



## North West Multi Agency Safeguarding Learning and Support Hub

**Job Opportunity:** Strategic Voice and Influence of Education Support Lead

### North West ADCS and Department for Education Collaboration

#### Salary: PART TIME (3 days a week)

\*where current pay is higher secondment basis will be on the existing terms and conditions of the secondee, subject to agreement by both employers)

The North West has received grant funding from the Department for Education (DfE) to deliver a Regional Improvement Plan Pilot (RIPP) as part of the Government's Care Reform agenda.

The RIPP is a new approach to Children's Social Care improvement. It utilises a collaborative decision-making and delivery structure between DfE, the 24 NW local authorities (LA), NW Association of Directors of Children's Services and multi-agency partners. The RIPP has three workstreams: Partnerships, Workforce and Sufficiency. Each workstream is led by a Director of Children's Services in the region.

The Partnership workstream works across the 24 Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements in the North West. The ambition is to support local safeguarding partnerships to meet the requirements of *Working Together 2023* and the National Framework for Children's Social Care.

In the programme's first year, a regional thematic analysis of Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASAs) was conducted, involving engagement with 80% of the North West's Delegated and Lead Safeguarding Partners.

The thematic analysis identified the ambition to achieve the below through sub regional and regional approaches with **the long-term vision for a self-improving partnership led system, co-produced by local leaders, focused on promoting whole systems thinking.**

- **Better share** and build on multi-agency practice that is improving outcomes for children and families.
- **Better enable** the system to understand the effectiveness of multi-agency practice and to effectively drive a continuous learning culture.
- **Better collaborate** by facilitating spaces to understand local, sub regional and regional commonalities to agree priorities for practice collaboration.

A regional Strategic Partnership Conference co-produced the delivery model to achieve the above ambition, which is The North West Multi Agency Safeguarding Learning and Support Hub. This role will sit in the hub alongside 4 new roles for a period of 12 months.

Reporting to the Partnership Programme director, this role will lead and deliver on the following key activity:

Activity	Detail
<p>Lead on the coordination and effective deliver of the regional and sub regional education safeguarding forums, in partnership with local MASAs, delegated and Lead safeguarding partners (DSP and LSPS)</p>	<p>The post holder will take forward the work that has commenced by implementing sub regional and regional forums, to allow the voice of education to be collectively understood, analysed and considered within MASAs.</p> <p>This will support the achievement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency for school audits/review of their safeguarding effectiveness</li> <li>• Enabling the voice and influence of education to be present at DSP and LSP level</li> <li>• Creating networks and forms to listen to the voice and experience of education at a local, sub region and regional level</li> <li>• ensure views and contribution of education are included in the design and implementation of both Family First for Children across the NW</li> </ul>
<p>Lead on the development of the NW toolkit, training and its implementation in practice regarding educational voice within MASAs, response to school attendance, exclusions and part time education, where families need support or safeguarding is a concern.</p>	<p>The post holder will collaborate with NW education leads to enable the system to understand what's working well and achieving positive impact for children, sharing this widely in the NW, through an enabling role to support scale and spread.</p> <p>Support the local and regional evaluation of the impact of the engagement, involvement and inclusion and representation of education as a strategic partner within MASA</p>
<p>Develop regional and national links with researchers and experts in the field of family support and safeguarding, to ensure the NW is benefiting from the right expertise and is a head of curve regarding practice development opportunities.</p>	<p>The post holder will have excellent relationship skills, and will be linking with national leads to horizon scan and enable the north west to effectively respond to learning through its workforce development plans</p>



<p>Support the coordination of a QA process/peer reviews for NW MASAs, centred on response to school attendance</p>	<p>Enable MASAs to effectively review the effectiveness of their practice regarding school attendance and bringing findings together at a sub-regional and regional level to identify common challenges, strengths and solutions.</p> <p>This will include leading on the sub regional practice analysis for school attendance for children receiving early support and children's social care intervention.</p>
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### Essential Experience and Skills for the Role

To be successful in this role, you need to demonstrate:

- **Senior leadership experience within education settings**, with a deep understanding of current thinking in education, children's social care (CSC) and multi-agency practice.
- Strategic thinker who works **cross-functionally and cross-organisationally**, considering **long-term strategic goals** beyond immediate priorities.
- **Policy and practice expertise**, including a thorough knowledge of the direction set by reform programmes such as Working Together 2023 and the National Framework for Children's Social Care.
- **Proven ability to deliver high-quality reports** that clearly and effectively communicate the impact of practice and identify opportunities for continuous improvement.
- **Strong multi-agency collaboration skills** with a track record of building positive relationships with diverse partners to drive positive outcomes.

### Other information:

- Initial secondment/fixed term contract is for 12 months
- This post is grant funded by the DFE as part of the care reforms
- If you are interested in this post, you are encouraged to discuss it with your current employer prior to application to establish if a secondment is likely to be supported should you be successful.

### How to apply

Please submit your CV and a supporting statement (no more than 2 pages of A4) setting out your skills, knowledge and experience for this role to: by **4pm on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**



## JOB PROFILE

**TITLE:** Strategic Voice and Influence of Education Support Lead

**TENURE:** Part Time role- Twelve-month secondment or fixed-term contract

**LINE MANAGEMENT:** The role will report to the Programme Director

**Matrix:** Colleagues delivering key change programmes in the North West region across all 24 local partnerships

**SALARY:** TBC but at least consistent with the individual substantive post.

## OVERALL PURPOSE

The North West fully acknowledge the influence and support of education as one of the most significant protective factors in a child's life, with children spending a significant proportion of their time in early years and education settings.

The North West Safeguarding Partnership pledges to fully integrate **education as a strategic and equal partner** within our safeguarding arrangements. We acknowledge the crucial expertise, unique safeguarding insights, regular contact, and strong relationships that educational settings maintain with children and families.

This commitment entails:

- **Education's strategic partnership** will be embedded in all safeguarding decisions, at both strategic and operational levels, through high-level representation that accurately reflects the perspectives and contributions of the entire education sector.
- **Education will be recognised as an equal and valued strategic partner** in all multi-agency collaborations, ensuring that the views of all educational settings are consistently heard and equally respected.

The overall purpose of this role is to enable the above to be achieved at a local, sub regional and regional level.



## Key Responsibilities of the Role

- **Lead the coordination and effective delivery** of regional and sub-regional **education safeguarding forums**, in partnership with local Multi Agency safeguarding Partnership Arrangements (MASAs), delegated and Lead Safeguarding Partners
- **Develop regional and national links** with researchers and experts in family support and safeguarding to ensure the NW remains at the forefront of practice development.
- **Support the coordination of a QA process/peer review for NW MASAs**, with a focus on safeguarding responses to school attendance.
- **Lead the development and implementation of the NW toolkit and training** on school attendance, exclusions, and part-time education.
- **Represent the education sector at a strategic level** on the **regional Board**.
- **Lead the governance structure for MAT (Multi-Academy Trust)** engagement regionally.
- **Lead on the coordination and quality of practice narrative** regarding attendance for NW MASA sub-regional data and performance reporting.
- **Create networks and forums** to amplify the **voice and experience of the education sector**, ensuring direct influence on commissioning and practice decisions, while linking insights to national forums.
- **Showcase a model of educational engagement** that can be adopted nationally.
- **Risk and issue management:** Proactively manage and communicate risks, issues, and opportunities with the programme director to ensure programme success.
- **Collaborate across workstreams:** Actively contribute to the virtual team working on other workstreams and the wider RIPP programme.
- **Undertake additional duties:** Perform other reasonable responsibilities in line with the role's level and scope.



## ROLE SPECIFIC, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

We are looking for a highly skilled professional with senior-level expertise within **education and multi-agency forums**, qualified to degree level. The ideal candidate will bring:

- **Senior leadership experience**
- Strong understanding of the **policy and practice direction** outlined in key reform programmes, including *Working Together 2023* and the *National Framework for Children's Social Care*.
- **Skilled communication**, able to engage effectively with **multi-agency partners, children, and young people**.
- Strong understanding and ability to embed **Equity, Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EEDI)** principles into training development, delivery, and impact review.
- Strategic thinker who works **cross-functionally and cross-organisationally**, considering **long-term strategic goals** beyond immediate priorities.
- Ability to **create and implement a performance framework** to support improvement. Skilled in setting clear objectives, planning activities well in advance, and adapting to **changing circumstances**, ensuring performance is monitored against key milestones and deadlines.
- Strong **analytical skills**, able to interpret a wide range of data and sources, identify patterns and relationships, and understand how individual issues fit within a larger system.
- Proven ability to **independently manage projects, workstreams, or small services**, ensuring delivery to high standards.
- Strong relationship-building skills and the ability to **collaborate effectively** with internal and external stakeholders to achieve project aims.
- **Strategic and operational planning skills** related to involving children, young people, parents, and carers.



### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- A requirement to work outside of normal office hours/flexible working patterns is an inherent part of the post.
- Able to travel around the North West region
- Ability to work remotely.
- The role offers flexible working