

ST MARGARET'S CHILDREN AND FAMILY CARE SOCIETY

St Margaret's offers support to children and families, with a particular focus on adoption and fostering. We work within the social and moral teaching of the Catholic Church to provide a highly professional, committed and deeply caring service.

JOB DESCRIPTION

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Title | Senior Practitioner |
| Salary | Commences at agreed rate |
| Responsible to | The Principal Officer |
| Accountable to | The Director |

Key Responsibilities

- To undertake the assessment of prospective adoptive parents
- To present assessments of prospective adoptive parents to the adoption panel
- To provide appropriate reports for the adoption Panel and Fostering Panel
- To be involved in all aspects of the recruitment, assessment, training and support of prospective adopters and other carers
- To contribute to the development of recruitment strategies for adoptive parents in order to meet the needs of a wide range of children
- To run preparatory groups to assist in the preparation of carers
- To provide a post-adoptive support service
- To provide a counselling in search of origins service
- To undertake counselling work with birth parents, adopted people and adoptive parents
- To provide a professional social work support to foster carers and their families
- To liaise with other agencies as appropriate
- To be flexible in meeting the exigencies of the service

Duties

- To become familiar with the policies and procedures of the Society and to demonstrate a high standard of professional practice
- To maintain a high standard of professionalism in the delivery of social work services
- To develop an understanding of and to maintain the ethos and values which drive the Society
- To contribute to the development of a recruitment strategy for adoptive parents and permanent and temporary carers in order to meet the needs of a wide range of children

Key Working Relationships

- Director of the Society
- Principal Officer
- The Council of Management
- Adoption Panel
- Administrative staff and colleagues
- Professional colleagues in other agencies
- BAAF

Person Specification

| | Essential (E) Desirable (D) | Evidenced |
|--|--|--|
| Education/ Qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diploma in Social Work or equivalent | E | Application Form |
| Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of assessment of adoption applicants Experience of working with Looked After Children Experience of placement of children in adoption/ foster placements Experience of delivering groupwork programmes Experience of working with IT programmes and systems | D D D D D | Application Form Application Form Application Form Application Form Application Form |
| Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge and awareness of the Adoption and Children(Scotland) Act 2007 Knowledge and awareness of additional relevant legislation A sound knowledge of Child Protection Procedures Understanding and awareness of the respective roles and tasks related the adoption process | E E E E | Interview Interview Interview Interview |
| Personal Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to work in a flexible and creative manner within the agency's policies and procedures Ability to work in partnership with placing authorities Ability to construct good quality written reports Ability to uphold and maintain the Society's ethos To act in a spirit of loyalty and trust which will enhance the criteria for good professional practice | E E E E E | Interview Interview Interview Interview Interview |