

EMPOWER
MANCHESTER • SALFORD

THE HOME OF

HIDE
OUT
An OnSide Youth Zone



SOMEWHERE SAFE TO GO | SOMETHING POSITIVE TO DO | SOMEONE TRUSTED TO TALK TO

SESSIONAL YOUTH WORKER (PERFORMING ARTS & DANCE)

Job Title: Sessional Youth Worker
(Performing Arts & Dance)

Reporting to: Creative Arts Coordinator

Location: HideOut Youth Zone (Gorton) or
Salford Youth Zone (Pendleton)

Salary: £12.60 p/h (Real Living Wage)

Holidays: 33 days including bank holidays
(pro-rata)

Hours: Various contracts available

Key Relationships: Young people and parents, Creative Arts Coordinator, Head of Youth Work and Youth Zone's staff, volunteers, partners and stakeholders

BENEFITS

- Onsite Fitness Gym & Boxing/MMA Suite
- 33 days annual leave
- Secure cycle store
- Branded workwear
- Queen Bee's Café - Free hot meal on session
- Learning and development opportunities
- Partnership working
- Working with like-minded people and cultures
- Part of a wider network
- Workplace pension scheme
- Special Leave
- Birthday Off
- Employee Assistance Programme through Health Assured
- Health and Wellbeing support which includes an app - Wisdom
- Enhanced maternity
- Company Sick Pay
- Real Living Wage Employer
- Charity Worker Discount / Bright Exchange Discount - through EAP/Wisdom

APPLICATION PROCESS

Date posted: Thursday 26th February 2026

Closing date: Sunday 15th March 2026

Interview and assessment date: Sunday 29th March 2026

Application form: www.empoweryouthzones.org/vacancies/

How to apply: Please complete the application form and return to recruitment@empoweryouthzones.org

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES PLEASE

We review applications on a rolling basis and reserve the right to close the role at any time.

Feel free to give us a call on **0161 511 3777** if you have any questions about this role, or to hear from a team member about life working at the youth zone.

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ABOUT EMPOWER

Empower Youth Zones is the charity that oversees the creation, management and sustainability of Youth Zones in Manchester and Salford. These include HideOut Youth Zone located in Gorton (East Manchester) which opened in 2020, and Salford Youth Zone located in Pendleton, which opened to young people in June 2025. HideOut and Salford Youth Zone provide children and young people aged 8-19 and up to 25 for those with additional needs with somewhere safe to go, something positive to do and someone trusted to talk to.

Youth Zones are purpose-built spaces fizzing with energy and crammed with incredible facilities. They are staffed by skilled and dedicated Youth Workers who truly believe in young people – helping them see what they could achieve, and giving them the skills, confidence and ambition to go for it. This is life-changing support that helps tens of thousands of young people from a diverse range of backgrounds to thrive.

HideOut and Salford Youth Zone are part of a national and growing network of Onside Youth Zones. There are currently 17 active Onside Youth Zones across the UK with 22 due to be open by 2026.

WHAT IS THE ROLE?

The Arts, alongside sport and youth work, is at the heart of the Youth Zones offer to young people. As a member of the creative arts team, you will be responsible for leading on the coaching and teaching of different dance forms, you will be key in ensuring young people have access to an exciting and creative programme that will be challenging, stimulating, fun, engaging and developmental. You will be involved in teaching the fundamentals of a single or range of arts activities enabling young people to explore their creativity and grow their skills.

Within the arts team we are looking for a range of talented youth arts workers to make up a team with a diverse set of skills and expertise, who are also passionate about working with young people. Ideally, you will have experience delivering Performing Arts and/or Dance.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

- Together with the Creative Arts Coordinator, developing and implementing an Arts programme that is exciting, challenging and ever-changing.
- Listening to young people and creating a seasonal dance and/or drama programme
- The role is 100% face to face delivery with young people
- Working directly with young people to develop their social skills
- Directly delivering a high-quality programme of activity that is exciting, safe, varied, innovative, developmental and directly responds to the diverse needs, concerns and interests of our members
- Have great energy to establish positive relationships with young people and the wider youth work team and visitors to the Youth Zone
- Responding to the needs of the young people through activities and project work
- Supporting and motivating volunteers
- Working flexibly to ensure the needs of the members are met, including disadvantaged young people and those with additional needs
- Ensuring that the members maintain a high standard of behaviour and discipline during sessions by making the area a hub of activity and fun
- Ensuring the participation of young people in activities and that their ideas contribute fully in the delivery of activities in a safe way
- Encouraging attendance and participation in arts activities, particularly by young people who do not usually participate in art
- Be able to think on your feet and deliver an activity with minimal equipment
- Ability to enthuse others including staff, volunteers and young people
- Make the environment fun and the place young people want to be
- Be an active member of the team and operate in line with the values and principles of the Youth Zone
- Promoting cultural cohesion and inclusion and proactively challenge any prejudice and discrimination

WHAT ELSE WILL I NEED TO DO?

- Be a role model for young people and present a positive “can do” attitude
- Take personal responsibility for own actions
- Commit to a culture of continuous improvement
- Work within the performance framework of Empower Youth Zones and OnSide
- Represent Empower Youth Zones positively and effectively in all dealings with internal colleagues, and external partners
- Comply with all policies and procedures, with particular reference to safeguarding, codes of conduct, health and safety and equality and diversity to ensure all activities are accessible
- Be alert to issues of safeguarding and child protection, ensuring the welfare and safety of Youth Zone members is promoted and safeguarded, and to report any child protection concerns to the designated Child Protection Officers using the safeguarding policies, procedures and practice (training to be provided)
- Assist with any promotional activities and visits that take place at the Youth Zone
- Actively promote the Youth Zone and positively contribute towards increasing Youth Zone membership.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Selection Criteria A = Application Form I = Interview	Essential or Desirable	Method of Assessment
Experience		
Experience of working with groups of young people aged 8 to 19, or up to aged 25 with additional needs	Essential	A & I
Experience of working with diverse young people from different backgrounds	Essential	A & I
Experience of delivering performing arts sessions	Essential	A & I
Experience of delivering events / displays and performances	Desirable	A & I
Experience of team work and working alongside volunteers	Essential	A & I
Qualifications		
Level 2 Arts qualification or equivalent	Desirable	A
Relevant dance and/or performing arts qualification(s)	Essential	A & I

Skills		
Ability to deliver high quality arts sessions with young people	Essential	A & I
Ability to manage behaviour and maintain a safe environment	Essential	A & I
Ability to plan activity programmes and evaluate their impact	Essential	A & I
Strong teamwork and communication skills	Essential	A & I
Ability to engage and build positive relationships with young people, including hard-to-reach and disengaged young people	Essential	A & I

Knowledge		
Understand the principles of working with young people, the issues affecting their lives and knowledge of their needs	Essential	A & I
Knowledge of health and safety, diversity awareness and safeguarding best practice	Essential	A & I
Basic knowledge of arts pathways	Desirable	A & I
Special Requirements		
A willingness to work unsociable hours	Essential	A & I
A willingness to cover events, holidays and staff absence	Essential	A & I
Enhanced DBS clearance and commitment to Safeguarding children	Essential	A & I
The ability and willingness to travel to events in the region and beyond	Essential	A & I

ADDITIONAL INFO

EMPOWER is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable groups. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

The strength of EMPOWER and the OnSide network of Youth Zones is the diversity of its people; we place huge value on equal opportunities and encourage applications from candidates of diverse backgrounds, communities and abilities. The one thing we all have in common is our desire to raise the aspirations of young people across the country.

For information regarding how OnSide Youth Zones process your data, please visit www.onsideyouthzones.org/applicant-privacy/



OUR VISION, MISSION & VALUES

OUR VISION

Children and Young People are inspired to lead healthy, happy, safe and successful lives.

OUR MISSION

To provide children and young people with somewhere safe to go, something positive to do and someone trusted to talk to.

OUR VALUES



YOUNG PEOPLE FIRST

Young people are at the heart of everything we do; inspiring and challenging us to deliver services that exceed their needs and challenge them to be the best they can be.



EXCELLENCE

We encourage ourselves and each other to be the best we can be through continuous learning and improvement, with a focus on finding solutions.



RESPECT

We act with honesty and integrity, celebrating diversity across the whole organisation and caring about each other, our young people and the Youth Zone environment.



AMBITIOUS

We are passionate and driven in taking on new challenges, embracing new ideas, and exceeding our ambitions for young people, the Youth Zone and our local communities.



COLLABORATIVE

We will create and nurture strong, creative partnerships, working together to achieve better results and outcomes for young people.