



Special Guardianship & Private Fostering Community Support and Outreach Social Worker

Salary: Band 10, £44,252 to £48,738 per annum

Hours: 37 hours per week

Contract: Permanent

Portsmouth City Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is also committed to promoting quality childcare across the City that works 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's Board safer recruitment procedures.

The Service

The Kinship Support Team supports Special Guardians, kinship carers, Private Foster Carers and children to achieve stability and improved outcomes through high-quality, trauma-informed and restorative practice.

This service is central to the delivery of Special Guardianship support, private fostering responsibilities and therapeutic interventions, with a strong focus on performance, service oversight and inspection readiness.

What is the role?

As a Social Worker within the Kinship Support Team, you will play a key leadership role in delivering high quality support to Special Guardians, Private Foster Carers, kinship carers and children.

You will:

- Lead on key areas including Special Guardianship support, private fostering and therapeutic funding (ASGSF)
- Provide advice, guidance and informal supervision to practitioners within the team
- Support the development and review of support plans to improve outcomes for children
- Maintain oversight of service activity, including tracking systems, workflows and performance data



- Work collaboratively with families and partner agencies to ensure coordinated and effective support.

The main responsibilities of the role:

To provide leadership and supervision:

- Act in a supervisory capacity within the team, supporting SG support practitioners
- Provide day-to-day advice, consultation and guidance
- Support staff development through coaching, feedback and shared learning
- Model reflective, trauma-informed and restorative practice

To lead on Special Guardianship (SGO) support:

- Lead the delivery and development of the SGO support service
- Oversee the duty rota and inbox to ensure timely responses
- Provide advice, guidance and direct support to Special Guardians and kinship carers

To lead on therapeutic funding (ASGSF):

- Hold operational responsibility for the ASGSF process
- Complete needs assessments and submit high-quality funding applications
- Liaise with therapeutic providers and manage waiting lists and demand
- Ensure applications are progressed in a timely and effective way

To lead on private fostering:

- Take the lead role in private fostering across the service
- Provide specialist advice and guidance on statutory responsibilities
- Work with families and partner agencies to ensure safeguarding compliance
- Raise awareness in Portsmouth around Private Fostering.

To manage data, tracking and reporting:

- Maintain accurate tracking systems for:
 - ASGSF applications
 - SGO support
 - Connected Persons assessments
- Monitor workflows, waiting lists and case progression



- Collate, analyse and provide data to support performance monitoring, service development and Ofsted inspection readiness
- Ensure high-quality recording and contribute to improving data systems

To support practice development and service improvement:

- Contribute to service development, training delivery and presentations
- Promote trauma-informed and restorative approaches across the service

To undertake partnership working:

- Build and maintain effective relationships with carers, children and partner agencies
- Contribute to multi-agency planning and discussions
- Ensure coordinated support for families

To provide casework oversight and quality assurance:

- Provide oversight and guidance on complex cases
- Promote high standards in assessments, planning and recording
- Support reflective practice and quality assurance across the team

Who is the person?

As a Social Worker within the Kinship Support Team, you will need:

- A recognised Social Work qualification and current registration
- Significant post-qualifying experience in children's social care
- Strong knowledge of Special Guardianship, kinship care and private fostering
- Experience of supporting or supervising staff
- Strong assessment, analytical and report-writing skills
- Excellent communication and partnership working skills
- A commitment to restorative and trauma-informed practice
- The ability to manage competing demands and work to deadlines

Desirable

- Experience of ASGSF applications and therapeutic commissioning
- Experience within fostering, permanence or kinship services
- Experience contributing to service development or training



Additional Information

- Occasional evening or flexible working may be required to meet service need

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)

Portsmouth City Council is the Data Controller of any personal information you provide when applying for a job. It will only be used in connection with the recruitment process and will not be kept for longer than necessary. For more detailed information you can access the Data Protection Privacy Notice on our careers portal.