



i inspired
Children



Play Champions Award

The Play Champions programme is a 5 session intensive training programme designed to embed positive play firmly in the ethos and delivery of nursery, school and afterschool settings; and to enable those settings to advocate for play and promote positive play in their communities. The training takes a detailed look at the theories and neuroscience behind play and introduces a huge range of experiences that demonstrate these theories and can be used directly with the children in the setting. Crucially the course also details how to get the message across to parents and the wider community and how to encourage play in the home with an entire session dedicated to delivering a vibrant parent workshop to engage and educate local parents. The course inspires learners to become proactive and passionate advocates for play with a firm grounding in current research.

Play Champion status is awarded to learners who successfully complete the course and deliver a follow up session for parents of children at their setting. This session can be supported by the tutor if required.

The course has been designed and adapted to meet the needs of a wide variety of settings including special schools, afterschool clubs, nursery settings and childminders and is appropriate for any agency working with children of any age and ability level.

The sessions

1. Introduction - Theories and neuroscience of play, learning whilst playing and the catastrophic effects of Play Deprivation.
2. Play and the Imagination – Play for Communication and Social Development, EAL and building the creative brain. Experiences rather than “activities”
3. Play as a Process - The Process Focused approach, multi-level self-directed play, differentiation adaptation and continuous provision. Play for Physical Development. Finding the balance between adult led and child initiated.
4. Play advocacy – Supporting children to play outside the setting, working with parents and the wider community. The Ludocentric approach in practice.
5. The Play Champions – Techniques for delivering sessions. The Play Audit and assessing play potential within a setting. Micro presentations to group.

Comments from Play Champions

“I can’t believe what a difference this course has made to me and the setting I work at. Thank you!”

Lisa Bennett, Holy Trinity Playgroup – Play Champion

“Awesome. I have loved every moment of this course, the ideas and theories and especially sharing enthusiasm with a group of like-minded people.”

Donna Edwards, Mini Explorers – Play Champion

“I feel so much more confident about what I do. I now know why we play and have benefited massively from this. I have recently graduated from my BA(hons) but have learnt more about play in 5 weeks on this course than my whole degree.”

Sammi Gillam, Breedon Preschool – Play Champion

Costs

The basic course costs £3000 for up to 20 learners. This includes all course materials, certification and endorsement and a play champions medal. This also includes after support for settings and continuing advice and help on play related matters.

Optional extras

Parent Play Sessions delivered by Inspired Children – based on the hugely successful Parent Play Project these sessions have had a profound effect on children and families and their settings.

£350 per session (plus travel)

Introductory conference style event with keynote and workshops by Inspired Children. This is a great way to promote the play champions programme and showcase the benefits of play to a wider audience.

£350 half day/ £500 full day (plus travel)

Celebration and Award ceremony hosted by Inspired Children – What better way to celebrate the achievement of the Play Champions than to hold a celebration event. Hosted by Inspired children this is a poignant opportunity to highlight the immense changes that Play Champions have instigated in their settings and show how much they are valued.

£350 (plus travel)



Cohort 3 receive their well deserved awards.

Play champion status is endorsed by Inspired Children and Forest Way Teaching School Alliance. Learners will be expected to complete gap tasks and a mini presentation as well as delivering a session for local parents or other settings/ members of the community.

For more information email info@inspiredchildren.org.uk or go to www.inspiredchildren.org.uk