

**Press Release: Tuesday, 30 October 2007 Date: For immediate use.**



**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

**CLARIFICATION ON THE USE OF NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS FOR PLAYWORK.**

**SkillsActive has issued a statement to clarify the use of NOS for Playwork and Children's Care, Learning and Development (CCLD)**

Following the recent expansion of the age range for the new CCLD standards to encompass children and young people up to 16, SkillsActive and Skills for Care and Development have agreed that a clause would appear in the units of the respective standards to clarify their use.

The playwork qualification, is for individuals that work in a setting or service with the purpose of providing children and young people with opportunities to freely chosen play. Examples of such settings include; Adventure playgrounds, Holiday Play Schemes and After School Clubs to name a few.

The Children's Care, Learning and Development qualification, is for individuals that work in a setting or service with the purpose of providing play based or learning experiences that support the care, learning and development of children in partnership with their families and in the context of their communities. Examples of such settings include; Child minders, day care workers, nannies and nursery workers and some out of school playworkers and classroom assistants

SkillsActive Playwork Director, Paul Bonel said: "To assist in offsetting a great deal of misunderstanding, this statement will provide clarity for employers, practitioners and regulators on which qualifications relate to which settings for children and young people."

Staff who undertake a CCLD qualification including the optional Playwork unit are not qualified as a playworker.

It is important to protect the integrity of both sets of standards and their accompanying values and principles. For workers who are currently employed in Early Years, Child Care or Playwork settings and have a Level 3 qualification in their current sector who wish to make the transition from one to the other the following awards are available:

Level 3 Award in Early Years and Child Care for Playworkers  
Level 3 Award in Playwork for Early Years and Child Care Workers

**For more information about a career in playwork, please visit**  
<http://www.skillsactive.com/careers/>

**-ENDS-**

**For more information please contact:**

**Uzma Ahmad**  
**Tel: 020 7632 2024**  
**Email: [uzma.ahmad@skillsactive.com](mailto:uzma.ahmad@skillsactive.com)**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

1. SkillsActive is the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sport and fitness, playwork, the outdoors and caravan industries – known as the active leisure and learning sector.
2. SSCs are UK-wide, employer-led organisations that aim to tackle the skills and productivity needs of their sector. Twenty five SSCs make up the Skills for Business Network. The Sector Skills Development Agency (SSDA) underpins the network and is responsible for funding, supporting and monitoring the SSCs.
3. SkillsActive’s Sector Skills Agreement defines the sector’s skills needs and forms an agreement between employers, government and funding partners to shape the workforce for the next ten years. Priorities identified as a result of the SSA process are: improve the quality and range of services; improve recruitment and retention; professionalise and upskill the existing workforce; match supply to demand; redirect funding for training; increase sector investment in our people.
4. SkillsActive is *Shaping Skills for the Future*, through...
  - PEOPLE...  
...ensuring all people in the sector are appropriately trained and qualified.
  - PRODUCTIVITY...  
...ensuring better performance through the professional development of the sector.
  - PROVISION...  
...ensuring the sector has accessible, relevant and funded training across the UK.
  - PROMOTION...  
...ensuring the contributions of the sector are recognised at a governmental level.
5. For more information about SkillsActive, please visit our website @ [www.skillsactive.com](http://www.skillsactive.com)