**KINGSTON PLAY LEADER | SATURDAYS & SCHOOL HOLIDAYS | £14 PER HOUR**

**Role & Responsibilities:**

* The Leader is responsible for researching and inspiring fun and creative activities that excite and ‘wow’ children. The Leader will identify toys and equipment to facilitate activities.
* It is the Leader’s responsibility to provide and maintain a physical environment that is cared for, respected and valued by children, staff and visitors. An efficient and well cared for environment will allow staff to deliver effective play and youth work.
* The Leader has an important role in supporting a team of staff who are often young themselves. The Leader is responsible for the day-to-day supervision and oversight of staff at Challengers.
* Children and young people at Challengers should feel welcome, safe and that they ‘belong’. The Leader will support a staff team to provide a supportive environment where children feel confident, happy and able to challenge their limits.

*Please see the full job description on our website for more information.*

**Personal Specification:**

* Able to demonstrate the skills necessary to motivate, encourage, organise, lead and supervise the staff team in a professional manner in an informal working environment.
* Experience of leadership in a play or youth environment is desirable.
* It is desirable that applicants have a Level 3 qualification in play, youth work or Early Years of relevant qualification.
* Ability to perform basic administration duties – authorising time sheets, completing forms and liaising with parents and the Play and Leisure Team.
* Commitment to the development of high quality (interesting, fun and creative) play opportunities for disabled children. The ability to plan varied play and youth programmes and delegate work to other team members.
* Experience of play or youth work. It is desirable that applicants have experience working with disabled children and young people.
* An understanding and appreciation of the experience of disabled, young people and their families – a practical appreciation of the barriers to inclusion that disabled children and their families experience.
* An understanding of the importance of all children’s need to play and how play and youth staff can support children and young people to do so.
* Demonstrate a physical and emotional capacity for the enthusiasm and energy that children require of their playmates – be prepared to be a playmate, support and/or facilitate a child or young person’s inclusion in activities and provide physical care and supervision and get to know the children and young people who attend Challengers schemes.

**What we offer:**

* **Salary -** £14 per hour.
* **Working Hours –** Saturdays during term time (9:00 – 5:00) plus ad-hoc meetings and up to 3 hours admin per week, Monday – Friday during School Holidays (9:00 -5:00).
* **Free Training -** We regularly invite all our staff to free training courses including Disability and Inclusion Awareness, Medication Administration, Safeguarding, First Aid, Makaton and more.
* **Discounts -** We have access to deals and discounts at multiple online and high street stores where you can save money on tech, finance, travel, fashion & beauty.
* **Free DBS -** As we require all staff to have a DBS before they start with us, we have decided to offer this free of charge.
* **Pension & Health Care Cash Plan –** All our staff have access to a NEST pension and Simply Health, health care plan.

**About us:**

Challengers is an independent children’s charity that gives disabled children and young people the opportunity to play, have fun, and make friends in a safe and supportive environment.

Play is vital for every child’s happiness and development, but sadly too many disabled young people miss out on it every day. There are many barriers stopping disabled children from playing - from physical impairments and a lack of accessible play facilities, to simply a lack of time and support.

At Challengers, we remove these barriers by providing truly inclusive play and leisure opportunities that everyone can enjoy, and our non-exclusion policy means that we welcome every child and will always find a way to support their needs.

We have been passionate champions of inclusion since the charity was established in 1979, and more than 40 years on, Challengers has grown to support thousands of disabled children and young people across the South of England.

For many families, Challengers is a lifeline that they simply wouldn't be able to cope without. Families with disabled children can use our schemes as short breaks from care responsibilities to pursue other activities. They can relax, knowing that their child is safely cared for and having a great time with friends at Challengers.

**Safeguarding**

Challengers is committed to safeguarding and protecting the children and young people that we work with. As such all posts are subject to a safer recruitment process, including the disclosure of criminal records and vetting checks. We ensure that we have a range of policies and procedures in place which promote safeguarding and safer working practice across the organisation.