Playwork – Beyond Quality
A quality framework for after-school childcare and playwork settings

Playwork - Beyond Quality is a play-centred quality framework which helps after-school clubs, holiday play schemes and other playwork settings to develop and improve their practice.

It is a self-evaluation and development toolkit which has been designed, created and piloted by Cambridgeshire County Council and is now available nationally.

It can be used to review quality across all areas of provision involving all staff in the quality journey and encouraging a cycle of self and team continuous reflection.

Beyond Quality combines the Playwork Principles, the latest theories and concepts with the practical know-how and quality development experience of Cambridgeshire’s advisory teams.

The toolkit has been reviewed and revised to reflect recent Ofsted changes and supports the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (2014).

Beyond Quality is a specialist product which can add significant value through its evidence based approach.

Playwork – Beyond Quality offers

- Schools the opportunity to ensure their out of school provision meets recognised good practice standards
- Practitioners the opportunity to validate and improve their practice in all key areas, supporting them in managing their provision
- Children the best opportunities for play and positive outcomes in their free time whilst in out of school care
- Parents the reassurance that the childcare they rely upon is well-managed, of high quality and supports their children’s health, well-being and happiness
- Local authorities the opportunity to embed a well-tested model of good practice, bringing consistency and a wider understanding to an area of service whose potential is often overlooked.

Playwork – Beyond Quality can be offered:

- as a stand-alone resource
- with implementation support for your local authority adviser teams
- as a supported model to implement with providers in your area
- with additional training support
- bespoke and tailored to your needs

The quality framework is available in A4 ring binder format for £90 per copy. Discounts are available on multiple orders. It can be branded and customised for your local use – prices for implementation packages are available on request.

To find out more about Playwork – Beyond Quality, please email early.years@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.