**Job title:** Pre-School Leader

**Responsible to:** Pre-School Manager

**Responsible for:** Pre-school assistants.

**Purpose of the job:** To provide safe, high quality education and care for early years children. To lead and manage staff on a day-to-day basis. To contribute to and to implement early years policies. To support the manager to ensure that all statutory, legal and setting obligations are followed and met.

**Safeguarding requirement:** Little Birch Pre-School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. It is a requirement of all staff that they share this commitment and follow the prescribed policy and procedures to continuously promote a culture of safeguarding across the whole organisation.

**Main duties:**

1. To monitor the effectiveness of the setting’s curriculum; which takes into account the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), this may include working with external professionals.
2. To be responsible for providing a high quality of education and learning, ensuring that staff are properly deployed, and to offer appropriate stimulation and support to the children attending the setting.
3. To be responsible for implementing systems of observation and record keeping so that children’s progress and achievements are effectively and regularly assessed; to monitor the effectiveness of assessment procedures.
4. To organise the key person system and to effectively supervise staff on a daily basis; to be responsible for monitoring the quality of teaching; to participate in staff appraisals and to identify in-service training needs.
5. To liaise closely with parents/carers, informing them about the setting and its curriculum, exchanging information about children’s progress and encouraging parents’ involvement.
6. To ensure that Little Birch Pre-school is a safe environment for children, staff and others, that equipment is safe, standards of hygiene are high, safety procedures are implemented at all times and fire drills are regularly practised.
7. To implement any recommendations made following regulatory inspections.
8. To contribute to and to implement all early years policies and procedures, e.g. register and signing out procedures, child protection, health and safety, confidentiality, food safety, setting hygiene.
9. To ensure that children attending the setting receive a balanced and healthy diet.
10. To attend any conferences, training events or meetings, as identified by the Management Committee and to keep up-to-date with current good practice.
11. To undertake any other reasonable duties as directed by the Management Committee in accordance with the setting’s business plan/objectives.

**This job description is not an exhaustive list of duties and the post holder will be required to undertake any other reasonable duties discussed and directed by the Management Committee. The post holder is also expected to be flexible and adaptable in their approach to fulfilling their duties.** **There will be a probationary period of 8 weeks from the start of employment. References will be required.**

**Person Specification**

*Essential criteria:*

1. At least two years’ proven experience of working in an early years care and education setting or at least two years’ other suitable experience.
2. Level 3 early years education and childcare qualification or equivalent, and a commitment to obtaining a level 4 qualification.
3. Full Paediatric First Aid Certificate.
4. Sound understanding of child development, and of children’s needs.
5. Ability to plan and implement a pre-school curriculum, taking into account the SEN Code of Practice, child protection procedures and equal opportunities considerations.
6. Demonstrable and detailed knowledge of current legislation relevant to the early years.
7. Understanding of the Prevent Duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, as it relates to early years settings.
8. Ability to comply with the requirements placed on the setting by the EYFS.
9. Ability to work with parents and families to encourage their involvement.
10. Ability to effectively market the setting to maximise occupancy levels and fee income.
11. Ability to effectively lead and manage a team of adults, including conducting performance management processes e.g. induction, supervision meetings, appraisals and setting objectives.
12. Demonstrate a commitment to continuously promoting a culture of safeguarding.
13. Commitment to equal opportunities and an understanding of equality and diversity issues.

*Desirable criteria:*

1. Level 4 or above early years education and childcare qualification or degree.

**This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974) and does require an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check. Applicants must be prepared to disclose any convictions they may have and any orders which have been made against them.**