



Play Worker Child Care Team Application Pack



February 2026



Larkrise Primary School is an academy managed by the River Learning Trust, which is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with a registered company number 7966500. Registered Office: C/O Gosford Hill School, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom, OX5 2NT. United Kingdom.

Introduction

*Thank you for your interest in our **Play Worker** post at Larkrise Primary School. We are particularly interested in candidates that have some experience of working with children.*

We hope this application pack will give you an understanding of our values and vision for our children, staff and wider school community. We would also like to extend an invitation to you to come and visit our school virtually or in person and have a conversation about your future and ours. If you would like to take up this offer, please arrange a time to meet Jon Gray, the Headteacher, by contacting Sam in the school office via 01865 721476.

In September 2020, we finalised our new Mission, Vision and Values. Our staff and governors have used it to create our strategic development over the next five years. If you are successful in becoming a **Play Worker** at our school, you will play a significant role in realising this Mission, Vision and Values. You will also need a creative spark to bring our ambitious plans into reality.

We realise that you can't achieve this alone, and we are particularly proud of the team we are developing at Larkrise. Our staff team is energetic, enthusiastic, supportive, and wants to offer our children the very best educational experiences. Our children want to achieve whilst enjoying their education. If you are successful, you will also be supported by our governors and Friends of Larkrise - an ever-growing group of parents/carers; both are fully supportive of the school and its future.

It is an exciting time for Larkrise Primary School. In February 2019, we joined the River Learning Trust (RLT). The RLT is a Multi-Academy Trust responsible for several schools and a school-centred initial teacher training provider (SCITT) within Oxfordshire. The schools and SCITT are united by their commitment to the principles of the Trust and a shared belief in the benefits of everything that is gained by working together. Information about the growing River Learning Trust by visiting www.riverlearningtrust.org.

Being part of RLT gives the school opportunities to work more closely with a diverse range of schools, benefiting both our staff and children. The Trust schools are also involved in working with Oxfordshire Teaching School Alliance (OTSA) which provides further access to support and development opportunities. Larkrise is a strategic partner school within OTSA ([Click here](#) for more information).

At Larkrise, we are excited by the opportunities of working more closely with such a diverse range of schools which will benefit both our staff and children.



The school serves one of the most diverse and international cities in the UK. Our children come from a wide range of economic and cultural backgrounds. We also have many different languages spoken at the school; we had twenty other languages spoken at the last count. We are similar to the national average with children entitled to Pupil Premium funding, and Special Educational Needs support. We believe that this diverse and vibrant catchment of East Oxford should be celebrated and be reflected in our curriculum.

We also want to support you to further develop your career in Education so that you can grow within your new role. We are very proud of the opportunities we provide to our staff to enhance both their experience and effectiveness further. We will do this by developing your individual Continued Professional Development and Learning plan with the support of the wider RLT. We will be fully committed to your professional development. We are particularly interested in candidates who are considering a career as a Teaching Assistant or those who have the ambition to become a teacher.

If you are currently a school leaver or graduate taking a year out or would just like a change in career to work in education, you are very welcome to apply. We seek candidates who are excited by and relish the prospect of working as a **Play Worker** in our school.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Gray
(Headteacher)
Headteacher)

[Lisa Brionne-Gray](#)
(Business Manager)

Charlotte Stewart
(Deputy Headteacher)

[Morag Scott-Smith](#)
(Assistant



Mission-Vision-Values

Mission: A vibrant and caring school which proudly reflects the diversity of our community.

Vision: To provide a world class curriculum with high expectations of every child and within which wellbeing is nurtured and learning is limitless.

Inspire



Inspire through
Creativity, Kindness
and Adventure

Creativity



Show kindness
to ourselves,
each other, our
community and
our environment

Inspire
curiosity and
encourage
innovation.

Kindness



Adventure



Meet the
challenge by
embracing new
opportunities
whilst striving
for excellence.



The Principles of the River Learning Trust



The River Learning Trust (RLT) is a multi-academy trust responsible for several schools and a school-centred initial teacher training (SCITT) provider within Oxfordshire. The schools and SCITT are united by their commitment to the principles of trust and a shared belief in the benefits of everything that is gained by working together.

The River Learning Trust is a community of children, young people and adults with shared principles, including:

- Commitment to **Excellence**; striving for the best educational experience
- Everyone **Learning**; creating and taking opportunities that enhance lives
- Respectful **Relationships**; acting with care, integrity, and fairness in all we do

([Click here](#) for more information).

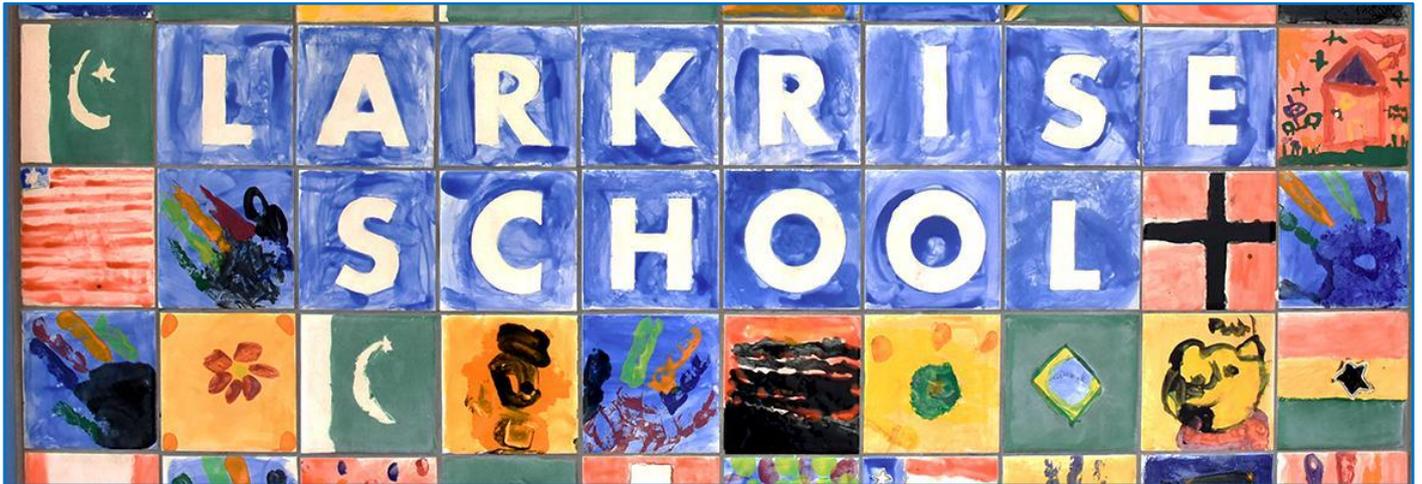
Click on the image below to watch a video about working in a school within RLT.



Clicking on the image below will take you to our Staff Charter.



Play Worker Selection Criteria



The selection criteria, job description and person specification show the key abilities and skills required for this opportunity. The selection panel will assess each candidate against the criteria listed in the person specification, expecting them to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of each area and show evidence of having applied (or awareness of how to apply) this knowledge and understanding in a primary school context.

The panel will use the following assessment tools throughout the selection process:

- Application form via the My New Terms. Click on this [link](#).
- Application Statement showing how you meet the selection criteria and explaining why you would like to work at Larkrise Primary School
- Interview
- 10-minute presentation answering the following questions - How do your past and current experiences prepare you for the new role as a Play Worker at Larkrise? What would you like to achieve in this role?

Play Worker Job Description



Job Title	Play Worker
Reports To	Play Worker Team Leader & SBM
Salary	<p>Grade 4 £13.05- £13.26 per hour (+ 12.07% holiday allowance). Paid on a casual claim basis.</p> <p>Hours: up to 15 hours per week during term time (with the opportunity to work up to 40 hrs per week during our holiday clubs if desired). Operational Hours during Term Time: Monday to Friday - Hours: 7.30 - 9.00 & 15.00 - 18.00 Our Holiday Clubs run from 8.30 - 17.30 Monday to Friday</p>
Contract	Casual After School Playworkers required as soon as possible.

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE JOB:

To assist with the planning, day-to-day organisation and operation of the club, providing high quality play opportunities and care for children in an inclusive environment, and in accordance with the school's ethos and procedures.

This post holder is responsible for ensuring that all county Safeguarding Children policies are adhered to and concerns are raised in accordance with these policies

MAIN DUTIES:

- To assist with the provision of care and creative play opportunities in consultation with children, and in accordance with Playwork Principles and relevant childcare legislation.
 - To deputise for the playleader when required.
 - To assist the playleader in ensuring that children's individual needs are recognised, and engaging them in establishing and maintaining boundaries for their behaviour. To assist with the handover/collection.
 - Transition of children to/from other areas of the school, where applicable, and ensure their safe handover to parents/carers at the end of the day.
 - To support the playleader in ensuring that the club is a safe environment for all, that equipment is well-maintained, standards of hygiene are high, safety procedures are implemented and risk assessments, fire drills/evacuation procedures are carried out effectively. This also applies to trips and other off-site activities.
 - To prepare food and drink that promotes healthy eating, and complies with current school food guidelines and food safety legislation.
 - To assist with day to day administration and record keeping.
 - To work as part of the whole school team, liaise with relevant staff, and contribute to the promotion of the club.
 - To administer first aid and medication as appropriate.
 - To participate in playwork and other relevant training and development activities, including local networking opportunities for out-of-school childcare providers.
 - To maintain constructive relationships and communicate with parents/carers, other professionals, and childcare/play-related agencies including the county council's Community Childcare and Play staff.
 - To work within agreed policies and procedures, and undertake other duties, appropriate to the grade, as may reasonably be required by the playleader or headteacher.
- You have specific responsibilities under Health & Safety legislation to ensure that you:
- take reasonable care for your own health and safety, and that of others affected by what you do, or do not do
 - co-operate on all issues involving health and safety
 - use work items provided for you correctly, in accordance with training and instructions
 - do not interfere with or misuse anything provided for your health, safety or welfare
 - report any health and safety concerns to your line manager as soon as practicable.

Play Worker Person Specifications



	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications & Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent numeracy/literacy skills • GCSE in Maths & English (Grade C or above) or NVQ 2 or equivalent • Participate in development and training opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Levels or equivalent qualifications • Degree level qualification • Some experience of supporting in schools • Experience of working with children
Knowledge & Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to effectively use technology – computer, video, photocopier • Ability to relate well to children and adults • Work constructively as part of a team, understanding classroom roles and responsibilities and your own position within these • General understanding of the EYFS and national curriculum and other basic learning programmes/strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in paediatric first aid • An understanding of child development and learning • Effective use of IT to support learning • Understanding of relevant policies/codes of practice and awareness of relevant legislation • Ability to self-evaluate learning needs and actively seek learning opportunities
Personal Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of humour • A commitment to getting the best outcomes for all pupils and promoting the ethos and values of the school • Ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively • Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times • Commitment to safeguarding and equality • An understanding of the importance of working in partnership with other schools in the wider RLT promotes improvements in education for staff and children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ambition to develop a career in education

