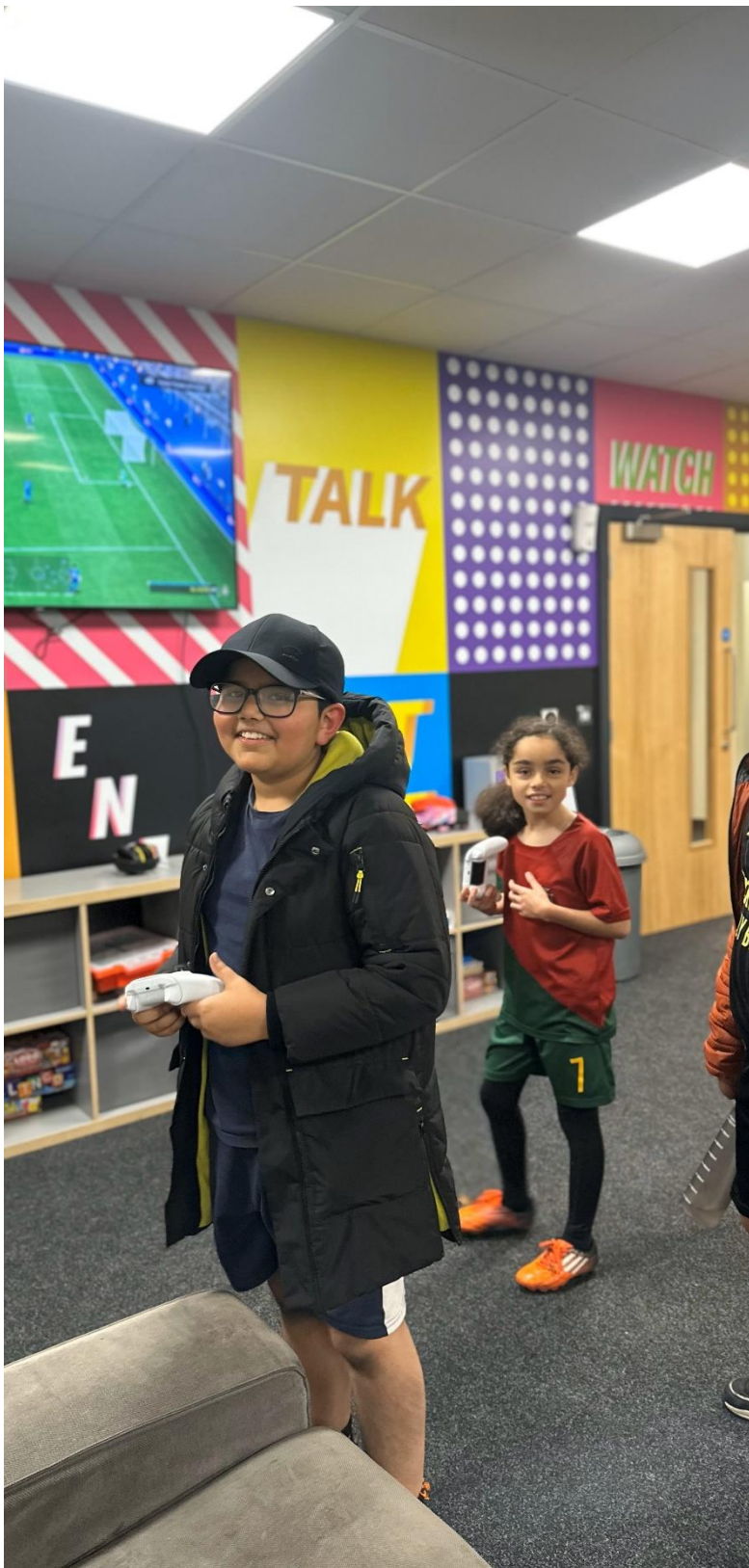




# **SENIOR YOUTH WORKER (SESSION LEAD)**

*JOB DESCRIPTION*



## OVERVIEW

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**COMPANY:** Wigan Youth Zone

**LOCATION:** Leigh Youth Hub

**SALARY:** £14 per hour

**BENEFITS:**

- 33 days annual leave (including bank holidays) pro rata. Plus, additional leave for length of service.
- Birthdays off
- Gym access
- Training and CPD opportunities, including first aid, safeguarding, and health and safety,
- Career development opportunities
- Employee assistance programme
- Cycle to work scheme
- Strong team culture
- Workplace pension
- Free eye tests
- Discounted to £2 access to holiday club for WYZ staff

**POSTED:** 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**CLOSING:** Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**First interviews:** TBC

**Second interviews:** TBC

**SPECIALISM:** Youth Work

**REPORTS TO:** Community Youth Work Lead

**CONTRACT TYPE:** Permanent

**HOURS:** 5 hours per week

**WORK PATTERN:** Monday 4pm-9pm

**ORGANISATION TYPE:** Charity

## WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

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We are excited to hire a new Session Lead for our Monday night partnership session at Leigh Youth Hub, where we work alongside Wigan Council to deliver Universal Access Youth Provision to both Juniors and Seniors in Leigh. As a lead member of the delivery team, you will be lead responsibility for both the Senior Club and Junior Club offer on a Monday night. This is a fun, exciting and challenging role in a new youth hub, where up to 100 young people a night will attend.

## KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

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- Knowledge of the issues affecting young people in today's society, and how to plan activities with a view to raising awareness around relevant topics.
- To be an empathetic and approachable person who will listen to young people and support them with relevant information, advice, and guidance.
- An ability to work with a diverse range of young people including various ages, gender, sexuality, needs, and abilities.
- Knowledge and understanding of emotional well-being, mental health difficulties, and how to sign post onto other relevant services and/or undertake work around positive coping strategies and how to keep safe.
- Understanding of the principles of working with children and young people, including behaviour that challenges.
- Knowledge of health and safety, diversity awareness, and safeguarding best practice and how these relate to children and young people.
- Delivery of activities within an equality framework.
- To lead from the front, following our vision and values and embedding these in our offer.

## QUALIFICATIONS

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A Professional Youth Work Qualification at Level 3 or above- Desirable

## - WHAT WILL YOU NEED TO SUCCEED:

<b>EXPERIENCE</b>	
Proven experience of working with young people aged 8 to 19 (25 with disabilities) in a range of settings	Essential
Experience of working with young people with additional needs or disabilities	Essential
Proven experience of engaging vulnerable, disengaged or hard to reach young people	Essential
Experience of leading staff and volunteers	Essential
Experienced in dealing with safeguarding issues faced by young people and best practice	Essential
Experienced in organising and delivering programmes of youth work activities in open access settings	Essential
Experience of monitoring and evaluation processes	Essential
Experience of managing a budget and teams' budget	Desirable
<b>SKILLS</b>	
Ability to work with young people and engage them in group work to help promote welfare, aspirations, and achievements	Essential
Ability to develop good professional relationships with children, young people, and vulnerable adults	Essential
Ability to coach, encourage, motivate, and provide consistent support to children, young people, and vulnerable adults	Essential
Ability to establish good professional relationships with young people, adults, and partner agencies/organisations	Essential
Ability to identify and challenge discrimination and discriminatory behaviour	Essential
Ability to manage behaviour and challenging situations	Essential
<b>KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING</b>	

Understanding the principles of working with children and young people	Essential
Understanding of issues affecting young people in today's society	Essential
Understanding of the Youth Work Curriculum, theory, and practice	Essential
Knowledge of Health and Safety, diversity awareness, and safeguarding best practice and how these relate to children and young people	Essential

## WHAT YOU WILL BE DOING

- Lead session on Monday nights on the junior and senior youth club provisions at Leigh Youth Hub, responding to the needs and interests of young people.
- You will lead a team of sessional youth workers when on session.
- Working with the Community Youth Work Lead, you will ensure the programme is safe, creative, fun, challenging, and contributes towards the development and growth of young people, with particular reference to confidence, social skills, resilience, health and aspiration.
- Working with the Community Youth Work Lead, you will ensure the programme is varied in nature, making full use of the Leigh Youth Hub facilities and the diverse skill set of the staff team, ensuring the offer includes the arts, sports, issue-based youth work, and much more.
- Ensuring regular review and evaluation of the Monday night programme, including capturing the outcomes and positive impact, and recording soft and hard outcomes
- Presenting impact stories and celebrating the achievements of young people
- Leading on safeguarding and behaviour management during the session to ensure the Youth Hub is a welcoming environment for all young people
- To ensure compliance with safe working practices to ensure the safety of young people
- To support the Youth Zone promotional and outreach plan working in the community both with partners and directly with young people
- To take a lead role in ensuring the safeguarding of young people by:
  - Ensuring that staff and volunteers maintain safeguarding standards and contribute towards the safeguarding strategy at Leigh Youth Hub, in particular by ensuring safeguarding issues and themes facing young people are raised and addressed.
  - Carry out any other reasonable duties as requested by management



## General

- To be alert to issues of safeguarding / child protection, ensuring the welfare and safety of Youth Zone members is promoted and to report safeguarding concerns to the WYZ Safeguarding Team in line with our safeguarding policies, procedures and practice (training to be provided);
- To assist with any promotional activities and visits that take place at the Youth Zone;
- To actively promote the Youth Zone and positively contribute towards increasing Youth Zone membership;
- To adhere to Wigan Youth Zone policies at all times, with particular reference to Health and Safety, Safeguarding, and Equal Opportunities.

## Other duties

- To carry out any other duty within the Youth Zone provision and facility operations, and within the competencies of the post holder, as directed by your line manager or a senior manager.

# SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

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*In accordance with our Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures, this position requires an enhanced DBS check and business satisfactory references.*

*Please note that in line with our Safeguarding Policy, you must be age 21 or over to work in our Senior Sessions and 19+ to work on our Junior Sessions and Holiday Clubs. All applicants must also be inactive as members for at least 12 months.*

**Adhere to the Youth Zone's policies at all times, with particular emphasis on Equal Opportunities and Safeguarding.**

**A willingness to work evenings and weekends, support at community events.**

# WHAT IS WIGAN YOUTH ZONE?

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Wigan Youth Zone is a purpose built, state-of-the-art youth facility in Wigan town centre which opened in June 2013. It offers young people from across Wigan and Leigh, the opportunity to

meet friends, have fun, have new experiences, learn new skills and access the support they need to help develop and achieve their potential.

The Youth Zone is open to all young people across Wigan aged from 8 to 19 (up to 25 with additional needs), striving to offer something for everyone, regardless of their interests or abilities. With almost 15 dedicated areas to choose from including our four 40-metre floodlit football pitches, art room, music room and climbing wall – there's something for everyone here at Wigan Youth Zone.

Our aim is simple, to provide the town's young people with somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to.

### **Some information about Leigh Youth Hub and Wigan Youth Zone:**

Leigh Youth Hub opened in Autumn 2022. It is a modern building offering a range of facilities including a state-of-the-art gym and recreation area, welcoming up to 150 young people (aged 11 to 19) per night. Wigan Youth Zone is collaborating with Wigan Council to deliver twice-weekly sessions to enable more young people to make the most of this fantastic facility.

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## **WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO NEXT**

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Please complete our application form and return it to [hr@wiganyouthzone.org](mailto:hr@wiganyouthzone.org)  
If anybody would like an informal discussion about this role please speak to Nikki,  
[Nicola.Varley@wiganyouthzone.org](mailto:Nicola.Varley@wiganyouthzone.org)



wigan youth  
zone

An **OnSide** Youth Zone

*INSPIRE AND EMPOWER THE NEXT GENERATION  
TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL*

**88% OF OUR TEAM WOULD RECOMMEND WIGAN  
YOUTH ZONE AS AN EMPLOYER TO THEIR FAMILY  
AND FRIENDS**



