

Job Description Gateway Award Support Worker

Contract	5, 10 OR 15 hours per week 3 days available, 9:45am – 2:45pm
Pay:	£8.17/hour
Reports to:	Projects Manager
Work base:	Wirral Mencap Office (but most activities will be community based)

The Gateway Award is an accessible Awards programme, specifically designed for people with a learning disability. The programme enables people to set and reach goals in various areas of their lives including independence, health and leisure as well as volunteering.

The Gateway Award is similar in structure to the Duke of Edinburgh Award with bronze, silver and gold levels. Participants achieve their awards by participating in a wide range of activities throughout the year. We deliver the award programme to groups of people from our centre but most activities take place in the community.

The programme currently runs on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, of which we are seeking one or two staff for all three days. As of July 2017, the days will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday so flexibility across working days would be preferable.

Key responsibilities

- Supporting and motivating people with a learning disability to participate in a range of activities to develop their fitness, lifestyle skills, hobbies and access to the community
- Encouraging participants to try new things and to achieve as much as they possibly can during sessions, ensuring they are reaching full potential
- Ensuring the welfare and safety of participants by following Wirral Mencap policies and procedures
- Providing individualised care and support to participants where necessary
- Working alongside the Supervisor and Activity Instructors (i.e. sports, dance, music) to adapt activities for people with a learning disability
- Supporting the delivery of in-house activities (arts and crafts/ cookery) as directed by Supervisor
- Working alongside the Supervisor and Project Manager to ensure that all participants are reaching the desired outcomes as set by the Gateway Award and Wirral Mencap

Person Specification Gateway Award Support Worker

Essential Requirements

Knowledge	An understanding of the common issues faced by individuals with a learning disability and their families
	Awareness of safeguarding principles and reporting procedures
Skills/abilities	Team work
	Ability to adapt activities to include people with a learning disability
	Ability to use own initiative
Experience	Experience of providing individualised support to people with a learning disability
	Experience of developing a rapport and building relationships with people of different ages and backgrounds
Values and personal attributes	Passionate about supporting individuals to achieve their own potential
	Energetic, enthusiastic and fun!
	Patient and empathetic
	Flexible in approach
	Resourceful
	Committed to advancing opportunities for people with a learning disability

This post is subject to an enhanced criminal records check.

TO APPLY, please submit a CV and cover letter to Lizzie Carline either by email to lcarline@mencapwirral.org.uk or by post to Wirral Mencap, 42-44 Market Street, Birkenhead, CH41 5BT. The cover letter should outline your suitability for the post against the job description and person specification.

Closing date: Monday 20th March 2017, 5pm.