Job Description
Social Worker (Children's Social Care)

Service:	Children's Social Care	**Team:**	Fostering Assessment Team
Location:	*Across Lancashire*	**Post number/s:**	E-525-0055
Salary		**Grade:**	8
Reports to:	Team Manager	**Staff responsible for:**	None

Job Purpose

Achieving the best outcomes for children and young people in Lancashire. Keeping children and young people safe and protected from harm, undertaking social work assessments and direct work with children and families providing the right support at the right time.
Working with partners to provide a professional social work response and continuously improve the life of all children and young people in Lancashire.

Accountabilities/Responsibilities

This post is based within the Fostering Assessment Team, part of Lancashire's Fostering Service

- The Assessment Team is a county wide team that covers Lancashire as well as when required out of county work across the United Kingdom. Travel is therefore required and very occasional overnight stays (dependent upon distance from Lancashire)
- To assess and support foster carers, and/or Special Guardians on behalf of the Directorate.
- Undertaking viability assessments of proposed foster carers and Special Guardians
- Being part of a duty rota (alongside colleagues) in order to undertake Regulation 24 assessments
- Preparing and assessing prospective foster carers and Special Guardians, including compiling complex assessment reports to present to the fostering panel and the Court.
- Supervising and supporting foster carers.
- Ensuring high quality care is available that meets the specific needs of children looked after and that all the standards and regulations are met.
- To take part in CIOC Reviews, attend court hearings and other safeguarding meetings as necessary.
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- Prepare for, and participate in, planned work relating to court and court orders effectively and within appropriate timescales.
- To manage an allocated workload of assessments according to Directorate priorities.
- Ensure the needs and wishes of children are fully addressed in the assessment and planning process and that there is evidence of children and young people's participation.
- Share responsibility for planned intervention and service provision with partners, participating in formal case reviews which will include the full range of statutory meetings and other planned meetings, as necessary.
- Comply with LCC and service-specific administrative and financial procedures including the maintenance of appropriate and up-to-date records.
- Liaise with designated line manager and comply with service requirements regarding supervision, undertaking continuous professional development and attendance at formal training.
- Be aware and responsive to the differing needs of all groups within the community.
- Participate fully in the CAF process and be fully conversant with and work within the Safeguarding procedures and protocols within Lancashire County Council.
- Contribute to the development of social work students.

To prepare for and contribute to the Continued Professional Development as required by Social Work England.

Other responsibilities

Workers may be required to engage in joint training initiatives and undertake work for other service areas within fostering if this is necessary to ensure equitable distribution of work, and in the interests of efficient and effective service delivery.

This is not to be regarded as exclusive of exhaustive – there may be other duties and requirements at the same responsibility level associated with the post.

- **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.

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

A Person Specification
Social Worker (Children's Social Care)

Qualifications
• CQSW, Dipsw, Degree in Social Work or equivalent recognised qualification in Social Work • Registration with Social Work England
Experience
• Social work with children and families • Post Qualifying Award 1-6 (Desirable) • Supervision of Social Work students (Desirable)
Essential knowledge, skills & abilities
• Knowledge of child development • Skills in working effectively with children and families in varied and complex circumstances • Written and verbal communication skills • Ability to use basic computer technology • Ability to learn and understand theoretical concepts, legal frameworks and to work within policy and procedure • Ability to value diversity by treating people as individuals, valuing their input and contribution and work across cultures. • Ability to work with a varied caseload and to manage timetables and demands • Ability to use supervision positively and to contribute to the performance management process • Ability to work as an effective team member • Ability to respond positively and effectively to children and their families, promoting 'working in partnership' at all times • Ability to work in partnership with other professionals/agencies • Ability to respond positively to training and development opportunities • Knowledge of the cultures and religions of the communities of Lancashire • Good knowledge of relevant legislation

• Skills in assessment of children and families and developing packages of support
Other essential requirements
• 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.*