

## Job Title Mental Health Lead for Children Grade 11 plus AMHP allowance £3k per annum

### **Our Vision**

An innovative, ambitious and sustainable county, where everyone has the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and happy.

### **Our Outcomes**

We want everyone in Staffordshire to:

- Have access to more good jobs and share the benefit of economic growth
- Live in thriving and sustainable communities
- Be healthier and more independent for longer

### **Our Values**

Our People Strategy sets out what we all need to do to make Staffordshire County Council a great place to work, where people are supported to develop, flourish and contribute to our ambitious plans. Our values are at the heart of the Strategy to ensure that the focus is on what is important to the organisation and the people it serves:

- Ambitious – We are ambitious for our communities and the people of Staffordshire
- Courageous – We recognise our challenges and are prepared to make courageous decisions
- Empowering – We empower and support our people by giving them the opportunity to do their jobs well.

### **About the Service**

This post has a County wide remit and is designed to provide support, guidance, advice, and direction to children's social care services in relation to children's mental health. The post holder will interface between children's social care and children's mental health services to promote a

joined-up approach to working with children where there are mental health concerns.

### **About the Role**

The post holder will collaborate with commissioners within children's social care and health to assist with the procurement of services, particularly in relation to joint responsibilities under the Mental Health Act (1983/2007) Section 117 aftercare. Combining health and social models of intervention is more likely to promote resilience and recovery for vulnerable children. A key function of this role is to challenge dominant medical perspectives of mental health and ensure that children's social work issues and themes are considered by mental health services in their work with children. The post holder will provide training and guidance across children's services to deliver practice improvement and will be responsive to local and national developments. The post holder will also undertake the role of an Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) on behalf of Staffordshire County Council and ensure that the wider AMHP service is supported with matters involving AMHP assessments of children.

### **Reporting Relationships**

Responsible to: Head of Access to services and Family Support

### **Key Accountabilities:**

1. To provide the highest level of professional leadership across Children and Families teams to ensure that children with mental Health needs are supported through effective service delivery. This will include providing professional guidance and support to practitioners and managers with case work and promoting enhanced knowledge and skills in relation to children's mental health.
2. To continue to promote the social perspective of Mental Health by developing and maintaining local processes for the interface between the Emotional Well-Being Service, Community CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) teams and the Children and Families service.

3. To deliver mental health training in order to enhance the knowledge base and skills of Children and Families teams. To update staff within Staffordshire Health Care Trust(s) with relevant children's social care developments, practice, and policies in order to promote their understanding of children's social care.
4. To contribute to the review and development of local policies and procedures relating to children's mental health practice and advising on new Mental Health related developments in order to promote best practice and promote regulatory compliance.
5. To act as a professional lead and represent the Children and Families service at various National and strategic mental health forums. To work with senior managers on local, regional and national opportunities for improvement across the children's mental health sector. This will include contributing towards new and developing initiatives across Staffordshire.
6. Taking responsibility for maintaining a database of all Staffordshire children admitted and discharged from inpatient services and produce reports to Strategic Leads in order to understand the local population of children cared for through inpatient settings.
7. To offer advice and guidance within the Children and Families service around Section 117 responsibilities and other appropriate legislation. This will include working with partners to make decisions about the funding and provision of aftercare services.
8. To support professionals within health and social care services to effectively manage referrals into appropriate services in order to meet children's needs
9. To collaborate with relevant partner agencies to improve joint working arrangements for children so that children are referred into the most appropriate service including transitional arrangements. To be the initial point of contact for dispute resolution between health and social care services within Staffordshire.
10. To undertake Mental Health Act Assessments x 2 days per working month, in line with AMHP duties on behalf of Staffordshire

County Council. To support AMPH's across Staffordshire to develop their understanding of the children's perspective

11. To identify and embed service improvements through audit, quality assurance, investigating and feeding back learning from complaints.
12. To mentor and provide professional supervision to AMHP's employed by Childrens Services
13. To undertake any other duties requested by management commensurate with the grading of the post.

### **Other Information**

This post is designated as an Essential car user (with AMHP status)

### **Professional Accountabilities:**

The post holder is required to contribute to the achievement of the Council objectives through:

### **Financial Management**

Personal accountability for delivering services efficiently, effectively, within budget and to implement any approved savings and investment allocated to the service.

### **People Management**

Engaging with People Management policies and processes

### **Equalities**

Ensuring that all work is completed with a commitment to equality and anti-discriminatory practice, as a minimum to standards required by legislation.

### **Climate Change**

Delivering energy conservation practices in line with the Council's climate change strategy.

### **Health and Safety**

Ensuring a work environment that protects people's health and safety and that promotes welfare, and which is in accordance with the Council's Health & Safety policy.




### **Safeguarding**

Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable groups.

The content of this Job Description and Person Specification will be reviewed on a regular basis.

**Person Specification**

A = Assessed at Application  
 I = Assessed at Interview  
 T = Assessed through Test

Minimum Criteria for Disability Confident Scheme *	Criteria	Measured by
	<p><b>Qualifications/Professional membership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a professional social work qualification.</li> <li>• Be qualified as an Approved Mental Health Practitioner (AMPH)</li> <li>• Hold additional professional qualification(s) in a related area or evidence which can demonstrate skills, knowledge, and ability e.g., Practice Educator</li> <li>• Hold a management qualification an/or have equivalent experience.</li> <li>• Be registered with Social Work England</li> </ul>	<p>A/I/T</p>
	<p><b>Knowledge and Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have experience of working at a senior level within a Local Authority</li> <li>• Have knowledge of managing social workers and others within a single or multi-professional team</li> <li>• Hold comprehensive knowledge and understanding of relevant legislation in relation to the children's' social care and mental health.</li> <li>• Have proven ability to quickly build and manage strong credible stakeholder relationships.</li> <li>• Possess the ability to lead service change and improvements.</li> <li>• Have the ability to interpret complex guidance translating and interpreting this to improve practice.</li> <li>• Have experience in working in partnership with organisations</li> <li>• Hold a demonstrable commitment to professional development.</li> </ul>	<p>A/I/T</p>
	<p><b>Skills</b>            This post is designated as essential car user on completion of AMHP qualification</p>	<p>A/I/T</p>



If a disabled person meets the criteria indicated by the Disability Confident scheme symbol and provides evidence of this on their application form, they will be guaranteed an interview.

We are proud to display the Disability Confidence Symbol, which is a recognition given by Job Centre plus to employers who agree to meet specific requirements regarding the recruitment, employment, retention, and career development of disabled people.

If you need a copy of this information in large print, braille, another language on cassette or disc, please ask us by contacting  
Talent & Resourcing Team 01785 278300