

Job Description

Post Title: Supervising Social Worker

Responsible to: Registered Manager

Purpose:

1. As Supervising Social Worker, you will be responsible for acting as a link worker for Foster Carers and looked after children. The role of a link worker is a key position that brings together the needs of looked after children and young people, the support and management of foster carers, liaison with the placing authority and the administration and delivery of the service.
2. To ensure that the voice of the child/young person is heard and valued within the agency.
3. To positively engage enquirers and applicants for fostering, developing the confidence and skills of people into wanting to foster children and young people and ensuring they are well prepared for the task.
4. To assess prospective foster carers in line with national minimum standards and timescales.
5. To participate in the delivery of preparation programmes to support the assessment of people wanting to foster.

Responsibilities and Job Specifics

As Supervising Social Worker, you will be responsible for:

- Delivery
- Quality
- Development

The job specifics are:

Delivery

- To participate in taking referrals for placements
- Participate in the matching process for potential foster carers
- Liaising appropriately with placing authorities and other professional services to ensure a child's care plan is followed through
- Undertake annual foster carer reviews and take these to the fostering panel in accordance with policies and procedures
- Manage a caseload of approved and registered foster carers
- Provide day to day support for foster carers

- Provide regular (monthly or as specified) professional supervision to Foster Carers
- Conduct assessments of prospective foster carers.
- Assist with fostering events e.g. promotion days, etc.
- Provide out of hours support on a rota basis.

Quality

- Provide placement reports on a frequency in line with Evolve Fostering practise and agreed with the placing authority
- Engender a supportive and empowering relationship with any child/young person in placement, to ensure that they can voice their thoughts, feelings or concerns regarding their care and/or circumstances.
- Participate in gathering evidence for the Training and Development Standards for Foster Carers
- Always operate according to Evolve Fostering policies and procedures
- Keep appropriate records of all work undertaken and in accordance with regulations and agency policy
- Maintain data management of all information regarding foster carers and referrals in line with Data Protection and agency policies, storage, retention, archive, and access to information
- Attend supervision, team meetings and staff days
- Obtain and review feedback from foster carers regularly
- Set a good example in terms of dress, punctuality and attendance
- Be proactive in matters relating to health and safety and child protection
- Report any concerns to Fostering and Care Manager

Development

- Assist with the development and delivery of ongoing training for foster carers
- Participate in carers team meetings and workshops
- Contribute to the strategic business development of the venture to facilitate the organisation's operational growth and position
- Seek to improve the service provision within the agency
- Continue in your own professional development
- Fully participate in creative meetings and discussions towards development
- Support the training team in implementing any agreed developments
- Respond to team and organisational developments as required
- Develop and maintain relationships with foster carers, placing authorities, social services and other professional organisations as required

Safeguarding Children and Young People

1. To commit to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and protecting them from risk of harm. The Agency recognises its responsibility to ensure safe and appropriate policies, working practices and systems are in place for all staff working with children and young people.

2. To comply with the Evolve Fostering Safeguarding Policy and promote the safeguarding of children throughout their work.
3. To attend and maintain mandatory safeguarding training in relation to their work with children and young people.

Confidentiality

To safeguard the confidentiality of information relating to carers, children and young people always in accordance with agency policies and procedures.

Health and Safety

To comply with Health and Safety regulations and guidance in the course of employment.

Data Protection

1. To comply with the agency's policies and Data Protection Act in all aspects, with particular reference to the protection and use of personal data relating to carers and children and young people.
2. To ensure all data is recorded accurately, timely, up to date and in a non-discriminatory manner.

Equality & Diversity

1. To comply with the agency's equality and diversity policy and be able to demonstrate their commitment to the policy in all aspects of their work.
2. To actively promote equality of opportunity and an anti-discriminatory service.

Ethos and Values

To subscribe to the ethos and ethical values upheld by Evolve Fostering and demonstrate those values in own everyday work.