

JOB PACK:

Project Lead – Performing Arts

About Skillnet Group

We are people with and without learning difficulties in Kent working together to achieve equality.

Skillnet Group is also a social enterprise. As a Community Interest Company, all our profit is put back into supporting the work we do.

- We support people with learning difficulties to speak up, make choices and become powerful and influential. We support them to gain opportunities and become more independent in learning, housing, work, health, money, travel, leisure and relationships.
- We support people to hear, respect and empower people with learning difficulties.
- We promote positive action to challenge negative attitudes about disability.
- We work with local communities so that people with learning difficulties become fully included and no longer segregated.

Background to this job

Skillnet Group first established a drama project in Sittingbourne called Risky Business in 2004, working alongside people with learning difficulties to develop skills in acting, improvisation, script writing and putting on performances. In 2007 Risky Business successfully produced and staged a show called "One Vision" which toured well renowned theatres throughout Kent and South-East London. As well as Risky Business, we also now have a small performing arts group based in Canterbury.

Co-production is a core value and method for Skillnet Group. This means people working equally together to make the most of their respective experience and

skills. On this basis, the Project Lead will be responsible for enabling the team to co-lead the performing arts project and take decisions collectively, including planning and rehearsing for public performances.

The main aims of the performing arts project are:

1. To work with people in a group setting to develop their skills in performing arts including acting, improvisation, script writing, rehearsal and performance
2. Develop peoples' confidence and give them the opportunity to freely express their emotions and ideas.
3. Support people to have the opportunity to campaign about issues that are important to them and find a voice, have a presence and be understood.
4. Co – produce "cutting edge" original productions for public performance.
5. Promote the upcoming productions within the local community and link in with organisations, schools and other groups that would enjoy and benefit from watching the productions.

Apply online here: skillnetgroup.co.uk/working/pages/jobapplication.php

Job Description

Main aim:	To enable people to develop a variety of performing art based skills and develop opportunities for public performances.
Salary:	£19,000 - £21,000 per annum pro rata to a 37 hour week, dependent on experience.
Hours:	11 hours per week. Currently worked on Mondays and Fridays. There are also opportunities for further work across Skillnet Group, for example in covering the annual leave of colleagues.
Location:	Sittingbourne and Canterbury
Duration:	Permanent
Probationary Period:	3 months
Annual leave:	25 days per annum pro rata plus eight public holidays, payable in lieu.

Line management: Central Team oversight

Main responsibilities:

- Work alongside a group of people with learning difficulties and/or autism to develop a variety of skills in performing arts.
- Develop opportunities for public performance in a co-produced way.
- Feed back to the Central (Management) Team about new developments, performance opportunities, events and promotion.
- Monitor the progression of both the group and individuals and update records using a cloud based project management system.
- Support everyone to work as a team, where everyone's views are respected and heard.
- Be responsible for ensuring that everyone is working in a safe way. This includes understanding and responding to Adult Protection and Young People issues appropriately.
- Work in line with all of Skillnet Group's policies and procedures.

Person Specification

You see your work as a vocation, and contribution to social change. You are committed to, and energised by, our vision and values. We believe in achieving equality for people with learning difficulties and/or autism. In Skillnet Group, we seek to recruit people who are looking for more than a job, and are passionate about making a difference.

Essential

Able to support people well. This means showing that you understand that people need different types of support at different times.

Committed to working with people as genuine equals (we call this co-production), and supporting them in a way which gives them full choice and control (we call this personalisation).

Experience of project development and nurturing ideas through to production.

Have strong experience as a practitioner in performing arts and a motivator by nature.

Be an excellent communicator and able to communicate well with different types of people and organisations.

Excellent co-ordinator who will see things through.

Able to work using your own initiative and as part of a team.

Able to keep and maintain records.

Very important

Experience of working with people with learning difficulties and/or autism.

Understand Equality and Diversity and put these ideas into practice.

You can listen and not just talk or take over.

Experience or willingness to learn about authoring website content, social media, designing posters and other methods of communication for promotion and marketing.

Be confident using Information Technology.

Able to present and communicate information in an easy to understand way.

Knowledgeable about, and can apply, Vulnerable Adults Procedures.

Able to work within data protection guidelines and follow and confidentiality procedures.

Able to use a variety of creative ways to work with people to produce personalised records to evidence achievement and progress.