

# DIGITAL DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY LEAD

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**Location:** Blackburn & Darwen Youth Zone

**Contract:** : 37.5 hours per. Evenings and Weekends  
*(minimum of four delivery sessions with young people per week)*

**Salary:** Up to £27,000  
*(dependent on experience and qualification)*

**Reporting to:** Head of Service





OPENED JAN 2012



FREE ENTRY, FREE  
HOT MEALS

**5000+**

YOUNG PEOPLE ATTEND  
OUR SERVICE P/A



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK



3 MILLION POUND  
TRANSFORMATION

## ABOUT BLACKBURN & DARWEN YOUTH ZONE

Blackburn & Darwen Youth Zone, opened in May 2012 as an independent Charity, but we are proud to be part of the growing OnSide Network.

We work with young people aged 5-19 (up to 25 with additional needs) and offer youth work, health and wellbeing and employability services, giving young people somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to. Whilst our building and activities provide a hook for young people to initially engage with us, the relationships they develop with our team of Youth Workers ensures they return night after night. We pride ourselves as being one of the leading youth organisations in Blackburn and Darwen.

Our service to young people is focussed around a state-of-the-art, multi million pound facility that is purpose-built and remains dedicated to young people. This facility has recently undergone a 3 million pound transformation thanks to the Youth Investment Fund. This funding has allowed us to redevelop our Blackburn site to be able to offer a wider range of services for young people whilst celebrating the history of the building. Our newly developed Fusebox is the site where electricity was first generated in Blackburn. Alongside our history we also have a football pitch on our roof, this is one of Blackburn's best kept secrets!

Our services for young people are needed more than ever and despite the prevalent challenges around the lasting impact of the pandemic, young people feeling isolated and the cost of living crisis, our team continues to provide a home from home for young people.

# HOW WE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN 2024

# 22,834

**YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY  
BLACKBURN & DARWEN YOUTH ZONE  
SINCE IT OPENED ITS DOORS IN 2012**

# 17%

**YOUNG PEOPLE WITH  
ADDITIONAL NEEDS**



# 27,095

**FREE HOT MEALS TO YOUNG PEOPLE**

**YOUNG PERSON QUOTE**

"Youth zone has helped me  
make more friends."

# 493

**SESSIONS HELD**

# 66,478

**ATTENDANCES**

Per annum

# 1,446

**NEW MEMBERS IN 2024**



# 576

**YOUNG PEOPLE  
SUPPORTED INTO  
EDUCATION,  
EMPLOYMENT OR  
TRAINING  
(SINCE THE LAUNCH  
OF YOUTH HUB IN  
2021)**

# 13,337

**ENGAGEMENTS IN MAKER  
ZONE ( STEM )**

# 26,639

**ENGAGEMENTS IN SPORTS**

# 8,160

**ENGAGEMENTS IN HEALTH &  
WELLBEING**

**YOUNG PERSON QUOTE**

"I wouldn't be where I am now if I didn't  
have the support of the Blackburn  
Youth Hub. Through 1-Is they have  
given me the opportunity to gain my  
confidence back and they have helped  
me push my limits even further and got  
me out of my shell."

## THE ROLE

Making, alongside sport, the arts and Youth Work is at the heart of B&DYZ's offer to young people. The purpose built 'Making Zone' offers a wide range of technical and creative opportunities for young people including, 3D printing, electronics & programming, STEAM, moulding & casting and much more. Together with our partners The Making Rooms – an organisation dedicated to creative and technical training, you will help develop and deliver a diverse and exciting programme of activities aimed at young people aged 5 to 25 years, that stimulates, develops and meets the needs of young people from all backgrounds and abilities. You will utilise creativity and technical problem solving in the wider youth work agenda supporting and encouraging young people to express themselves, develop their technical abilities and facilitate personal development by developing their skills through positive engagement and experiences.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To schedule, design, coordinate and deliver a comprehensive making programme for young people aged 5 to 25 at B&DYZ which will enable them to build their confidence, creative and technical skills, social skills and overall well being.
- To have line management responsibility for the arts and creative team, helping guide, support and coach so their delivery meets our quality assurance framework standards.
- Provide a universal service to all children and young people that is well marketed and reaches across the borough to ensure membership is reflective of local demographics promoting social mix within the sessions.
- To ensure that the programme is high quality and meets the needs of the young people, including young people with additional needs and disabilities and young people who may typically not engage in these provisions.
- To ensure that the programme contributes to the wider youth work agenda, supporting the development of personal and art skills of young people
- To ensure all sessions are equipped with a range of resources and activities to engage, develop and inform young people.
- To ensure all programme delivery is safe.
- To organise events, challenges, competitions and showcases, both internally and externally on a regular basis.

- To support the promotion plan and work in the community to attract young people.
- To motivate, encourage and support young people to participate fully in sessions.
- To network with local appropriate groups and community providers and other partner organisations to develop joint working programmes.
- In conjunction with other partners, identify, support and develop talented young people.
- To work closely with our partner organisation, The Making Rooms, to feedback about the delivery of the programme, and engage with the other Making Zone leads from other Youth Zones.
- To keep The Making Zone in a clean, tidy and safe state.
- Carry out any other reasonable duties as requested by management.
- To work with youth work managers to plan and deliver specific funded projects such as science week and other relative projects.
- To support, deliver and evaluate funded projects, according to the objectives and provide reporting on specific projects.
- A willingness to work unsocial hours during evenings and weekends is required.
- The ability and willingness to travel to meetings and events both in the region and beyond.
- To adhere to B&DYZ policies at all times, with reference to Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Equal Opportunities.

## **SAFEGUARDING AND COMPLIANCE.**

- Ensure the charity has a robust approach to risk management, including person centred risk assessment and risk management processes
- To understand and adhere to BYZ policies and procedures and ensure all staff and volunteers are responsible for doing likewise.
- To promote social integration and inclusion, and proactively challenge any prejudice and discrimination.
- To keep updated with any new legislation, policies and procedures related to primary years



## **PERSON SPECIFICATION EXPERIENCE**

- Experience of delivering creative and technical activities across all genres such as traditional, digital and sustainability in line with relevant guidance and good practice, including (Essential) :
  - 3D modelling & printing.
  - Programming & electronics.
  - Moulding & casting.
  - 2D vector design & vinyl cutting.
- Proven experience of engaging vulnerable, disengaged or hard to reach young people. (Essential)
- Experience of working with young people. (Essential)
- Experience working in partnership with external agencies to create opportunities for young people and improve our reputation with arts. (Essential)
- Experience managing and leading projects and accreditations such as ASDAN (Desirable)

## **EDUCATION/TRAINING/QUALIFICATION**

- Current First Aid Qualification. (Desirable)
- Working towards or achieved qualification in Engineering or Computer Science. (Desirable)

## **SKILLS & ABILITIES**

- Excellent communication skills to deliver activity programmes to a wide range of young people. (Essential)
- Ability to motivate and engage staff, volunteers and young people in physical and computer based activities. (Essential)
- Strong commitment to young people and ability to engage and build positive relationships with disengaged young people. (Essential)
- Ability to plan and deliver events, such as hack-a-thons. (Essential)
- Ability to understand and meet children's needs including children with additional needs. (Essential)

## KNOWLEDGE

- Awareness and knowledge of what constitutes good quality arts offer for children and young people (Essential)
- Knowledge and experience of digital creativity and how to teach these skills to children and young people. (Essential)
- Ability to understand and meet children's needs including children with additional needs. (Essential)
- Sound knowledge of technical qualifications and the quality standards expected for the successful delivery of accredited technical activities. (Essential)

## PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Ability to establish good professional relationships with young people and adults (Essential)
- Patience, tolerance and flexibility (Essential)
- Creativity and enthusiasm (Essential)
- Hands on / Can do attitude (Essential)
- Flexible approach to working (Essential)

## OTHER

- Enhanced DBS (Essential)
- Clean driving licence (Desirable)

*Selection criteria for guidance only, alternative methods may be used to assist the selection process*

### Values based Practice:

All staff are expected to demonstrate behavioural competencies that reflect our organisational values in their day-to-day work, and in how they build positive, respectful relationships with young people, colleagues, and external stakeholders.

### Safeguarding:

Understanding of safeguarding procedures and best practices when working with young people (Essential). Staff are expected to demonstrate behavioural competencies aligned with our values, acting with integrity, professionalism, and respect, and contributing to a positive, responsible, and safeguarding-focused culture.

## BENEFITS



FREE GYM ACCESS



33 DAYS HOLIDAY  
(INCLUSIVE OF BANK HOLS)



WELLBEING SUPPORT



FLEXIBLE WORKING



BIRTHDAY DAY OFF

## WORKING HOURS

The hours of work are those necessary to fulfil the requirements of the position. This will involve working unsocial hours in evenings and at weekends during Youth Zone sessions or at events, and also working during the day.

## HOW TO APPLY

Blackburn & Darwen Youth Zone is committed to the safeguarding of young people. In accordance with our Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures, this position requires an enhanced DBS check.

The strength of OnSide Youth Zones comes from the diversity of the people within our vibrant network. We are proud that our Youth Zone team reflects the communities we serve, and we value people working together from a range of different backgrounds locally and nationally, and with different experiences, all with a shared passion for boosting the aspirations of young people across the country. Diversity brings innovation, fresh ideas and creativity, and we actively strive to create a culture that is truly inclusive and fair for all and where everyone in the team can be themselves and thrive. The Youth Zone welcomes applicants from all sectors of the community.

Please Apply via the link [HERE](#)





**Our HEART values are at the  
core of everything we do.**



**HONESTY**



**RESPECT**



**EXCELLENCE**



**TEAMWORK**



**ACCOUNTABILITY**