

JOB DESCRIPTION - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

IDENTIFICATION

Post Title:	Senior Family Support Worker	Post Ref:	
Section:	Children's Services Throughcare & Aftercare	Grade:	8/9
Responsible to:	Team Manager		
Responsible for:	Family Support Workers		
	Social Work Assistant		

JOB PURPOSE

To contribute towards assessments of need and risk, and provide direct services to care leavers supported by the Throughcare and Aftercare Team.

To assist the Team Manager in the planning, delivery and evaluation of a range of direct work services for care leavers.

To work with other professionals to support young people to achieve positive outcomes in their health, wellbeing, education, employment and relationships.

PRINCIPAL WORKING CONTACTS

Team Manager, Social Workers, Resource Workers, Family Support Workers, Police, Health, Housing and Education along with voluntary sectors.

MAIN DUTIES

Contribute towards multi-agency assessments of need and risk being undertaken in relation to care leavers and other children and families.

Undertake direct work with individuals, families and groups in accordance with their assessed needs and individual care plans.

Liaise with Family Support Teams and support the allocation and co-ordination of services required to meet the needs of children and their families.

Assist the Team Manager, Resource Workers and Family Support Staff to identify unmet needs and to develop and refer to new services for children and families.

Deliver services in partnership with Family Support Service staff where appropriate, and in accordance with individual family support plans.

Assist the Team Manager, Social Workers and Family Support Workers to evaluate services provided to ensure that assessed needs are met, and family support service resources are being targeted appropriately.

Attend Children's Hearing, LAC Reviews and Child Protection Case Conferences, as required, and provide reports that are of a high standard.

Work in partnership with young people, their carers/families and other professionals to ensure appropriate and effective communication and co-ordination of services being

provided to each individual child and family.

Ensure that appropriate records are maintained in respect of each child and family receiving a service in accordance with Departmental operating procedures.

Participate in individual supervision sessions, and regular Team and staff meetings, and contribute towards effective communication and good working relationships between Team members.

Provide effective supervision and guidance to support staff.

Keep abreast of developments in care leaver research and legislation and participate in Departmental, Council and other training programmes to further own professional development and inform the development of family support services for children and families.

Ensure that services provided to children and families meet best practice standards at all times in line with current national and local guidance and requirements.

Adhere to Departmental, Council and other relevant health and safety policies and procedures in all settings where family support services are provided.

OTHER DUTIES

This job description is a broad picture of the post at the date of preparation. It is not an exhaustive list of all possible duties and it is recognised that jobs change and evolve over time. Consequently, this is not a contractual document and the postholder will be required to carry out any other duties to the equivalent level that are necessary to fulfil the purpose of the job.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

POST TITLE: Senior Family Support Worker Throughcare & Aftercare

SERVICE/DIVISION/SECTION: Children & Families Service

	ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS	DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS	METHOD OF ASSESSMENT
PROFESSIONAL/ EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	HNC in Childcare and Education, or equivalent	Community Education DIP SW Certificate in Management	Application/ Interview
RELEVANT WORK/OTHER EXPERIENCE	Experience of working with Adolescents and Care Experienced Young People and knowledge of the challenges faced by those who are Care Experienced. Experience of supervision and training staff in the delivery of family support services. Experience of delivering parenting programmes. Experience of undertaking written assessments. Experience of working in a children and families setting.	Experience of working with Care Leavers and knowledge of relevant legislation. Experience of Parenting Assessments. Experience of working with parents affected by substance misuse, mental health and domestic violence. Experience and knowledge of Child Protection. Experience of attending Children's Hearings Experience of collaborative working with agencies such as Police, Health, Housing and Education.	Application/ Interview and references
PARTICULAR SKILLS/ABILITIES	Proven experience and skills in supervising staff in achieving change. Excellent communication skills, verbal and written. Effective planning, organisational and decision making skills. Ability to work to timescales. Good analytical, risk assessment skills. Ability to record information accurately and timeously.	Experience of recording on computer systems.	Application/ interview References
PERSONAL	Calm, positive, flexible, confident and enthusiastic	Aptitude for more complex family based work.	Application/ interview

QUALITIES	approach. Resourceful and creative Ability to motivate staff and prioritise work. Able to work on own initiative and respond well in crisis situations. Ability to manage conflict.		References
ANY ADDITIONAL JOB RELATED REQUIREMENTS	Ability to work outwith normal working hours on a flexible basis. Member of PVG Scheme or willingness to become a member of the PVG Scheme with satisfactory Scheme Record and/or Scheme Record Update. Driving Licence (Level 3).		Application/ interview References