

## JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	Play Worker
CLINICAL UNIT:	Therapy Services
BASE:	The Portland Hospital for Women and Children
MANAGED BY:	Allied Health Professions Manager
ACCOUNTABLE TO:	Chief Nursing Officer

## HOSPITAL PROFILE

Internationally renowned for clinical excellence, The Portland Hospital is the only independent hospital in the UK entirely dedicated to women and children. Our inpatient and outpatient specialties reflect this, providing clinical expertise in Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Women's Health.

The hospital has been consistently growing over the past few years, almost doubling since 2008.

Our Paediatric wards hold 56 inpatient beds + 11 day case and are equipped with the latest technology to provide advanced medical and surgical care, including a Paediatric Intensive Care Unit which reflects the acuity and complex nature of the children who are admitted to our hospital. The Portland Hospital has a large number of international Paediatric patients, often funded by relevant embassies.

The Portland Hospital is the only fully private maternity hospital in the UK. The hospital provides for both consultant-led and midwifery-led deliveries, having an 18 bedded ward to facilitate this. Alongside this there is a 12 bedded Gynecology and Women's Health in-patient ward. The Portland Hospital also has a large outpatient department for all areas of its clinical expertise, to facilitate continuous care or simpler procedures.

The culture at The Portland Hospital is to provide support, an inspiring environment and positive ways of working to ensure everyone has a better day. This is accomplished through our core set of 'Positively Portland' values that all employees will work to:

Greetings, Respect, Teamwork, Initiative, Responsibility and Acknowledgement

## JOB SUMMARY

Working within the team of play specialists to provide a high standard of care to all patients in need of the service. The service will span the paediatric wards, neurorehabilitation unit, MRI department, pre admission clinics and day care unit. Staff will draw on their knowledge and skills (play preparation, distraction therapy and post procedural play skills) to support the service in line with the NAHPS code of professional conduct and hospital policies.

## MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### **Working with patients and families**

- To organise and supervise play activities for individuals and groups of children and young people in hospital, according to their individual needs and as part of their overall treatment plan
- To plan a programme of daily activities for the playroom
- To communicate effectively with children/ families and members of the MDT both on a verbal and written basis
- To provide play based observations to support the overall assessment of the child
- To ensure that up to date written records and activities data are maintained in accordance with professional and local standards
- Maintain patient confidentiality
- To monitor play resources and maintain play equipment in accordance with HCA health and safety and infection control standards
- Respect the individuality, values, cultural and religious diversity of patients and their families and contribute to the provision of a service sensitive to these needs
- To participate in the delivery of the play service development plan and Therapy Services objectives
- To review and reflect on own practice and performance through the effective use of clinical supervision and appraisal and maintain a current CPD folder
- To identify own limitations within scope of practice and seek support from line manager for guidance and advice on issues outside of own clinical practice and competency
- To actively seek continuous professional development and comply with evidence-based practice
- To attend all mandatory training required by the Portland Hospital and HCA and abide by all HCA corporate policies and procedures, rules and regulations
- To participate in relevant meetings within HCA therapy services including but not limited to staff meetings, MDT meetings and in-service training
- Responsible for the 'Portly' package

### **Communication**

- To establish effective communication, both verbal and written with all members of the multi-disciplinary team
- To ensure that up to date written records and activities data are maintained in accordance professional and local standards
- To use interpersonal skills and communication to support families when children / teenagers have a life limiting condition and complex needs
- To report concerns regarding child protection issues to the Senior Play Specialist/ Therapy Manager/ Nurse in charge
- To provide play based observations to influence and support the overall assessment of the child
- To participate in monthly HPS meetings with our sister hospital Harley Street Clinic
- To participate in relevant meetings within Portland therapy services including but not limited to staff meetings, MDT meetings and in-service training

### **Professional Development**

- To apply theoretical knowledge and understanding to professional practice
- To review and reflect on own practice and performance through effective use of clinical supervision and appraisal
- To actively seek continuous professional development and comply with evidence-based practice, maintaining up to date knowledge of best practice and a current CPD file
- To identify own limitations within scope of practice and seek support from line manager for guidance and advice on issues outside of own clinical practice and competency
- To attend all mandatory training required by the Portland Hospital and HCA and abide by all HCA corporate policies and procedures, rules and regulations

### **Quality and Audit**

- To comply with the HCA code of conduct and local policies and procedures

- To participate in the delivery of the play service development plan and Therapy Services objectives
- To assist with the regular evaluation of the play service with the Play Team to ensure the needs of the children and young people are being met.
- To collate play provision figures as requested by the Senior HPS or Children Services Manager

## KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

### **Essential**

- NNEB
- NVQ Level 4/5 Child Care or equivalent
- Knowledge and understanding of child development
- Play skills
- Knowledge of child protection issues
- Experience of working with children/ young people in a hospital environment
- Experience of working within an hospital environment
- Basic knowledge of health legislation and NAHPS guidelines for professional practice
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Knowledge of health, safety and risk assessments
- Evidence of computer skills using Microsoft word
- Commitment to client centered non discriminatory practice
- Willingness to work with flexibility
- Demonstrates initiative
- Physical abilities to carry out demands of role including manual handling
- Commitment to patient/ family centered non discriminatory practice

### **Desirable**

- Basic knowledge of principles of clinical governance
- Awareness of technology eg: iPads and Wii

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/POLICIES

The post holder will have access to confidential information, which may only be disclosed to parties entitled to receive it. Unauthorised disclosure is a disciplinary offence in accordance with the HCA International Confidentiality and Security Agreement.

The Portland Hospital is a regulated organisation and as such, all post holders must have their criminal record checked. You will be asked to declare any criminal convictions during the application process and if you are the preferred candidate for the post an enhanced CRB record check will be made by HCA International.

The Portland Hospital is a dynamic organisation; therefore this job description maybe subject to change in accordance with the service provision of the ward and The Portland Hospital. Any proposed amendments to reflect or anticipate changes to the post will be amended in consultation with the postholder.

**Employee:**

I agree that the attached job specification has been discussed with me and that I understand my primary responsibilities within this role.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Manager/HR:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_