

Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Practitioner - Entry level

Job Description

Would you like to work in the outdoors with children? Our Summerlings site is based in a truly beautiful part of the Highlands – Glen Strathfarrar. Sustainably defines what we do. This means that we build our own buildings, keep our own friendly livestock and cook all our food together. Our learning is inspired and led by the children from within this environment. Your day could range from building a mud kitchen, staring at minibeasts to baking bread in our cob oven. The possibilities and wonder are endless and fascinating. That said, you need to be resilient and organised to work in the outdoors the majority of the day. There will be days of wet feet, cold noses and various messes. During your time at Summerlings you will be working alongside our qualified education team who will lead you through how we work and make sure you feel at home as part of our team. We will enable and encourage you to start the process of gaining qualifications in Early Learning and Childcare in this outdoor capacity if you wished. Your role in Summerlings will be to assist in providing the children with high-quality care and education. You will ensure all children feel safe and secure whilst supporting their development and growth.

Applicants are encouraged to volunteer/visit in the run up to applying for this post. There are options for on-site accommodation if volunteering for the Shieling Project is undertaken.

Start date:	Week beginning 09 th January
Salary:	£4680/£7.50 an hour
Contract length:	1 year (6month probation).
Working times:	Contact time 16 hours, 8.30am – 4.30pm Wednesday, 12noon-4.30pm Thursday & Friday (term time, 39 weeks). You will be expected to put time into your skills development outwith contact time.
Line manager:	Karen Marshall (Nursery Manager)

Duties and responsibilities:

- Provide kindness and support to our Summerlings.
- To be prepared to work in a professional manner with a variety of people and partners.
- Adhere to action plans to improve the service.
- Ensure all food/snacks are prepared and served in accordance with appropriate food hygiene guidelines on a daily basis.
- Help children participating in the preparation of their food provision.
- Assist with the personal care and well-being of all children
- Assist in the cleaning and maintenance procedures of the site.
- To be part of relevant planning, assessment, observation, and record keeping documentation for children.
- To organise and prepare learning resources.
- Help create and maintain spaces for the high-quality learner interactions outside.
- Be risk aware and show initiative in learning situations.
- Promote the physical development of the children
- Promote the social and emotional development of the children
- Promote positive management of children's behaviour
- Promote the children's sensory and intellectual development
- Promote the development of children's language and communication skills
- Self-assess and keep an ongoing record of your development against the job description and development planning.
- Contribute to the evaluation of the service in consultation with parents, children and the staff team.

Other duties:

- You will be encouraged to build a plan of professional learning. Training will be out with your contact time (16 hours a week, term time). This will include courses to develop skills in Learning for Sustainability, food handling and hygiene, outdoor emergency response and child protection. This Job Description is not exhaustive and will be subject to amendment.

This post is exempt from the **Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 Exclusions and Exceptions (Scotland) Order 2013** and the successful applicant will be required to become a member of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme and the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). The Shieling Project is an Equal Opportunities Employer