Senior Youth Worker

Salary: Band 6 - £29,170 - £33,119 p.a. (£7,095 - £8,055 pro rata for 9 hours)

Permanent

9 hours per week to be worked across 3 evenings 18:00 - 21:00 (days to be discussed)

Staff need to be flexible in terms of availability as well as working from different sites

Permanent

Portsmouth Local Authority is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is also committed to promoting quality childcare across the City that works to improve outcomes for children.

DBS Disclosure at Enhanced level will be required prior to any offer of employment and this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Every post is subject to PCC and Portsmouth Safeguarding Children's Board safer recruitment procedures.

About the Youth Service:

Our Youth Service is here to inspire and support young people aged 11–19 (and up to 25 for those with learning difficulties and disabilities). We provide friendly Information, Advice and Guidance, alongside a wide range of fun, engaging activities through our youth clubs and community projects—helping young people connect, learn and grow.

We are especially committed to supporting those who may be facing challenges, including vulnerability around substance misuse, youth offending, teenage pregnancy or homelessness. By offering positive opportunities and trusted, caring support, we help young people build confidence, make informed choices and create brighter futures.

Learn more about what we do: www.pycportsmouth.co.uk/youth

Your Role as a Youth Worker:

As a Youth Worker, you'll be at the heart of our mission—**engaging with young people aged 11–19** in youth clubs and out in the community. You'll help them shape their own experiences by encouraging participation and co-creating activities that matter to them.

Your work will include:

- **Planning and leading sessions** on key topics like relationships, sexual health, bullying, racism, and substance misuse.
- **Facilitating fun and inclusive activities** such as sports, dance, cooking, and creative projects.
- **Managing spaces** like the coffee bar and supporting a respectful, welcoming environment.
- **Handling challenging behaviour** with empathy and professionalism.

You'll also take part in **detached outreach work**, connecting with young people in hotspot areas across Portsmouth—whether in parks, on the seafront, or in shopping precincts. You'll build trust, offer guidance, and signpost to other services when needed.

This role is ideal for someone who is **passionate about youth work**, enjoys being active in the community, and wants to make a real difference in young people's lives.

Who is the person?

You need to:

- Have previous experience of working with young people aged 11 - 19 years.
- Have excellent communication skills and be able to engage effectively with young people, staff, and stakeholders.
- The ability to converse at ease with service users and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post.
- Be able to plan group activities onsite and off-site that engages young people and encourages learning and self-development, including for the Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) programme.
- Be self-directed and able to work as part of a team.
- Be able to role model professional practice to other staff and demonstrate effective ways of engaging young people.
- Be able to recognise when young people are having issues and be able to respond appropriately, offering support and signposting to other agencies if necessary.
- Be able to make sound decisions to ensure the safety and well-being of young people, staff, and the wider community.
- Have an understanding of anti-discriminatory practice, this is essential.
- Be open minded but recognise and challenge inappropriateness in a young person's behaviour or language when necessary.
- Be flexible in your hours of work as you will need availability to work in the evenings and occasional weekends for off- site activities, and to work City Wide if required to meet the needs of the service.
- Be prepared to attend supervision, appropriate training relevant to the post, and team meetings as required.

Having a full clean driving licence would be advantageous for this post.

You will need to demonstrate that you have the Right to Work in the UK. No post will be offered without it.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Portsmouth City Council is the Data Controller of any personal information you provide when applying for a job. It will only be used in connection with the recruitment process and will not be kept for longer than necessary. For more detailed information you can access the Data Protection Privacy Notice on our careers portal.