



Job Description and Person Specification

Casual Youth Support Worker

Job Title:	Casual Support Worker
Location:	Various across Oxfordshire, and occasionally other areas
Salary:	£12.50 per hour (higher rate may be available depending on experience).
Hours of work:	Various hours offered and agreed by the Chief Executive Officer.
Reporting to:	Youth Work Coordinator
Job outline:	To assist the Youth Work Coordinator to maintain fun, sociable and nurturing holiday activities and youth groups for autistic children and young people who do not have a Learning Disability. The activities offer opportunities for children and young people to play, socialise, and make friends.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Youth work: supporting young people on the autism spectrum in a group setting**
 - 1.1. To assist with providing fun, nurturing, social, and safe activities for groups of young people on the autism spectrum in our holiday activities and/or youth groups, under the guidance of the Coordinator.
 - 1.2. To support young people to participate in activities, to facilitate and support social skills, encourage and facilitate friendships amongst the young people.
 - 1.3. To support young people using autism-friendly behavioural strategies in 'the AFSO way' – to nurture, enable, and inspire.
 - 1.4. To build appropriate relationships with young people.
 - 1.5. To implement planned sessions using initiative and responsibility.
 - 1.6. Support the Coordinators to deliver a programme of appropriate activities for young people on the autism spectrum.
 - 1.7. To be aware of, and implement current policy and Codes of Practice on Safeguarding Children, Equal Opportunities, Confidentiality, challenging prejudice and discrimination and to promote good practice generally within the setting.
- 2. Staff, Colleagues and Training**
 - 2.1. Assist and support the Coordinator with the running of activities.
 - 2.2. Maintain good and timely communication with all project staff, venue staff, and volunteers.
 - 2.3. To attend staff briefings and debriefs, and undertake preparation for sessions.
 - 2.4. To support the staff team, be a good team player and support peers with the running of activities.
 - 2.5. Undertake appropriate training as identified with the line manager.
 - 2.6. Attend occasional staff meetings as required.

3. Reports and administration

- 3.1. To assist the coordinator with appropriate administrative records and reports, if needed

4. Policy, practice and other duties

- 4.1. To implement and work in accordance with all Autism Family Support Oxfordshire policies, in particular Safeguarding Children, Confidentiality, Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety.
- 4.2. Maintain confidentiality in all areas of the setting and Autism Family Support Oxfordshire and its work. The nature of the work entrusts people with confidential information about families and staff. Any breach of this confidentiality will constitute gross misconduct.
- 4.3. Such other duties as may be required and are appropriate for the nature and grade of the post.

5. General Responsibilities

- 5.1. Cooperate with all Autism Family Support Oxfordshire staff in maintaining good relationships with outside agencies and the general public in order to uphold the organisation's repute.
- 5.2. Promote a positive image of autism and the organisations involved with the project

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Autism Family Support Oxfordshire is committed to the principle and practice of actively promoting equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all. We aim to ensure that no individual receives less than favourable treatment on the grounds of age (except in relation to retirement), colour, disability, ethnic or national origin, marital or parental status, nationality, personal circumstances, race, religious belief, sexual orientation, social class or any other grounds which are unjustifiable in terms of equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

SUMMARY OF TERMS & CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The post is subject to a satisfactory DBS check, two references, and a 6-month probationary period

NOTE: The job description above reflects the present requirements of the post. As developments occur and duties and responsibilities change the job description will be reviewed and may be subject to amendment in consultation with the post holder.

PERSON SPECIFICATION – see page 3

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The successful candidate will have all the experience and skills listed in the 'Essential' criteria below and demonstrate this in their application. The criteria will be assessed in the shortlisting process.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Experience		
Supporting autistic young people in a group setting	✓	
Supporting young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties	✓	
Creating and implementing autism-specific behaviour support strategies	✓	
Using initiative and taking responsibility in a youth work setting	✓	
Implementing procedures relating to Safeguarding Children, and Confidentiality in a youth work setting	✓	
Working with parents/carers		✓
Qualifications and knowledge		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSEs • Qualification in youth work, community work, social care, or related field 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
Personal qualities & skills		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to facilitate group work with children • A sense of fun while mature and responsible • Good interpersonal skills and diplomacy • Able to encourage and support social skills • A supportive and proactive team member • Patience and empathy • Flexibility • Non-judgemental • Creativity in a youth group setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ 	
Other requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to work some days in Summer and Easter school holidays, and/or occasional Wednesday or Friday evenings and/or Saturdays during term time. • Able to reliably travel to at least one of the following sites: Oxford, Wolvercote, Didcot, Banbury (other sites across Oxfordshire are optional) • Own transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓

To apply for this post

Visit our website: www.afso.org.uk/vacancies

Closing Date: Ongoing recruitment – we encourage applications at any time, and especially in the months before Easter and Summer school holidays.

This post is subject to satisfactory Enhanced DBS check and 2 references.

For specific enquiries about this vacancy please contact:

Gita Lobo, Chief Executive Officer Tel: 07929 379125 Email: gita@afso.org.uk