

Contribute to the running of a playwork setting

Overview

This standard is about contributing to the running of a playwork setting and the maintenance involved in providing a healthy, safe and secure physical environment in which play can take place.

The main outcomes of this standard are:

1. contribute to the development of the playwork setting
2. contribute to the maintenance of the playwork setting
3. contribute to the maintenance of health, safety and security in the playwork setting

This standard is for a playworker working directly with children and young people in a playwork setting whose main purpose is to provide children and young people with opportunities for freely chosen, self-directed play. This standard is for staff who have some responsibility for the playwork setting and others, making a significant contribution to supporting play.

This standard is underpinned by The Playwork Principles and playworkers must be familiar with these and, where possible, demonstrate them through their practice and reflection.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Contribute to the development of the playwork setting

1. administer play provision in accordance with legal and organisational policies and procedures
2. support **others** to establish and maintain the playwork setting to meet the play needs of children and young people
3. take responsibility for risk management
4. record and file risk-benefit assessments
5. contribute to the maintenance of records in accordance with organisational policies and procedures
6. provide a playwork setting that reflects and promotes diversity and inclusion
7. provide **information** to authorised people and agencies in accordance with organisational policies and procedures
8. support children and young people's manipulation and changing of the play space
9. contribute to a culture where the staff, children and young people are involved in the creation of new and enriched play spaces within the playwork setting

Contribute to the maintenance of the playwork setting

10. provide resources which are accessible to all children and young people
11. check the playwork setting is accessible and inclusive
12. carry out all site checks with staff in accordance with organisational policies and procedures
13. report, arrange and check maintenance work is completed as required
14. monitor and maintain equipment and the playwork setting in accordance with organisational policies and procedures
15. provide a playwork setting that supports all children and young people's wellbeing

Contribute to the maintenance of health, safety and security in the playwork setting

16. contribute to the health, safety and security of children and young people
17. work with **others** to adhere to health, safety and security procedures, providing them with help and support when necessary
18. contribute to maintaining records about the health, safety and security

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requirements for your playwork setting in accordance with legal and organisational policies and procedures

- 19. provide advice about the health, safety and security procedures to all children, young people and adults using the playwork setting
- 20. maintain supervision of children and young people, considering the levels of risk and the child or young person's needs, preferences and stage of development
- 21. assist children and young people to manage risk for themselves and have an awareness of their own and **others'** safety
- 22. contribute to the review and revision of your organisational procedures on health, safety and security, as required
- 23. implement procedures for accidents, injuries, illnesses and other emergencies
- 24. contribute to the access procedures of **others** according to legal and organisational policies
- 25. contribute to the confidentiality policies and procedures in your organisation relating to the access arrangements to **information**

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

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1. the Playwork Principles within the professional and ethical framework for playwork and how each of the principles can be applied within your own role
2. how to support **others** to establish and maintain the playwork setting to meet the play needs of children and young people
3. the responsibilities to take for risk management
4. differences between formal risk assessments and dynamic risk-benefit assessments
5. how to undertake, record and reflect on dynamic risk-benefit assessments
6. theories and models of risk assessment to cover the playwork setting for children, young people and **others** both indoors, outdoors and on outings
7. the importance of carrying out observations of play within the playwork setting
8. the importance of ensuring that reflection on observations is used to improve playwork practice
9. how to maintain records in accordance with organisational policies and procedures and the importance of keeping them complete, legible and up-to-date
10. the importance of diversity and inclusion to the playwork setting
11. current models and good practice to do with inclusion
12. the social and medical models of disability and the differences between them
13. ways to recognise and overcome **barriers to inclusion** in the playwork setting
14. how to support inclusion and diversity through your words, actions and behaviours in the playwork setting
15. how to promote the playwork setting to children, young people, parents and carers who may experience barriers to participation
16. the types of support that children and young people may need to access and make best use of the playwork setting
17. organisational policies and procedures for providing **information** to authorised people and agencies and the type of **information** that may need to be passed
18. the importance of storing records confidentially in accordance with legal and organisational policies and procedures
19. ways to support children and young people's manipulation and changing of the play space

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20. ways to support a culture within the staff and the children and young people to be involved in the creation of new and enriched play spaces within the playwork setting

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21. ways of making sure there are resources which are accessible to all children and young people
22. ways of ensuring the playwork setting is accessible and inclusive
23. organisational policies and procedures for carrying out site checks
24. how to ensure maintenance work is completed in accordance with legal and organisational procedures
25. organisational policies and procedures for monitoring and maintaining equipment
26. the importance of ensuring there is a culture of change and variety in the playwork setting and amongst the team to meet the needs of all children and young people
27. the importance of ensuring that the playwork setting supports all children and young people's wellbeing
28. how to engage with children and young people to create play spaces
29. the requirement for ensuring requested play opportunities are available

Contribute to the maintenance of health, safety and security in the playwork setting

30. your responsibility for health, safety and security of children and young people
31. the statutory, regulatory and organisational policies and procedures for the health, safety and security of children, young people and **others** in your playwork setting
32. agreements on confidentiality which have been made with parents and carers
33. the importance of all children, young people and adults using the playwork setting receiving advice about the health, safety and security procedures
34. the stages of development of children and young people and the implications these have for health, safety and security arrangements
35. the importance of children and young people managing risk for themselves according to their needs, preferences and stages of development and having an awareness of their own and **others'** safety

- 36. methods of reviewing and revising your organisational policies and procedures on health, safety and security
- 37. the procedures for accidents, injuries, illnesses and other **emergencies** and how to implement these
- 38. legal and organisational procedures for the storage and administration of medicines
- 39. legal and organisational policies and procedures covering manual handling and the risks associated with lifting and carrying
- 40. the contents of a first aid kit
- 41. signs and symptoms of common childhood illness and allergies and the organisational policies and procedures for responding
- 42. **safety checking** of the indoor and outdoor environment before, during and after work activities
- 43. **good hygiene practices** to avoid risk of cross-infection

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Scope/range related to performance criteria **Others**

- 1. staff
- 2. visitors
- 3. parents and or carers

Information (*minimum of 4 out of 6*)

- 1. background
- 2. dietary needs
- 3. allergies
- 4. personal care requirements
- 5. access and collection arrangements
- 6. organisational records

Scope/range related Others**to knowledge and
understanding**

1. staff
2. visitors
3. parents and or carers

Barriers to inclusion

1. attitudinal
2. environmental
3. institutional

Information

1. background
2. dietary needs
3. allergies
4. personal care requirements
5. access and collection arrangements
6. organisational records

Emergencies

1. fire
2. missing children
3. evacuation

Safety checking

1. facilities and equipment
2. toilet and washing areas
3. movement and activity of children and young people

Good hygiene practice

1. appropriate systems to dispose of different types of waste
2. food handling
3. handling body fluids
4. contagious and blood-borne diseases

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Values

The Playwork practitioners involved in writing this standard, in conjunction with SkillsActive, have agreed to adopt the following as the set of values prescribed for all of those working within the playwork sector:

Playwork Principles

These Principles establish the professional and ethical framework for playwork and as such must be regarded as a whole. They describe what is unique about play and playwork, and provide the playwork perspective for working with children and young people. They are based on the recognition that children and young people's capacity for positive development will be enhanced if given access to the broadest range of environments and play opportunities.

1. All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and wellbeing of individuals and communities.
2. Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.
3. The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.
4. For playworkers, the play process takes precedence and playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.
5. The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.
6. The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.
7. Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.

8. Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and wellbeing of children.

The Playwork Principles are held in trust for the UK playwork profession by the Scrutiny Group that acted as an honest broker overseeing the consultations through which they were developed.

Glossary

Barriers to inclusion

Things that prevent or discourage children and young people from taking part in play provision. These may include physical barriers for disabled children and young people, but also include wider issues such as discrimination, lack of positive images, lack of culturally acceptable activities and customs, language barriers and many other factors that affect different communities

Play needs

What individual children and young people have to have in order to be able to play, but are not always able to have for a variety of reasons; for example, lack of access, overprotective adults, lack of outdoor environments, etc.

Play provision

Adult created places where children and young people can play

Play space

A place formed by children and young people playing. It can be physical, affective, permanent, transient or cyber

Playwork setting

Somewhere children and young people have the opportunity to play that is staffed by playworkers

Staff

This covers those with whom you work, for whom you are responsible, paid and or unpaid, or students and or trainees

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