



JOIN THE RAINBOW ROOM TEAM

Comet Nursery School and Children's Centre is expanding its provision to include children from 9 months to 2 years and is seeking exceptional practitioners to help establish Rainbow Room, our new baby room.

Current Opportunities

Lead Early Years Educator

£37,509 (Scale 6 pt 18)

Early Years Educators (x2)

£34,359 (scale 5 pt 12)

36 hours per week • Permanent • All Year Round

Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 11 September 2026

Interviews: Tuesday 22 & Wednesday 23 September 2026

Start Date: Thursday 29 October 2026

The application form is available via our website

www.cometnurseryandcc.co.uk or email

admin@comet.hackney.sch.uk

Visits to the school are warmly welcomed. Please contact us to arrange an appointment.

Contact Us

Comet Nursery School and Children's Centre

20 Halcomb Street N1 5RF

020 7749 9850

admin@comet.hackney.sch.uk



Welcome to Comet

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in joining Comet Nursery School and Children's Centre.

Comet is a vibrant maintained nursery school and Children's Centre in the heart of Hoxton. We are proud of our reputation for providing high-quality early education, our commitment to inclusion, and the strong relationships we build with children, families and the wider community.

At Comet, we believe every child deserves the very best start in life. Our approach is rooted in a deep understanding of early childhood development, where children are supported to become curious, creative and confident learners through rich, play-based experiences. We are ambitious for every child and strive to provide an environment where all children belong, thrive and flourish, making the very best progress from their individual starting points.

Inclusion is at the heart of everything we do. Alongside our nursery and two-year-old provision, we are proud to have established, and lead Hackney's only maintained nursery school Additionally Resourced Provision, providing specialist support for children with special educational needs. Our experienced team works closely with families and professionals to ensure every child receives the support they need to succeed.

This year marks an exciting new chapter as we expand our provision to include children from 9 months old. Our new under 2's room, Rainbow Room, will offer high-quality early education and care for our youngest children, providing families with continuity of support from the earliest stages of their child's learning journey.

As a Gold Rights Respecting School, we are committed to ensuring that children feel safe, valued and respected, while placing learning, development and wellbeing at the heart of everything we do.

We are looking for enthusiastic, reflective and caring professionals who share our passion for early years education, inclusion and family partnership working. In return, you will join a supportive team that is committed to continuous improvement and making a difference for children and families.

I hope this gives you a flavour of life at Comet and the exciting opportunities ahead.

Best wishes,

Lisa Clarke
Headteacher



At Comet, we are proud to offer:

- A welcoming, inclusive and diverse school and Children's Centre community where every child, family and member of staff is valued.
- The opportunity to work in an innovative maintained nursery school, including our new baby room provision and Hackney's first maintained nursery school Additional Resource Provision (ARP).
- A strong commitment to staff wellbeing, including a focus on manageable workloads and a healthy work-life balance.
- High-quality professional development, training and career progression opportunities.
- Opportunities to visit and learn from outstanding early years settings and professionals.
- A reflective and collaborative team culture where ideas, creativity and professional dialogue are encouraged.
- The chance to contribute to whole-school development projects and develop areas of specialist expertise.
- Supportive leadership that values and invests in its staff.
- Priority nursery places for staff children, subject to availability.
- Priority access to breakfast and after-school club places for staff children attending Comet.

We are looking for someone who:

- Is passionate about early childhood education and making a difference to the lives of young children and their families.
- Has experience of working with children under five and understands how young children learn and develop.
- Can create stimulating, engaging learning environments both indoors and outdoors.
- Has high expectations for all children and is committed to helping every child achieve their full potential.
- Shares our commitment to inclusion and has the ability to build positive relationships with children from diverse backgrounds and with a range of needs.
- Recognises parents and carers as children's first educators and values strong partnership working with families.
- Has excellent communication, literacy, numeracy and ICT skills.
- Is reflective, enthusiastic and keen to continue developing their professional practice.
- Works effectively as part of a team and contributes positively to the wider life of the school and Children's Centre.
- Shares Comet's values of learning, inclusion, respect and community.



Job Description for Early Years Educator

Job title:	Early Years Educator (9 months to 2 years old)
Reporting to:	Rainbow Room Lead and Head Teacher
Grade:	Scale 5 pt12 (£34,359)
Hours:	36 hours per week, all year round
Contract:	Permanent

Purpose of the post:

To provide high-quality early education and care for children aged 9 months to 2 years within a stimulating, inclusive and nurturing learning environment.

The post holder will support children's learning, development and wellbeing through purposeful play, meaningful interactions and carefully planned experiences that reflect the Early Years Foundation Stage. Working in partnership with families and colleagues, they will help ensure every child develops confidence, curiosity, independence and a lifelong love of learning.

The post holder will contribute to Comet's inclusive ethos and commitment to working in partnership with families, ensuring every child is valued and supported to achieve their full potential.

Key Responsibilities

Supporting Learning and Development

- Deliver high-quality teaching and learning experiences appropriate to the developmental needs of babies and toddlers.
- Contribute to the planning, implementation and evaluation of a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Observe, assess and record children's learning and development, using this information to plan next steps and support progress.
- Create enabling indoor and outdoor learning environments that promote curiosity, exploration, creativity and independent learning.
- Support children's communication, thinking, confidence and independence through high-quality interactions and learning experiences.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues to ensure all children make good progress from their starting points.
- Support children with SEND and those learning English as an Additional Language through inclusive, personalised approaches.



Building Relationships and Supporting Children's Wellbeing

- Develop warm, secure and respectful relationships with children.
- Follow children's individual care routines and respond to their needs sensitively.
- Promote emotional wellbeing and support children to develop secure attachments.
- Encourage positive behaviour through respectful interactions and positive role modelling.
- Celebrate diversity and ensure all children feel valued, respected and represented within the provision.
- Promote communication and language development through responsive interactions, songs, stories and conversations.

Key Person Responsibilities

- Act as Key Person for an allocated group of children.
- Support home visits, settling-in sessions and transition arrangements.
- Maintain accurate observations, developmental records and children's special books in accordance with school procedures.
- Monitor children's progress and identify next steps in learning.
- Build positive and professional relationships with parents and carers, recognising them as children's first educators.
- Be the first point of contact for allocated families.
- Work collaboratively with external professionals and contribute to support plans and review meetings for children with additional needs.

Inclusion and Family Partnership Working

- Promote an inclusive environment where all children and families feel welcomed, valued and respected.
- Ensure learning opportunities reflect and celebrate the diversity of the school community.
- Support children to express their views and interests in ways appropriate to their age and stage of development.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues, families and external professionals to support children's participation, learning and wellbeing

Safeguarding, Health, Safety and Welfare

- Promote and safeguard the welfare of all children at all times.
- Maintain high standards of hygiene, health and safety throughout the provision.
- Attend to the needs of children who are unwell or injured, administering First Aid where appropriate, completing accident records and ensuring children receive appropriate care until collected.
- Follow all safeguarding and child protection procedures and report any concerns immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- Contribute to maintaining a safe, secure and healthy environment for children.



Providing Personal Care and Meeting Children's Individual Needs

- Support children with personal care routines, including nappy changing, toileting, dressing and undressing, in a respectful and sensitive manner.
- Support feeding and mealtime routines, including bottle feeding and assisting children who require additional support with eating and drinking.
- Follow agreed sleep and rest procedures for younger children.
- Support children's physical development and independence, using appropriate moving and handling techniques where required.
- Ensure all care routines promote children's dignity, wellbeing and independence whilst meeting their individual needs.

Supporting Students and Colleagues

- Support students, apprentices and work experience placements.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues to share expertise and promote excellent early years practice.

Professional Development

- Participate fully in training, supervision, appraisal and professional development opportunities.
- Keep up to date with developments in early years education, safeguarding and child development.
- Reflect on and continually develop own practice.

General Responsibilities

- Carry out duties in accordance with school policies, local authority requirements and relevant legislation.
- Promote equality, diversity and inclusion in all aspects of the role.
- Maintain confidentiality in relation to children, families, staff and school matters.
- Work in accordance with Comet's ethos, values and Rights Respecting School principles.
- Work flexibly and collaboratively as part of the wider school and Children's Centre team.
- Undertake other duties appropriate to the grade and responsibilities of the post as reasonably determined by the Headteacher.
- Contribute positively to the wider life and development of Comet Nursery School and Children's Centre.



Person Specification

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Qualifications and training	Level 3 qualification in Early Years or equivalent	- Paediatric First Aid qualification - Food Hygiene qualification
Experience	- Experience of working with children aged 0-2 years - Experience of supporting children's learning and development within the EYFS - Experience of working in partnership with parents and carers - Experience of creating engaging learning environments indoors and outdoors	- Experience of working in a high-quality early years setting. - Experience of supporting children with a range of learning and developmental needs.
Knowledge and Understanding	- Good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage - Understanding of child development and how young children learn through play and relationships - Understanding of safeguarding and child protection responsibilities - Understanding of inclusive practice and meeting the needs of diverse learners - Understanding of the importance of family partnership working	
Skills and Abilities	- Ability to build positive relationships with children, families and colleagues - Strong observation, assessment and record-keeping skills - Excellent communication and interpersonal skills - Good literacy, numeracy and ICT skills - Ability to work effectively as part of a team	



Personal qualities	• Passionate about early years education and achieving the best outcomes for children • Warm, nurturing and responsive practitioner • Committed to inclusion, equality and anti-discriminatory practice • Reflective and committed to professional development • Flexible, positive and able to contribute to the wider life of the school and Children's Centre	
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Notes:

This job description may be amended at any time in consultation with the postholder.

