DEPARTMENT OF THERAPEUTIC & SPECIALISED PLAY

CLARIFICATION OF ROLES IN BRIEF OF
PLAY SPECIALISTS (BAND 5) & PLAY LEADERS (BAND 4)
(Please see Job Descriptions for More Details)

PLAY SPECIALIST (BAND 5)

WARD/DEPARTMENT LINKS

T SHIRT – ROYAL BLUE

Core Responsibility/Main Duties

• Psychological preparation for various procedures and treatments
• Distraction/diversional therapies of all procedures and treatments
• Post-procedural play and psycho-social support
• Simple anxiety management
• Work around phobias e.g. ‘hospitals’, needles etc and non-compliance
• Information sharing regarding conditions, treatments and procedures

Secondary Responsibilities:

• Normalisation play and recreation inclusive of equality and diversity (age, disability and ethnicity)
• Development play / recreation and support through planned one to one or group sessions
• In collaboration with Play Leader/Healthcare Practitioner update and replenish stock for therapeutic and specialised play provision
• To work in conjunction with the ward/departmental teams to maintain health, safety, infection control, security and safeguarding of all aspects of play and recreation
• To promote Public Health Agenda

In Relation to Play Specialists Secondary Responsibilities

If a Play Leader is not on the ward/department, liaise and contact the link Play Specialist via the Therapeutic & Specialised Play Centre.

PLAY LEADER – HEALTHCARE PLAY PRACTITIONER (BAND 4)
WARD/DEPT BASED

T SHIRT – TURQUOISE

Core Responsibility/Main Duties:

• Normalisation play & recreation inclusive of equality and diversity (age, disability and ethnicity)
• Developmental play/recreation and support through planned activity sessions (one to one and groups) providing a play programme for sessions
• Daily communication with Play Specialists
• To work in conjunction with the ward/department team to maintain health, safety, infection control, security and safeguarding of all play areas, play rooms and provisions
• In collaboration with Play Specialist and ward/department team to update and replenish stock as required
• To promote Public Health Agenda
• An integral part of the multi-disciplinary teams

Secondary Responsibilities:

• With guidance, mentorship of a qualified & registered Play Specialist. assessment of cognitive development and the child/young person’s individual needs to provide the below
• Simple preparation
  – Orientation to ward/department area
  – Provision of symbolic/role play i.e. doctor sets, hospital corners, books, photographs, real medical equipment (thermometer), dolls, jigsaws & models
• Simple distraction/diversional therapy i.e. books, pop up books, singing songs, interactive toys and bubbles
• Identifying the appropriate intervention of further referral to a Play Specialist following assessment of age/needs of the child/young person and family:
  – training, support, knowledge, experience, competence test, orientation

In Relation to Play Leaders (Health Care Play Practitioners) Secondary Responsibilities

The Play Leader can only support simple preparation and distraction if the Play Leader is not pre-occupied in normalisation, developmental play, recreation and support, or if the Play Specialist is pre-occupied with other patients/duties.

Note: The Band 4 and Band 5 Play Staff posts do not undertake nursing duties.