

Assistant Unit Manager

Job Description

Directorate:	Education and Children's Services		
Service:	Children's Service		
Location:	Lancashire		
Salary range:	£36,363 - £40,778	Grade:	8
Reports to:	Registered Manager	Staff responsible for:	

Job purpose and scope

- To assist the Registered Manager in the management and administration of the service and the leadership of the team.
- To instil, promote and maintain working relationships with all levels of management, employees and service users, (including other directorates of the County Council and external agencies) which fully reflect the Directorates standard of conduct and statement of principles.
- The post holder is expected to carry out their duties and responsibilities in accordance with the County Council's policies and procedures and the Directorates statement of principles, ethical standards and standards of conduct.
- To instil, promote and maintain a healthy and safe environment for all levels of management, employees and Service Users within the service as directed by current legislation and the County Council's policies and protocols.

Performance Indicators

- Quality of advice/service against legal, safety and best practice standards
- Achievement of relevant service targets
- Adherence to internal/external quality standards if applicable
- Adherence to policies and procedures
- Accuracy and timeliness of information recording and processing
- Customer and stakeholder feedback
- Leading Lancashire Framework

Leading Lancashire – Our Leadership Framework



Leading Lancashire

Our Leadership Framework

Our Vision and Values We are driven by a simple yet powerful vision – “Here at Lancashire County Council, we are helping to make Lancashire the best place to live, work, visit, and prosper.”

This vision is at the centre of everything we do. Embedded in our identity are our values: *Supportive, Innovative, Respectful, and Collaborative*, our guiding principles that enable everyone to thrive.



Four Spheres of Leadership

The Leading Lancashire framework is a dynamic approach, encapsulating four key spheres:

Responsibilities, Capabilities, Behaviours, and Results.

These spheres form the bedrock of our leadership ethos, providing clarity and direction for all leaders. Responsibilities guide our actions, Capabilities cultivate our potential, Behaviours shape our interactions, and Results measure our impact. Together, these spheres ensure leaders deliver their best for themselves, their teams, LCC, and the people of Lancashire.



The Lancashire Mindset

Woven through the Leading Lancashire framework we introduce The Lancashire Mindset; Growth, Ownership, Optimism and Positive Impact. Adopting this mindset across the entire organisation not only brings our values to life but also emphasises the collective commitment to delivering the best for the people of Lancashire.

The Lancashire Mindset not only shapes our approach to leadership but also serves as a guiding force for a culture rooted in growth, ownership, optimism, and the commitment to making a meaningful positive impact.



Levels of Leadership

The Leading Lancashire framework provides an opportunity to define and clarify the focus and purpose of the various leadership levels within the organisation.

VISIONARY (Long-Term Direction):

Level 1 & 2 Leadership – Executive Directors and Directors
Senior leaders at this level, are Visionary Leaders. They have the privilege of shaping the long-term vision for the organisation, providing strategic and visionary direction that will guide the future success of Lancashire County Council.

SHAPING (Medium to Long-Term Strategy):

Level 3 Leadership – Heads of Service

Heads of Service at this level are Shaping Leaders. They are empowered to shape strategies with a broad mid to long-term view, setting clear strategic initiatives that provide direction to the management population, contributing to the organisation's success in the medium to long term.

OPERATIONAL (Short-Term to Immediate Effectiveness):

Level 4 Leadership – Management Roles

Leaders at this level, found in various management roles, are Operational Leaders. They focus on immediate operational effectiveness, ensuring their teams deliver in the short term, meeting objectives and driving success on a daily-to-monthly basis.

These refined terms more explicitly convey the visionary, shaping, and operational aspects of leadership at each level within the Leading Lancashire framework.

Accountabilities/Responsibilities

- To assist the Registered Manager in their responsibility for the overall effective leadership, management and administration of the home in accordance with the Children's Homes Regulations 2015; and for pursuing the objectives of directorate in providing an appropriate environment for young people which meets their needs.
 - To assist the legally Registered Manager under the Care Standards Act 2000 and to ensure that the home operates in accordance with all legislations relevant to a children's home. (Appendix A attached).
 - Awareness of Health and Safety requirements for the home.
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- Awareness of Financial responsibilities for the home
 - Understanding of your responsibilities within the Scheme of Delegation for Grade 8
 - To operate the home in accordance with the statement of purpose to create a warm and stimulating environment that meets the assessed needs of young people and ensure the home promotes and fulfils its core function, particularly in regard to care plans, placement plans and risk assessments.
 - To assist in the recruitment of staff in line with the County Council and Directorate Recruitment and Selection policies, procedure and protocols.
 - To promote young people's rights and ensure that young people have access to information regarding their rights, facilitating regular meetings which allow young people to contribute to the running of the unit.
 - To facilitate and support agreed Care Packages in the community.
 - To assist in the delivery of Family Support Services.

Other

- **Equal Opportunities**

We are committed to achieving equal opportunities in the way we deliver services to the community and in our employment arrangements. We expect all employees to understand and promote this policy in their work.

- **Health and safety**

All employees have a responsibility for their own health and safety and that of others when carrying out their duties and must help us to apply our general statement of health and safety policy.

- **Customer Focused**

We put our customers' needs and expectations at the heart of all that we do. We expect our employees to have a full understanding of those needs and expectations so that we can provide high quality, appropriate services at all times.

- **Safeguarding Commitment**

We are committed to protecting and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

- **Skills Pledge**

We are committed to developing the skills of our workforce. All employees will be supported to work towards a level 2 qualification in literacy and numeracy if they do not have one already.

Our Values

We expect all our employees to demonstrate and promote our values:

- **Supportive**
We are supportive of our customers and colleagues, recognising their contributions and making the best of their strengths to enable our communities to flourish.
- **Innovative**
We deliver the best services we possibly can, always looking for creative ways to do things better, putting the customer at the heart of our thinking, and being ambitious and focused on how we can deliver the best services now and in the future.
- **Respectful**
We treat colleagues, customers and partners with respect, listening to their views, empathising and valuing their diverse needs and perspectives, to be fair, open and honest in all that we do.
- **Collaborative**
We listen to, engage with, learn from and work with colleagues, partners and customers to help achieve the best outcomes for everyone.

Person Specification

All the following requirements are essential unless otherwise indicated by *

Your ability to meet the job requirements will initially be assessed by the information provided on your application but further assessment will be undertaken at interview and, in some cases, by using other types of assessment(s).

Qualifications

- QCF4 or NVQ3/4 Health & Social Care or equivalent.
- Social Work Degree, CQSW, CSS, Dip SW*.
- A formal management qualification and/or significant management training in compliance with current OFSTED National Minimum Standards.

Experience

- 3 years' experience of working within Residential Children and Young People's Services or equivalent.
- To have responsibility for formal supervision and personal development and management of staff*.
- Experience of Child Care Planning.
- Experience of working with external agencies*.
- Setting priorities and allocating tasks.
- Partnership working with other statutory and voluntary agencies.

Essential knowledge, skills & abilities

- High level of ability in both verbal and written communication.
- Sound knowledge of children's legislation, practice and procedures.
- Ability to motivate and lead staff teams*.
- Understanding of the authorities' strategic policies and procedures*.
- Knowledge of the requirements of the performance management agenda and how to achieve them.
- Strong analytical skills and problem-solving capabilities.
- Project and Change Management skills.
- Ability to build and maintain effective relationships and networks*.
- Ability to work to deadlines and within given parameters in evidencing targets set.
- Understanding and use of IT systems.

Other essential requirements

Assistant Unit Manager

- Commitment to equality and diversity.
- Commitment to health and safety.
- Display the LCC values and behaviours at all times and actively promote them in others.
- **This is an essential car user post**
You will be required to provide a car for use in connection with the duties of this post and must be insured for business use. In certain circumstances consideration may be given to applicants who, as a consequence of a disability, are unable to drive