service. The service leads a social communication satellite service in Arthurlie Family Centre, in addition to outreach support in other Early Language and Childcare Centres (ELCC), to enable staff to meet the needs of children with language and social communication difficulties.

The role of the Playworker will be to assist the Child Development Officers. It will include preparing materials and resources, supporting children during small group activities and play, liaising with other adults and ELCC staff, and occasionally carrying



out home visits. Applicants wishing to apply must have, or must be willing to undertake a minimum qualification of SVQ Level 2 (or NC equivalent) in child care and education (or equivalent as recognised by SSSC). Experience in a nursery environment with children 0 – 5 years is desirable, as well as experience of or an interest in working with young children with additional support needs.

This post is considered Regulated Work with Children, under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007. It is an offence to apply if you are barred from working with children. In addition to this, if you have lived or worked in any country outside the UK in the past 10 years, there may be a requirement for an overseas police check.

This post requires Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) registration. You must currently have registration or eligibility to apply from commencement of employment (you must apply to register within the first 3 months of employment to ensure registration is complete within 6 months of starting in your role).

For details of our employment policies and terms and conditions, please visit our Council Careers page <https://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/careers>

East Renfrewshire Council has launched a new 15-year Community Planning Partnership vision called 'A Place to Grow'. Please follow this link <https://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/placetogrow> to watch a video and read our full plan which sets out our shared hopes and aspirations between now and 2040 so that East Renfrewshire is a place where everyone can flourish, thrive and grow.

Please note – all applicants will be asked to provide proof of their right to work in the UK, and any offer of employment will be conditional upon verifying documentary evidence before employment commences. Further information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/prove-right-to-work>

Please note - East Renfrewshire Council does not provide Visa sponsorship.

References – during your application form completion you must provide details of a minimum of 2 referees, 1 of which should be your most recent or current employer. It is also a requirement that the referees are your previous/current managers and are not the details of work colleagues operating at the same level as you or personal referees. Please note only work email addresses for referees will be accepted. Please contact hrdirect@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk with any questions.

Pension Scheme



Employees with a contract of employment for 3 months or more are automatically included in our Local Government Pension Scheme which is a career average scheme. Pension contribution rates are based on a tiered system determined by your annual full time equivalent pensionable pay. Further details can be found in the attached document General Information for Applicants or via the Strathclyde Pension Fund website [Local Government Pension Scheme \(LGPS\) Guidance](#)

Recruitment Dates

Closing date for applications: midnight on Sunday 10 May 2026

Shortleat date: 19 May 2026

Interview date: 10 June 2026

If you would like an informal discussion about the post, please contact Ainsley McGoldrick, Depute Principal Educational Psychologist, on 07867359700 (No agencies please).

Recruitment Communication

As you are applying for this post on-line you will receive an automatic e-mail receipt once you have submitted your form.

You should also note that all communication will be sent electronically to the email address you provide on your form. This can include the following:

- Email notification advising of outcome of shortlisting
- Invite to interview email
- Conditional offer email
- Full employment contract

Given the nature of the above correspondence you should ensure that the email address you provide is secure and relevant (i.e. not public or work related if possible)

Payslips

The council provides electronic payslips online through our employee self-service portal. Successful applicants will be provided with a login to the self-service portal to access their payslip.



Guaranteed Interview Scheme

Disability Confident

If a disabled applicant can clearly show in their application that they meet the essential criteria for the job (as shown in the person specification) they will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities at interview.

Care Experienced Children and Young People – Looked After Children

For Local Government roles, if an applicant clearly shows in their application that they meet the essential criteria for the job (as shown in the person specification) and they have either been in the care of their local authority i.e. been in foster care or in residential care etc. and they are under the age of 29 years old they will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities at interview.

Veterans

For Local Government roles, if an applicant clearly shows in their application that they meet the essential criteria for the job (as shown in the person specification) and can demonstrate in their work history they are a Veteran of the armed forces who has left or is leaving service then applicants will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities at interview.

Trainee Roles or Modern Apprentices

For modern apprentices or traineeship roles where the applicant is an East Renfrewshire Council resident or school leaver, they will be guaranteed interview if the applicant clearly shows in their application that they meet the essential criteria for the job.



Equalities

East Renfrewshire Council is committed to encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion among our workforce, and eliminating unlawful discrimination.

Our aim is for our workforce to be truly representative of all sections of society and our customers, and for each employee to feel respected and able to give their best.

We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies, and employee benefits to support staff from different backgrounds.

East Renfrewshire Council has committed to implement the key recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Equalities and Human Rights Committee's Race Equality, Employment and Skills: Making Progress report.

Application Guidance

For help on completing East Renfrewshire Council's Local Government application form, we have provided guidance on our Careers webpage under the Applying to Work for Us section which can be found here

- <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/careers>

Please fill out the application using your own words, based on your own experiences. We ask that candidates do not use AI tools to complete recruitment application forms. We value authenticity and are genuinely interested in reading candidates personally written applications. If it looks like your application was created using AI, we may not be able to consider it unless you've told us in advance and we've agreed this as part of a reasonable adjustment.

Privacy Notice

If you would like more information about how we handle your data please read our Privacy Notice which can be found here:

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/hr-privacy-notice>



JOB DESCRIPTION



Department: Education

Division/Section: Early Years Outreach Service

Job Title: Early Years Playworker

Responsible to: Depute Principal Educational Psychologist

Grade: Grade 4

Date Revised: May 2018

Principal Functions: To support the work of the Early Years Outreach Service under the direction of Educational Psychology Service, where the main focus is to provide support to children aged 0-5 years who have social communication needs.

To provide support to Child Development Officers by assisting with practical tasks, preparing learning materials and resources, and supporting children during activities, play, and with self-care and independence tasks.

Main Duties: **Provide support for learning and teaching in an early learning and child care setting.**

To support and provide a caring, safe and stimulating learning environment which enables each child to develop at their own pace

Assist individual children with additional support needs with a range of pre-planned learning activities

Provide support with play and practical tasks in a range of contexts within nursery playrooms and outdoors



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Under the direction of Child Development Officers, support children in the development of social communication skills and language through play (e.g. turn taking; joint attention skills)

Under the direction of Child Development Officers, contribute to planning for children with additional support needs

Contribute to the Quality and Care and Welfare of Children

Implement health and safety guidelines

Build positive and nurturing relationships with children aged 0-5 years of age

Contribute to a positive ethos across the early years setting including children, staff, parents, families and other partner agencies

Support and encourage children with their self-help skills e.g. dressing

Support children aged 0-5 with social communication needs and with varying stages of toileting, including the changing of children who soil themselves

Administer prescribed medication according to the authorities guidelines on the Administration of Medicines

Follow Child Protection procedures

Prepare and serve snacks and meals for children in a controlled environment following ERCs guidance

Set up and clear away before and after snacks and mealtimes

Assist and supervise children during snack and meal times, encouraging their independence, ensuring this is a pleasurable experience

Comply with standards set by the Care Inspectorate and the care and welfare of children aged 0-5 years of age

In conjunction with Child Development Officers carry out home visits where appropriate.

Contribute to the Effective Organisation of Materials and Resources



Set up and clear away resources and equipment

Assist with the creation and development of resources and strategies such as visuals, visual timetables and appropriate sensory activities.

Provide Administrative Support to the Nursery Teacher and Child Development Officers

Support staff in the gathering of information regarding children's learning and development

Contribute to planning for children with additional support needs, and liaise with others as a means of monitoring and reviewing their progress

Undertake any relevant training organised by the authority or any nationally recognised award scheme

Take part in the councils Performance review and development scheme

Carry out any other support assistant duties as prescribed by the Depute Principal Educational Psychologist or other persons acting on his or her behalf as appropriate to the grade of the post

PERSON SPECIFICATION

POST OF: Early Years Play Worker GRADE: 4	SERVICE: Early Learning and Child Care DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION		
ATTRIBUTES	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	METHOD OF ASSESSMENT
PROFESSIONAL/ EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS SVQ Level 2 (or NC equivalent) in child care and education (or equivalent childcare qualification as recognised by SSSC) or the commitment to complete this qualification within 5 years from commencement of employment. Current registration as a Support Worker with the SSSC or eligibility to apply from commencement of employment	✓ ✓		Application Form
RELEVANT WORK/ OTHER EXPERIENCE Experience in nursery education. Evidence of knowledge of child development.		✓	Interview
SKILLS AND ABILITIES Ability to cooperate with other adults and work as a team member and contribute to positive ethos Experience in working collaboratively and evaluating own effectiveness in the team	✓	✓	Interview

Interest in or experience of working with children with additional support needs.		✓	Interview
PERSONAL QUALITIES Ability to communicate with children, parents & staff. Ability to listen, be tactful & approachable. Ability to respectfully & sensitively manage young children. Ability to be flexible. Experience in developing a strong rapport with staff, children & parents and other agencies Assertive, participative & confident. Experience in developing warm respectful relationships with children and adults.	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	Interview
ADDITIONAL JOB REQUIREMENTS Attend in-service courses Attend evening meetings Willing to participate in further education Has undertaken recent training in, or is willing to undertake training in, moving and handling and administration of medication	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	Interview