



Autism and Learning Disability Keyworker

Salary: Band 8, **£28,188 to £30,349** per annum pro-rata for 29.6 hours (£35,235 to £37,937 FTE)

Contract: Two **Fixed Term / Secondment** positions for one year

Hours: **Part Time** (29.6 hours per week - days and hours can be discussed at interview)

Portsmouth Local Authority is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment to improve outcomes for children.

DBS Disclosure at Enhanced level will be required prior to any offer of employment and this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Every post is subject to PCC and Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership safer recruitment procedures.

The Service

Are you passionate about making a real difference in the lives of young people with learning disabilities and autism? Do you have the drive to support families and work collaboratively to ensure the best outcomes for those at risk of mental health hospital admissions or residential placements?

We are looking for two experienced professionals who are ready for a new challenge in our neurodiversity multidisciplinary team based in the civic office in Portsmouth.

In Portsmouth we are proud to be at the forefront of integrated multi-agency work with neurodiverse children and their families. In September 2022 as a national trailblazer, we launched our new ND pathway and Multidisciplinary 0-19yr Neurodiversity Service. This brings together experts from a range of fields to provide universal and targeted information, advice and guidance.

This exciting new role will give you the opportunity to work alongside a range of ND expertise in the city. Working closely with colleagues, children and their families you will help us to better understand the challenges they face when children have additional needs and help shape our work to meet these needs.

The Learning Disability and Autism Keyworker is part of the NHS Long Term Plan.

The keyworker model aims to support reduction of the number of children young people and adults in crisis and Tier 4 admissions, support timely assessments/formulations, provide children and families with the support that they need at the right time, improve transitions and quality of life, resulting in happy children and parents.

What is the Role?

The post holder will proactively engage and manage an allocation of children, young people and their families that allow sufficient time for the personalised support required.

They will work alongside the Lead Professional to facilitate the provision of emotional and behavioural support and offer informed advice whilst holding services across the system to account ensuring children, young people and their families access the right support to meet their needs.

They will assess and support the holistic needs of young people and their families, providing interventions or facilitating access to further support.

They will advocate for young people, ensuring their views are heard in multi-agency settings.

They will collaborate with professionals from health, education, and social care sectors to deliver tailored, evidence-based interventions.

The post will also work alongside family support workers in the neurodiversity team to support families who are needing a more intensive early intervention and support offer.

The post holder will report to the Neurodiversity MDT service lead.

Who is the Person?

We're seeking individuals who are passionate about supporting children and young people, are committed to collaborative, family-centered practice, and are ready to bring their expertise to a dynamic, supportive environment.

You need to have:

- Significant experience of working in the field of Autism and/or Learning Disability.
- Significant experience of working with children and young people across health, education and social care.
- Evidence of continued professional development.
- Legislative knowledge and awareness of locally available provision and the ability to identify safe, effective and creative solutions.
- Sound knowledge around safeguarding of children and young people.
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to tailor communication to different audiences including children and young people who are autistic and/or have a learning disability, parents and professionals.
- Ability to coordinate an effective team around the child/young person and their family/carers linking health, social and education work more effectively.
- Ability to mediate in situations where differences of opinion or challenges arise.

- The post holder will be expected to act autonomously managing all aspects of the project on a day-to-day basis.
- Ability to travel to places of work that may not be accessible by public transport.
- Ability to analyse very complex issues where material is conflicting and drawn from multiple sources.
- Able to analyse and challenge practice and decisions in a professional way providing evidence and providing clear reasoning as to what action is required.
- Ability to develop and implement innovative solutions, to problem solve and respond to sudden unexpected demands.
- The ability to converse at ease with customers and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post.
- You must have a driving licence and access to a car or otherwise be able to use public transport or other means for regular travel to locations across the city.

You will need to demonstrate that you have the Right to Work in the UK. No post will be offered without it.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

As part of any recruitment process, Portsmouth City Council collects and processes personal data relating to job applicants. Portsmouth City Council is committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses that data and to meeting its data protection obligations under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Completing and sending an application in for a vacancy is your consent for us to process your data for the purpose of recruitment. Your data is not used in any other way and you can withdraw your consent at any point in the recruitment process and we will destroy or delete your information.

For more detailed information on what we collect, how we use, store, delete data and your rights you can access a privacy statement on our Job board.