



Wexford County Council Library Reader-in-Residence Programme

Introduction

Wexford County Council Public Library Service seeks to award a contract for services for a Reader in Residence. The Reader in Residence will deliver a programme of activities designed to promote literacy and foster a habit and enjoyment of reading and library use with children and young people.

Outline of the Residency

The residency will involve engagement with children through schools, preschools and community groups, centred round their local library. The residency will also provide opportunities for parents and children to explore and enjoy reading and other family literacy activities together.

The Resident, in partnership with Wexford County Council Public Library Service, will set objectives and develop a programme of work for the residency period, which will result in agreed outputs and outcomes. The resident will furnish monthly activity and financial reports and a comprehensive report at the end of the residency period.

The residency will be for a period of 10 months from July 2018 and will involve 15 hours preparation and contact hours per week. The programme will be deliverable from all five libraries and the mobile library service in County Wexford.

Programme elements of the Residency

1. To work with our schools and network partners to enable more children and families use library services and to develop a love of books and reading.
2. To design and deliver workshops to support Wexford County Council Public Library Service's Right to Read Action Plan 2018.
3. To engage with online resources, digital, social and local media to promote reading.

Requirements for the Resident

The resident will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, experience of working with children and families and an ability to think creatively. A clear appreciation of the role books and reading play in the development of children and the enrichment of families is also essential.

The resident should have an excellent knowledge of children's literature, recommending books to children and reader development. She/He should be able to integrate aspects of digital literacy into the residency programme.

The successful applicant must be able to demonstrate suitable skills and competencies and must provide evidence of relevant achievement.

Flexibility to adapt is essential as the programme develops.

Terms of the Residency

The Reader in Residence will be a self-employed person for tax purposes in Ireland and he/she will be solely responsible for all income tax, PRSI and other such payments due in respect of the remuneration paid. The resident will be required to provide his/her own transport.

The Reader in Residence will be available to provide the outreach and in branch events as scheduled. The programme may be delivered in the evenings and at weekends.

Wexford County Council reserves the right to terminate the contract for services, if the resident is unable to perform the work for which he/she is contracted, as a result of incapacity, incompetence or misconduct. Should the resident decide to terminate the contract, the resident will be required to honour the commitment of events scheduled for a period of not less than one month. Nothing in this agreement will prevent the giving of a lesser period of notice by either party where it is mutually agreed.

The successful resident must submit a copy of their *Child Safeguarding Statement*, and their *Child Protection and Welfare Policy* before the contract for services is awarded. This policy must have been developed with reference to *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children*. Garda vetting will be required.

A contract-for-services fee of €15,000 inclusive of travel expenses is offered for the ten month period, with a third payable on commencement, a third payable half-way through, and a third payable on completion.

Selection Criteria for Reader-in-Residence

Required:

- Previous relevant work experience with children and families delivering workshops and other events that involved engagement, facilitation, and report writing.
- Proven track record in working with various partners and agencies in the delivery of relevant programmes.
- A developed expertise in the area of children's literature, literacy and reader development.
- Competence in the use of digital literacy, online resources and social media.
- Demonstrated desire to engage with children and families in workshops with the goal of encouraging reading for pleasure.

Application Procedure

Please note applications should be made by sending the following information as **ONE single attachment** (either in PDF or word format) incorporating all of the below required information:

- An up-to-date CV , including the names and contact details of two professional references;
- A written submission of interest which outlines workshop ideas and approaches to the residency. (1,000 words maximum)
- Examples of previous similar and relevant work especially working in the area of literacy and young people.

Once attachment is compiled please send your single document application to libraryhq@wexfordcoco.ie

Please ensure that you USE THE FOLLOWING REFERENCES '**Reader-in-Residence**' in the subject line of your application email.

The completed application documents should be forwarded by email to arrive no later than 5pm on Friday 15th June 2018. Late applications will not be accepted.

It is expected that **interviews will** be held in late June 2018.

ENDS