

Project Description

Barbican Blocks is a Creative Learning Project run in partnership with Pop up Parks and Co-Db.

Barbican Blocks is the Barbican's public creative play offer for families with children aged 5 years and under. It takes place in the Old Shop on the Level G Foyers. Barbican Blocks has been in residence at the Barbican since February 2017.

Play is facilitated at all times by Play Workers, with the support of a Creative Learning Project Manager and a Barbican Host.

Using the Blocks, young children can play, build and invent in a world of texture and colour. A freestanding cube unpacks to become a selection of blocks made out of all sorts of materials that young children can use to shape the space around them in a sensory adventure.

Barbican Blocks provides a space for young children and their families to co-create pathways. Children have the freedom to design their own play-space, within the following rules:

1. We build pathways. Across not up.
2. Parents, carers and children work together. We make paths together.
3. We are careful path-makers, looking out for objects in the room and each other.

The project creates a space for children to manage risk as they seek out opportunities for exploration and connection. Barbican Blocks is delivered with the appropriate level of risk in mind to encourage children's learning and growth through encountering their boundaries and capacity.

Barbican Blocks has been designed considering the Early Years Foundation Stages (EYFS). This is a space for playing and exploring, active learning, creative and critical thinking. The Blocks include varied textures for sensory exploration that provoke expressions of preference, enquiry, story-telling and role-play.

For more information, visit the Barbican's website: <https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2017/event/barbican-blocks?ID=20795>

Play Worker Brief

We are searching for Play Workers to take a lead on facilitating regular Barbican Blocks sessions at the Barbican between October 2017 and March 2017.

Sessions last a minimum of one hour, and an average of two hours, and take place between one and five times per week, depending on the schedule.

The Play Worker role covers the following areas of responsibility:

- Planning and delivering each Barbican Blocks session.
- Leading the session:
 - Welcoming participants into the space

- Managing the flow of play in the room
- Ensuring that parents/carers and children feel comfortable and relaxed
- Ensuring that participants adhere to the rules of how we play at all times
- Officially starting and ending each session.
- Communicating with the Creative Learning Project Manager to ensure that any materials needed to run the session have been ordered and received.
- To work with the Creative Learning Project Manager and the Barbican Host to run the session – both of these roles have a set of responsibilities.
- To bring any creative skills into the session where appropriate – such as story-telling or music-making.
- Flagging any Health and Safety issues immediately with the Barbican Host, who will inform Barbican Centre Managers immediately.
- Helping the Creative Learning Project Manager to set up the space and tidy it away, including putting out/packing up the Blocks and preparing any materials.
- Ensuring that they are familiar with the Risk Assessment, and flagging any breach of Health and Safety with the Creative Learning Project Manager immediately.

Rate of Pay

The rate of pay for a Barbican Blocks Play Worker is £20 per hour. Play Workers are contracted on a casual basis. You must be eligible to work in the UK. Proof of your right to work and verification of identity will be requested upon appointment. Successful candidates may be required to undergo a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Services) check.

To Apply

If you are interested in the Play Worker role, please send your CV and a short covering letter explaining why the role is of interest to you, to Lauren Monaghan-Pisano, by **Wednesday 11 October**: lauren.monaghan-pisano@barbican.org.uk

Please note that training for Barbican Blocks staff is taking place on **Thursday 19 October between 2-5pm at the Barbican**, and you would need to be available for this.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Barbican 2017