JOB DESCRIPTION: 555 Support Worker

DEPARTMENT: Service

LOCATION: Farnham / Guildford

REPORTS TO: 555 Manager

PAY SCALE: Worker / Worker Plus Rate

BUDGET RESPONSIBILITY: No

LINE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY: N/A

LIAISE WITH: Parents, External Professionals, Challengers' Teams

MAIN PURPOSE:

To play with and care for young people who attend our 555 service which provides emergency alternative provision for young people without a school placement. To be part of a team and conduct yourself in accordance with Challengers Policies and Procedures.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Being a part of the 555 Team to provide a high quality, fun, and friendly service for young people aged 5-18 years, some of which may be extremely vulnerable and may have been excluded from school setting. This may mean that they may show behaviour that challenges.
- Assisting the scheme Manager and Deputy in all aspects of caring and supervision of children and young people who attend Challengers– encouraging and supporting children to fully realise their abilities and providing a safe and happy play environment.
- To conduct yourself and represent the Charity in a manner which reflects all the values and principles of The Challengers Approach and always being an advocate for disabled children and young people at all times, including on social media.
- To provide all aspects of one-to-one, two-to-one or three-to-one care, personal, medical and intimate care, manual handling tasks and positive behaviour support for the young people who attend. This includes toileting, feeding and ensuring all care needs are met.
- To support in delivering fun and inspiring 'play', by setting up structured activities and encouraging 'free play' amongst the groups. This includes doing out in the community with a young person to support in developing life skills.
- You are expected to prepare yourself for the day by reading the children's information sheets and care plans as well as completing some administrative tasks when required to support the Manager and Deputy. This can include supporting in sharing of information prior to a meeting.
- To ensure that the children and young people at 555 are supported physically and emotionally as required. The children and young people we work with are often in difficult and stressful situations and you will need to support them, showing appropriate physical and emotional affection at all times.

- To communicate with confidence and willingness to build relationships with different stakeholders – your team and children and young people are essential, but you will also need to build rapport with and share information with Parents at handover times when required.
- To work as part of a team – this includes communication, sharing information and passing on your skills to the team; As well as physical teamwork such as setting up the site, cleaning at the end of the day, running activities and supporting colleagues with physical tasks.
- To support the team to comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act (information and training available from Challengers). Assisting the team at all Challengers venues and sites to maintain a clean, tidy, secure site – treating and using buildings, structures, toys and equipment with respect and care. Reporting any damaged equipment to the Manager and Deputy.
- To attend staff training to learn new skills which will help to develop an understanding of good practice in play and leisure for disabled young people. Where possible training will be provided in Farnham, but you may be expected to travel to training that is not in Farnham. You may be expected to attend training at weekends.
- To report any concern about a child's welfare or safety in accordance with Challengers Safeguarding Policy and Procedure.

This is not an exhausted list-no job can be fully defined in one neat list. We will be looking for your flexibility to carry out other duties as may be responsibly required by your line manager to meet the changing needs of the department

PERSONAL SPECIFICATION:

ESSENTIAL

- *This is a physically and emotionally demanding post; the post holder must be resilient, adaptable and have the ability to carry out the physical aspects of the role. These include (but are not exclusive to) physically supporting children, for example on and off equipment, during personal or intimate care, and lifting and chasing in an emergency.*
- *The environment is often busy and noisy; you must be able to confidently cope in this challenging environment.*
- *An ability to demonstrate capacity for the enthusiasm and energy that children require of their playmates – be prepared to "let go" and have fun.*
- *Have the ability to work well within a team in an informal working environment, whilst being adaptable and disciplined to ensure the needs of the young people are met. Willingness to travel to other schemes as required.*
- *To have an understanding and commitment to the development of high quality, interesting, fun, and creative play opportunities for disabled children, even those with behaviour which requires extra support. Being passionate about providing activities that include all children on scheme.*
- *Being motivated to ensure all young people have the opportunity to play. Be prepared to use the skills you have – these may include the arts, music, sport, drama, gardening, computing and many more.*

DESIRABLE

- *Experience of working with children or young people, particularly with disabled children or young people and/or in the field of play.*
- Paediatric First Aid
- *Completion of other relevant courses including CPI Safety Intervention Training*