

Client: Sedexo Justice Services
HMP Addiewell
Livingston
Scotland

The brief: Tinies Crèche provides staff for the visits hall play area. The play area is located in the visits hall within the prison of HMP Addiewell. Tinies Staff provide play workers within the play area to engage children in arts and crafts, story time, games and quite playing. This is to allow adults to converse while visiting an inmate. During the weekends there are bonded visits where some children and their fathers are allowed 1 to 1 and a half hours of close contact visits which are supervised. Tinies staff help both the prisoner and the child engage in various activities to allow them to bond.

During visit times security is very high and the play workers have to be very imaginative as the use of things like scissors, play dough, glue etc. are not allowed.

Each staff member wears a blue tabard to allow them to be identified from prisoners and visitors.

Each play area member has been trained to allow them to deal with any situation that may arise within the prison environment.

Our play workers need to be very intuitive, kind, understanding and knowledgeable due to the nature of the play area. Each child has different needs and abilities and a great deal of the children who are visiting in the prison are unaware of where they are. They also have to come to terms with temporarily losing a parent and this can cause challenging behaviour issues which parents often need help and advice about.

Each play worker has first aid training and must be trained to a level of SVQ1.

Play workers are responsible for ordering arts and crafts equipment as well as nappies and wipes.

Delivery: During visiting time within the prison there can be varying amounts of children of all ages. The ages of children range from newborn to 12 years old. There is also a teenage area within the visit hall which is more specific to their age group.

Activities included:

- Card Making
- Healthy eating
- Drawing
- Games
- Painting
- Easter decorations and collages
- Christmas decorations and Christmas cards

Service & support: We provide cover in the play area on a Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday every week of the year. We ensure that 2 members of staff are available for each visit session on these days. 2 members of staff must work together for security reasons.

Client feedback:

"Professional, dedicated and hard working play workers are provided on a weekly basis to HMP Addiewell" K Manual

"Tinies have provided us with playworkers for the last 3 years and have provided us with a professional and friendly service throughout this time" K Manual

