

Job Description

Job title	Deputy Area Inclusion Lead (Assessment Team)
Directorate	PEOPLE : Children and Adults
Division	Education and SEND
Range	MPR 5
Reports to	Assessment Hub Lead

Main purpose of the job:

- To support the Assessment Team to construct and develop education, health & care plans from approved assessments to achieve stated objectives and outcomes in relation to the needs of individuals, reflecting as closely as possible service users' aspirations.
- Draft high-quality amended EHC Plans, which are clear, accessible and outcome focused and in line with the legal and statutory requirements described in the Children and Family's Act and SEND Code of Practice.
- To track and monitor the quality of advice and EHC plans and ensure the 20-week process is adhered to.
- To coordinate the professional input to EHC assessments including supporting organisation of multi-agency advice.
- To ensure accurate transfer and evidencing of recommendations and information provided in professional and other reports to identify advice to include in the Education, Health and Care Plan
- To maintain and support clear and transparent communication about the progress of cases so that all involved are kept fully and accurately informed, and to ensure accurate and details recording of communications with stakeholders.
- To provide support for parent/carers or young people throughout the education, health and care assessment process until the EHCP is in place.
- To ensure excellent relationships with parents/ carers and their young people, championing the development of a customer centred culture.
- To ensure the delivery of high-quality analysis, evaluation and use of data, information and intelligence, and to support the Head of Inclusion to compile key statutory documents and report (e.g., DFE returns, monthly analysis, Area SEND Inspection).
- To co-ordinate partnership arrangements with schools
- To work with the Assessment Team Lead to ensure processes are efficient and implemented to a high standard of compliance (e.g., in relation to statutory timeframes, facilitating SEND panels, data entry and storage)
- To work with other Hubs teams to ensure a seamless transfer of case information and consistency of practice.
- To deputise for the Assessment Team Lead when required.

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- To successfully and efficiently manage a high caseload from assessment stage through to case management stages and to support others to manage their caseloads with a high level of efficiency and care.
- To support development of staff and provide case discussion to staff

Liaise with stakeholders in a way that promotes the [One Medway Council Plan](#) and embeds our [values and behaviours](#).

Accountabilities and outcomes:

- Ensuring high quality service delivery.
- Ensuring statutory timeframes are adhered to.
- Conducting case supervisions.

At the discretion of the Head of Service, such other activities as may from time to time be agreed consistent with the nature of the job described above.

Key Corporate Accountabilities:

To work with colleagues to achieve service plan objectives and targets.

To understand and actively keep up to date with GDPR responsibilities, including completing regular refresher training.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: all employees are required to act in such a way that safeguards the health and well-being of children and vulnerable adults.

As a corporate parent, all council employees are responsible for ensuring the well-being and positive outcomes of Medway's care-experienced children and young people.

To participate in the Performance Appraisal process and contribute to the identification of own and team development needs utilising the Career Progression Framework.

Work in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation. Promoting equality of opportunity, fostering good relations and improving the quality of life and opportunities for everyone living and working in Medway.

To ensure full compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the Council's Health and Safety Policy and all locally agreed safe methods of work.

To fully understand and be aware of the commitment to the duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to prevent crime and disorder.

Promote the Medway Carbon Neutral by 2050 commitment; supporting the Council action plan to ensure we play our part in addressing the climate emergency.

Medway Council is a Category One responder in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) and as a result all staff working for the Authority may be asked to carry out Category One response duties or stand into the role of another member of staff who is responding to a Major Civil Incident.

Organisation:

This role reports to the Assessment Team Lead .

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The post holder will not be required to line manage others but may be required to direct, coordinate or train other employees.

The post holder will be required to liaise with all stakeholders both internal and external to the organisation.

Working Style:

FIXED - The post holder will be permanently based at Gun Wharf, although they may be expected to work at any location across Medway.

Person specification

All criteria at level A are considered essential unless stated otherwise.

Qualifications

Level A

- Educated to level 3 or equivalent relevant experience.
- Professional qualifications in relevant subject and / or evidence of ongoing professional development in the fields of expertise required.

Level B (in addition to level A criteria)

- Continued professional development in SEND/Inclusion / education/ health /social care related qualification.

Level C (in addition to levels A and B)

- Working towards or educated to level 3 or equivalent in related subject
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Knowledge

Level A

- Expert and detailed knowledge of SEND and how it effects learning and inclusion.
- Detailed knowledge of the legal process for SENDIST complaints and tribunals.
- Substantive knowledge and understanding of the education pathways and graduated approach, personalised learning and education assessment processes, social care and health provision within the EHCP framework.
- Knowledge of safeguarding frameworks. Awareness of local authority inspection frameworks.
- Knowledge and understanding of promoting independence, resilience and wellbeing for children, young adults and families.

Level B (in addition to level A criteria)

- Excellent knowledge of legislation and frameworks that apply to SEND, education and children (e.g. KCSIE, SEND CoP, Children's and Family Act 2014).
- Knowledge of local authority inspection regimes and Area SEND inspection frameworks.
- Understanding of principles of excellent data quality, data protection and information sharing (e.g. GDPR), and how to apply them.
- Understanding of Medway's local and national education / SEND targets.
- Working knowledge of SEND and Inclusion processes in Medway.

Level C (in addition to levels A and B)

- Expert knowledge of the legal process for SENDIST complaints and tribunals, supporting tribunal officers with compiling case statements for tribunal hearings.
 - ICT Champion and expert knowledge of internal procedures and policies to support staff induction and training.
 - Extensive knowledge of internal SEND and Inclusion processes.
 - Completion of supervision or line management awareness / principles.
 - Expert in internal case management processes.
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Experience

Level A

- Experience in a SEND environment, with strong understanding of the SEND code of practice and its implementation.
- Experience of pastoral care in schools and academies or safeguarding.
- Experience working in SEND settings, e.g. working within specialist schools or resourced provisions.
- Substantive experience of managing conflict and successful resolution.
- Experience of contributing to the development of services, policies, procedures and practices.
- Experience of successfully and proactively managing a complex caseload, from assessment through to case management stages, and supporting others to manage their caseloads.
- Experience of coordinating multi agency teams
- Experience of working with a range of specialists and sharing specialist recommendations with families and educators in an accessible format.
- Experience of delivering excellent customer service.

Level B (in addition to level A criteria)

- Extensive experience in a SEND environment with strong understanding of the SEND code of practice and its implementation.
- Extensive case management experience across SEND, Inclusion, section 19, EOTAS, EHE, CME processes.
- Experience of working with multi-agencies in developing effective plans and approaches.
- Experience of deputising for a manager as point of contact for staff, attending stakeholder meetings and panel chairing.
- Experience of supervising case holding practitioners.

Level C (in addition to levels A and B)

- Extensive successful experience working in the Education or SEND arena.
- Experience of coordinating multi agency teams
- Experience of working with a range of specialists and sharing specialist recommendations with families and educators in an accessible format.
- Experience of raising standards through a programme of informative and impactful staff training and development.
- Extensive experience of supervising case holding practitioners.
- Experience of using ICT programmes effectively to capture data and monitor performance (e.g. PowerBI, Excel, Synergy, Mosaic).
- Experience of successful and diligent management of a caseload from assessment stage through to case management stages and experience of supporting others to manage their caseloads with a high level of efficiency and care.

Skills

Level A

- Ability to make an influential decision within the context of competing demands.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Proven ability to negotiate and persuade and build and maintain effective working relationships at all levels.
- Proven ability to communicate with, engage and influence children, young adults, carers, partners and stakeholders, in complex situations.
- The ability to support and challenge other colleagues by providing specialist knowledge, advice and guidance.

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- Contribute to the development and successful implementation of SEN policy and strategy.
- Ability to model high levels of professionalism and promote a culture of professional standards and accountability.
- Ability and willingness to travel across Medway in order to meet requirements of the role.
- Able to analyse problems and identify solutions.
- Proficient use of ICT and supporting others in data management.
- Consistent and comparable approach across financial management.

Level B (in addition to level A criteria)

- Independent and creative thinker when dealing with contentious situations which pose legal challenge to the Local Authority (LA).
- Ability to initiate working in partnership with school, parents, young people, professionals and other outside agencies.
- Ability to professionally challenge schools, colleges, training providers, parents and professionals on matter directly relating to legislation.
- Understanding of value for money and experience of budget or resource management e.g. education resource provision for individual children or services.

Level C (in addition to levels A and B)

- Ability to maintain productive relationships with a wide range stakeholders and influence decision making at a strategic level.
- Ability to analyse and interpret varied and complex SEND information, and use this information to develop strategies, identify trends, anticipate challenges and solutions for Inclusion and SEND service development.
- Ability to use well developed communication skills to present complex/sensitive information, to a range of audiences to bring about effective outcomes or developments.
- Demonstrable ability to supervise, co-ordinate or train other employees where required.
- Demonstrable ability to lead on the operational development of service improvements, using a range of information on future trends to set measurable performance objectives and inform the strategic thinking to meet future needs and not just existing practices.