

Family Saturdays Volunteer Project Worker

About the 'Family Saturdays' Project:

'Family Saturdays' project is based at Hornsey Road Children's Centre for Islington families with children under 5 years of age with additional needs and living in **Finsbury Park** and **Andover Estate**, **Hillrise** and **Tollington** Wards.

Older siblings are welcome too. Last year we had an age range of children from 4 months to 10 years of age, though the majority of children are pre-school aged between 2 – 6 years of age.

The project is located in Hornsey Road Children's Centre on Saturday mornings. Families are offered a warm and friendly welcome in a community nursery space from 10am – 1pm.

Activities:

Families can play together in a well resourced nursery environment, socialise and take part in creative arts, crafts and play-based activities, go on community outings to local services and parks, such as the local Library, farm or picnics. Parents also enjoy activities for themselves such as relaxation, reflexology and jewellery-making workshops.

Play:

Play activities are planned and child lead. We encourage free expression - aiming to tune in to the child's inner world and their playful interactions and otherwise, by accepting and connecting their behaviors and expressions aloud.

Parents Group:

A Parents' discussion group is facilitated by the project worker each Saturday session unless a work shop is planned. There is opportunity for others such as parents, staff members and volunteers to co-facilitate.

Family Lunches:

Everyone joins in together for a shared lunch that families often assist preparing.

Volunteers job description:

-Genuine interest in working with family groups that include babies and children with additional needs, aged 0-5 years. Older siblings are welcome too.

- Willing to commit 3 – 5 hours on Saturday mornings for duration of project

- Be a playful person. Creative and confident manner when leading on activities, modelling play as needed and

-Be willing to assist with the parents discussion group

- Be willing to assist with food preparation
- Be willing to attend relevant training if required or desired by you .
- Be willing to contribute to post sessional feedback and reflections.
- Convey a friendly , empathic & non-judgmental attitude ; Be open-minded to different perspectives in the context of parent/child interactions .

Volunteer duties will include:

- Playing with children and attending family groups ;
- taking part and assisting in activities and outings.
- Help with setting-up and clearing up activities in the play room and outside play area.
- Assist with preparation of food for lunch .

What Volunteers can expect in return:

- Induction Day with Family Action
- DBS processed for working as a Volunteer with Family Action
- Relevant training , including Child Protection & Safeguarding
- Supervision
- Travel expenses
- Lunch expenses (lunch is provided usually).

If you are interested in the role of volunteer for the 'Family Saturdays' Project, please contact:

Please send completed applications to Laura Preston at 8 Tiltman Place, Hornsey Road Children's Centre, N7 7EN or laura.preston@family-action.org.uk Tel: 020 75272005

