



Family Help Lead Practitioner - Children with Disabilities

Salary: Band 7, £33,119 to £37,562 per annum, pro rata

Hours: 1 x Full Time 37 hours & 1 x Part time 18.5 hours

Contract Type: Fixed Term Contract until 31st March 2027

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

This role requires a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check at Standard/Enhanced level which will be required prior to any offer of employment and this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

About Family Help

Family Help is our way of working that brings together Targeted Early Help and Child in Need support into a single, seamless offer. It replaces the traditional divide between early help and statutory services, making it easier for families to access support without stigma or duplication.

Key features of Family Help include:

- Whole-family approach – addressing needs across the family, not just the child.
- Single assessment and plan – reducing duplication and focusing on outcomes.
- Family Help Lead Practitioner role – acting as the main point of contact for families and coordinating the Team Around the Family
- Evidence-based interventions – practical, relational support that builds resilience and prevents escalation.
- Family-led planning, ensuring family-based solutions are at the heart of all we do.

What is the role?

Reporting to the leadership team, you will engage with families and young people to assess need holistically and work with them to develop sustainable solutions that improve their functioning and achieve better outcomes for their children.

The post-holder will ensure that help is provided to families and young peoples in the most effective way to ensure that the improved outcomes are achieved, including reducing demand on statutory child protection services and other specialist services.

The main responsibilities will be to:

- Complete early help assessments with families to understand their needs and work with them to improve outcomes
- Provide direct work with individuals, families, and groups on range of issues including problematic/ challenging behaviour; emotional wellbeing; alcohol and drug misuse; healthy relationships, family relationships; and housing and income
- Support families to understand how their child's disability can be supported within the home and community
- Adopt a style of practice, in line with restorative principles, to work with families, empowering them to find their own solutions to identified problems.
- Provide quality up to date information, advice and support which supports children and young people's emotional health, personal and social development and promotes healthy lifestyles in schools and colleges across Portsmouth City
- Promote the involvement of young people in planning, delivery, and evaluation of services.
- Offer information and advice and support to young people in a variety of settings/environments as required to meet the aims of the service. It is expected that this will be for an agreed period of time and monitored with the family and young person alongside supervision
- Represent the service at meetings and at school/ college and community events when required.
- Be the lead professional, accessing support from a team of professionals as appropriate to ensure the needs of the whole family are addressed. This will include feeding back the outcomes to the original referrer
- To keep up to date on issues that affect children's and young people e.g., changes in government policy and local practice.
- To support all services delivered by the multiagency teams through the Team around the worker model
- To be aware of and contribute towards achieving the KPIs set for the Early Help and Prevention Service within your locality.

Who is the person?

you will need:

- A nationally recognised qualification such NVQ level 4 or other higher-level qualification or equivalent experience
- be able to demonstrate high quality delivery of family support work .
- to have an up to date working knowledge of safeguarding children and young people and ability to complete risk assessments
- Experience of working with children, young people, and families, including those who have disabilities or additional needs
- The ability to demonstrate knowledge of child development to support objective, family led planning
- To have a positive attitude to helping young people and delivering a safe and effective offer
- A flexible approach to service delivery and be focused on good outcomes for children and young people, offering individualised support based on identified need
- To demonstrate excellent communication skills with children, young people, and parents
- To demonstrate an ability to respond to changing priorities and to meet tight deadlines.

- To have a restorative approach to practice and the ability to reflect and learn, to drive continuous improvement in service delivery
- To demonstrate an understanding and commitment to multi-agency working, and confidence to communicate with partner agencies, including facilitating meetings
- To evidence high quality assessment and record keeping skills with a good knowledge of safe record keeping standards and information governance
- To plan and facilitate small groups activities to support progress in individual early help plans
- To demonstrate competence in using range of IT software
- To be a car driver with access to transport or able to easily access public transport to move across Portsmouth City

Additional information:

If you have any questions, or would like an informal discussion about the role, please email Dannii Dean on Dannii.Dean@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

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).

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