

Job Description

Job title	Early Years Educator
School/Service	Institute of Education (IoE) - Children & Family Services
Normal Workbase	Stoke
Tenure	Permanent
Grade/Salary	Grade 3
FTE	Full Time – 1 FTE
Date prepared	September 2021

Job Purpose
To provide a high standard of childcare and education within Staffordshire University Nurseries. Meeting Early Years Ofsted and statutory requirements.

Relationships
Reporting to: Nursery Manager / Head of Childcare Services
Responsible for: Children and students on placement as appropriate
Key relationships: Children, Parents, Colleagues, students on placement and external professionals

Main Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To adhere to all Childcare legislation, meet legal requirements set out in the Statutory Early Years Framework, Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice and Health and Safety requirements Have responsibility and be accountable to safeguard children and act in accordance with service policies and Local Safeguarding Boards procedures To adhere to the policies, procedures and quality standards set out by the Childcare Management Team and contribute to consultation and development of policies and procedures as appropriate Deliver the requirements set out in Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework (EYFS) relevant to full day-care settings Have responsibility to act as a key person for a designated group of children, to establish and maintain positive relationships with children and their families in a way that values parental involvement and supports children's development and well-being Deliver high quality teaching utilising varied and appropriate teaching strategies providing meaningful

learning experiences that support the holistic development of children within the setting

- Accountable to undertake and maintain records of formative and summative observations and assessment of children's care, learning and developmental needs, tracking children's progress, next steps and strategies to shape future learning opportunities.
- To plan, prepare, deliver and evaluate indoor and outdoor learning experiences which will enhance children's physical, intellectual, linguistic, emotional, social and moral development
- To identify and support children whose progress, development or well-being is affected by changes, difficulties in their personal circumstances, or presenting special educational needs and/or disability; reporting to parents, the management team or referring to professionals for specialist support in line with Early Help, Special Educational Needs and Disability code of practice, government / local authorities procedures.
- Provide varied means of informal and formal communication opportunities for parents/ carers and to contribute to the work of a multi-professional team about children's well-being, learning and development and, where appropriate, coordinate and implement agreed programmes and interventions on a day-to-day basis to improve outcomes
- To promote children's pro-social behaviour, resilience, self-regulation and independence through using effective support strategies and developing children's emotional and social capabilities in line with emotional and behavioural well-being policies
- To promote children and families' rights, equality, inclusion and anti-discriminatory practice in all aspects of the nursery along with exposing children to experiences and learning opportunities within their local community.
- To establish and maintain a safe environment and employ practices that promote children's health, safety and physical, mental and emotional well-being
- To be responsible for the care, cleaning and maintenance of nursery resources and equipment, reporting loss/damage, issues, low stocks to management team
- To carry out, review and implement risk assessments and safety walks in-line with requirements set out in University, Nursery and EYFS Safeguarding and Welfare requirements
- Administer medicine, record all absences, accidents, injuries and medicines following nursery procedures
- To attend and engage in OFSTED preparation, open days, team meetings, nursery projects and developments, actively participate in fund raising activities as required out of usual working hours
- To work collaboratively and cooperatively with all colleagues as part of a team
- To work shifts as appropriate and cover colleagues' absences as and when necessary
- To assist, supervise and support students, colleagues and volunteers undertaking work-based learning placements and research
- To be proactive in engaging in self-reflection and the continuation of own professional development learning, such as; participating positively in supervisions, team meetings, teaching and learning observations, observation, assessment and planning monitoring, appraisals, reviews, nursery improvement plans, Ofsted self-evaluation and attending training including mandatory courses such as; food hygiene, paediatric first aid, prevent and safeguarding

- To act as an ambassador/ advocate for the organisation and maintain a positive image of its ethos and objectives. Adhering to service professional standards and competencies framework
- To participate in key University events including Open Days, Visit Days and Awards Ceremonies; promoting the provision within The Institute of Education as appropriate
- The role holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of their role and to actively contribute to the delivery of the University's Environmental Sustainability Policy.
- To undertake other such responsibilities as may reasonably be required.

Special Conditions

The role holder will be required to travel between sites from time to time in a cost-effective manner, which may be through the use of a car.

Professional Development

The organisation is keen to support staff in achieving high standards and will expect continuous professional development to ensure up to date knowledge and technical skills in related areas.

Variation to Job Description

The employer reserves the right to vary the duties and responsibilities of its employees within the general conditions of the Scheme of pay and conditions and employment related matters. Thus, it must be appreciated that the duties and responsibilities outlined above may be altered as the changing needs of the service may require.

Conditions of Service

If you are successful in being appointed to a professional support role at Grades 1-6, you will be employed by Staffordshire University Services Limited (SUS Ltd).

Staffordshire University Services Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company of Staffordshire University which provides professional support staff to undertake various roles and responsibilities associated with grades 1 to 6 on the Staffordshire University pay scale. You'll work alongside, and under the direction of colleagues, within the University's Schools and Services in the delivery of our University Plan and supporting KPIs. You will be subject to Staffordshire University's policies and procedures and will be eligible to participate in the Staffordshire University Pension Scheme.

Informal Discussion

Should you wish to discuss this vacancy informally before making an application please contact: Amanda Sherratt, Head of Childcare and Family Services on 01782 294973 or Susan Hambleton, Nursery Manager on 01782 294981 (please call if you wish to organise a visit to the nursery prior to interview).

Application Procedure

We encourage you to apply on-line at our website <http://jobs.staffs.ac.uk> as the system is user friendly and simple to complete.

We would ask all applicants to ensure that they have provided comprehensive information under each criteria in the Supporting Statements section of the application form and, if necessary, add any relevant additional information in the Additional Information Section.

Guidance for Disclosure Applicants

Please note that, if offered this position, the appointment procedure requires an Enhanced level of Disclosure with the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) (formerly CRB) as detailed above in the enclosed job description.

Enhanced Disclosures are for posts that involve a significant degree of contact with children or vulnerable adults. In general the type of work will involve regularly caring for, supervising, training or being in sole charge of such people.

A Disclosure is a document containing information held by the police and government departments. It can be used by employers to make safer recruitment decisions and is provided by the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS), an executive agency of the Home Office. Disclosures will provide details of a person's criminal record including relevant cautions, convictions, reprimands and warnings held on the Police National Computer (PNC). Depending on the level of Disclosure it might also contain information held by government departments and local police forces.

In applying for a Disclosure the successful applicant will be provided with the relevant form and guidance notes supplied by DBS. The form must be completed and returned to Human Resources & Organisational Development together with various **original** documents confirming identity (full details will be provided at the time). The successful applicant will be required to disclose all reprimands, warnings, cautions and convictions that are not 'protected' as defined by the *Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (Amendment) (England and Wales) Order 2013*. Certain spent reprimands, warnings, convictions and cautions are 'protected' and as such are not required to be disclosed. Any such protected offences cannot be taken into account, when making recruitment and suitability decisions.

The completed Disclosure application form will be countersigned and forwarded to the DBS by Human Resources & Organisational Development.

The DBS will then undertake the necessary checks with the Police and other relevant authorities.

After all checks have been carried out, the DBS will send the Disclosure directly to the applicant, which will list any details obtained from those checks. This Disclosure must be presented to the School/Service to be scrutinised- details of whom this document must be presented to will be given at the time. In the event of the DBS check highlighting information held on any of the databases accessed, it may be necessary for a meeting to be convened with the successful applicant in order for an informed decision to be made as to whether or not this affects the offer of appointment. The final decision as to whether appointment can proceed will be made by the Director of Human Resources.

Policy Statement on the Recruitment and Employment of Ex-Offenders

Background

The first priority of Staffordshire University and Staffordshire University Services Limited is the safety and welfare of children and vulnerable adults in our care, who use the services of the University or come into contact with members of the University and associated companies. We intend to achieve this by exercising rigour and vigilance in employment-making; criminal record Disclosures are central to this.

Recipients of criminal record Disclosures must duly comply with the DBS Code of Practice as well as the University's policies and procedures. Disclosure information will be treated as sensitive personal data; recipients will follow the University's data protection and criminal record checking procedure when handling Disclosure information. The organisation will treat all applicants fairly judging people's criminal records on merit, in accordance with the law and in relation to the responsibilities of the post in question. The University and Staffordshire University Services Limited will not subject anyone who discloses a criminal record to unfair treatment on the basis of convictions, subject to relevant legislation and reasonable judgement.

Policy Statement

- As an organisation using the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) Disclosure service to assess applicants' suitability for positions of trust, Staffordshire University Services Limited complies fully with the DBS Code of Practice and undertakes to treat all applicants for positions fairly. It undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a Disclosure on the basis of a conviction or other information revealed
- Staffordshire University Services Limited and the University is committed to the fair treatment of its staff, potential staff or users of its services, regardless of gender, race, nationality, religion or belief, disability, age, sexual orientation or trades union activity or offending background
- We have a written policy on the employment of ex-offenders which is available on the University's website
- We actively promote equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills and potential and welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records. We select all candidates for interview based on their skills, qualifications and experience
- A Disclosure is only requested after a thorough risk assessment has indicated that one is both proportionate and relevant to the position concerned. For those positions where a Disclosure is required, all job advertisements and job descriptions will contain a statement that a disclosure will be requested in the event of the individual being offered the position
- Where a Disclosure is to form part of the recruitment process, we encourage all applicants called for interview to provide details of their criminal record at an early stage in the application process. We request that this information is sent under separate, confidential cover, to Human Resources & Organisational Development at Staffordshire University, and we guarantee that this information will only be seen by those who need to see it as part of the recruitment process
- Disclosure is required for all reprimands, warnings, cautions and convictions that are not 'protected' as defined by the *Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (Amendment) (England and Wales) Order 2013*. Certain spent reprimands, warnings, convictions and cautions are 'protected' and as such are not required to be disclosed. Any such protected offences cannot be taken into account, when making recruitment and suitability decisions
- We ensure that those in the organisation who are involved in the recruitment process have been suitably trained to identify and assess the relevance and circumstances of the offences. We also ensure that they have received appropriate training and guidance in the relevant legislation relating to the employment of ex-offenders
- At interview, or in a separate discussion, we ensure that an open and measured discussion takes place on the subject of any offences or other matter that might be relevant to the position. Failure to reveal information that is directly relevant to the position sought could lead to a withdrawal of an offer of employment
- We make every subject of a DBS Disclosure aware of the existence of the DBS Code of Practice and make a copy available on request
- We undertake to discuss any matter revealed in a Disclosure with the person seeking the position before withdrawing a conditional offer of employment
- Having a criminal record is not necessarily a bar to working with us; this will depend on the nature of the position, the circumstances and background of offences.

