



Girls Forest Circus Youth Worker
Job Description

Salary: £25 per hour
Hours: 3 per week, 8 month contract
Dates: 14th October 2025 – 16th June 2026

Think Circus SCIO are looking for a freelance Youth Worker to join our Girls Forest Circus project, which takes place on Tuesday afternoons in the woodland area of Castlevie Primary School, Craigmillar, Edinburgh. We are looking for someone who is experienced in supporting young people to thrive and build confidence, and who can bring dedication, care and enthusiasm for this work.

Girls Forest Circus (GFC) is a project run for the benefit of girls aged 9-13 years, run in partnership with Rowan Environmental Arts (Rea). It supports girls to develop emotional wellbeing skills and healthy habits, build new friendships and community connections, and deepen their connection to nature. Weekly sessions include forest school activities and skills (den building, fire lighting, foraging, nature connection activities, woodland arts & crafts, hammock time) and circus arts (aerial, hula hoop, juggling, stilts).

Think Circus are based in Leith, Edinburgh, and as a charity our primary aim is to improve lives through circus, and we offer classes, projects and events to help people build confidence and new skills. Our commercial trading means we can continue to provide these services free of charge to those who will benefit the most. We currently deliver 2 regular youth classes (ages 5-11), teen circus sessions, our Forest Circus project for adolescent girls, community training and Sunday circus sessions for families and adults each week, as well as one-off workshops for schools, local organisations and community groups across the central belt.

This position would be most suited to someone based in Edinburgh, and you will need to be available to work on Tuesdays between October 2025 - June 2026.

The position reports directly to the Executive Director.

This role is offered over the period 14th October 2025 – 16th June 2026 for 3 hours each week (2pm - 5pm on Tuesdays) at the rate of £25 per hour.

Responsibilities:

- To maintain a high quality of support which meets the physical, emotional, intellectual, social, and cultural needs of young people.
- To provide a caring, supportive, and nurturing environment in which young people can feel secure and free from harm.
- Establishing positive relationships with young people and always offering them unconditional and positive regard.
- Helping young people gain self-control by challenging unacceptable behaviour and rewarding acceptable, pro-social conduct.
- To provide a positive role model to be able to offer advice, guidance, and assistance where appropriate.
- Establishing relationships which young people perceive to be positive, warm, and rewarding.
- Providing advice, assistance, and support on a 1:1 basis to enable young people to address past and present difficulties.
- Providing emotional support at times of difficulty or stress.
- Being ambitious for young people, helping them achieve their goals and optimise their potential.
- Providing support for young people in their activities as part of GFC.
- Keeping accurate records and providing written reports on young people if required
- Empowering young people and facilitating their active involvement in the decision making about their lives and future.
- Encouraging the young person to develop links with the community, attend off-site activities and expand their personal social network.
- Maintaining confidentiality whilst also meeting the Sharing Information protocols in regard to safeguarding.

Youth Worker Role Requirements:

- **Communication and Interpersonal Skills:** Ability to build rapport, listen actively, and communicate clearly with young people and other staff members.
- **Patience and Tolerance:** Essential for working with young people through challenges and different situations.
- **Resilience:** the capacity to handle difficult situations and maintain a positive approach
- **Commitment to Young People:** A strong dedication to supporting their growth and helping them reach their potential.
- Ability to work pro-actively, show initiative and work as part of a team
- Sound knowledge of safety measures and risk management strategies
- A 'can do' positive attitude
- Ability to prioritise workload and manage competing demands
- A willingness to work outdoors in all weathers
- A commitment to environmental stewardship and care

Desirable:

- Understanding of working within the third sector, particularly social enterprise
- Basic understanding of different circus skills, especially ground-based skills and/or Forest School skills
- Appreciation of the health and wellbeing benefits of working outdoors and encouraging nature connection activities for children and young people.
- First Aid training

This job description identifies key responsibilities and requirements. It is not an exhaustive list of tasks that need to be completed. Think Circus SCIO reserves the right to amend the job description as the role develops with the organisation.

To Apply:

Please send a CV and covering letter explaining why you would be suitable for this role and why you want to work with us to hi@thinkcircus.co.uk Please include contact details for two referees - at least one should be a recent employer.

The closing date is 12pm on Monday 22nd September.

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 30th September in Edinburgh and will be in-person.

Due to the nature of the project online interviews will not be possible.

This post is supported by funding from the National Lottery.