



Job Description

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St. Helens Council

Post: Fostering Support Worker
Post Number: ESCRA21
Department: Children and Young Peoples Services
Grade: Scp 22 - 25
Responsible to: Team Manager/Senior Practitioner

Purpose of the Post:

To offer a range of support to foster carers, including information and advice to enable the foster carer to provide consistent, high quality care for a child or young person placed in his or her home. To offer support to foster carers to help maintain placements and prevent disruptions.

Duties and Responsibilities:

To work creatively with young people and/or families and carers on an individual and group basis and to provide support to children, young people and their families, including evenings and weekends to meet the needs of the service.

To be the designated case holder for a limited number of foster carers under the direction of the supervising social worker.

To maintain comprehensive, up to date, case records in accordance with departmental procedures

To work in partnership with families, foster carers, social workers and other professionals/agencies to implement care plans and to liaise regularly with social workers and other professionals involved with the child/young person/family.

To provide advice to foster carers on parenting practice, independent living and health and safety in the home, which is informed by theoretical models of good practice

To take part in reviews, strategy meetings, planning meetings and case conferences and to prepare and present reports that will assist in the decision making process.



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To arrange, organise and facilitate a range of play and other activities for children and young people and undertake direct work with young people who may present challenging behaviours.

To respond appropriately in the management of potentially challenging situations in accordance with departmental procedures. This may include undertaking risk assessments.

To organise and facilitate support groups held during the day and evening.

To assist in maintaining children's links with their families, schools and communities.

To help young people access education and where appropriate training and employment.

To promote the best interests and protection of children and young people and to recognise their individual rights.

To be responsible for handling petty cash as directed by the Team Manager in accordance with financial regulations.

To maintain links with other staff within the Department and other agencies.

Contributing to the development of overall Borough provision by:

- Attending meeting, working parties and forums**
- Suggesting policy and procedural improvements**
- Identifying opportunities for development of services**
- Undertaking training linked to the role of support worker**

To comply with the Council's Health and Safety Policy and associated safe working procedures and guidelines.

To comply with the Council's Comprehensive Equality Policy and to ensure that it is implemented within the service area of the post.

To comply with the Council's Data Protection Policy and Code of Practice within the service area of the post.

This post is subject to Disclosure.



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This post is not Politically Restricted in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989(As amended).

The details contained within this job description reflect the content of the job at the date it was prepared. However, it is inevitable that over time, the nature of the job may change. Existing duties may no longer be required and other duties may be gained without changing the general nature of the post or the level of responsibility entailed. Consequently, the Council will expect to revise this job description from time to time and will consult the postholder/s at the appropriate time.

Date Prepared: September 2008

Date updated: April 15