
Your job

Job Title: Intensive Adolescent Support Worker

Service: REACH Safeguarding Adolescent Service

Grade: 6

Reporting to: Intensive Adolescent Team and Deputy Manager

You will work with adolescents and families across the borough that have an allocated social worker and are experiencing family breakdown and complex harms outside of the home that are impacting on their safety and wellbeing. You will provide an immediate, relational and purposeful response along with tailored direct work packages for young people and their families. This will be delivered from the family home, as well as the local community and workplaces, to improve the quality of family life and prevent family breakdown where possible, which can lead to adolescent children entering care.

Acting as the key worker for older children and their family, you will provide intensive support at times when family relationships have reached a point of crisis and parents or carers feel they can no longer cope with their teenager at home.

You will work alongside families to understand what is driving the crisis, reduce immediate risk and distress, restore connection to help the family regain stability, creating space to reduce immediate pressures and consider what needs to happen next.

In conjunction with your manager you will plan, implement and review individual tailored programmes of work for young people and families based on identified needs. You will enable parents and carers to build their parenting capacity, strengthen relationships and develop the skills and support young people need to remain safely within their families, reducing the likelihood of them becoming looked after.

Mandatory Statement

The Council is committed to complying with European General Data Protection regulations (UKGDPR) and meeting the requirements of the Information Commissioner's office (regulating data protection compliance in the UK). It is your responsibility to ensure that the work you undertake is compliant with the General Data Protection regulations.

Wigan Council is an active, strong, and committed corporate parent. As a priority, all employees have a responsibility towards the children we look after and care leavers, not just those employed by the Children's Directorate.

In this job you will:

In the next 12 months, you will:

- Support adolescents and their families where family breakdown is a significant risk or has occurred due to harm experienced outside of the home to seek resolution & avoid older children being in care wherever possible.
- Deliver a range of support activities to young people and their families to prevent them from coming into care or to reunify families where this has happened.
- Transport, supervise and facilitate direct and intensive work with adolescents and their families to support positive change and improved safety and wellbeing.
- Support young people and their families in attending interviews and appointments that support their plan and help build a positive self-identity.
- Undertake the agreed programme of work in a variety of settings, which will include the young person's own home / centre/workplace, the local community, other establishments.
- Keep up-to-date, timely, accurate records of the work undertaken with young people and their families. This may include the writing up of progress reports for the referring agency.
- Attend, participate and contribute to planning meetings, reviews and case meetings by way of verbal contribution and the presentation of reports.
- Provide written reports, attend and give evidence in court as and when required.

- Have the necessary skills and ability to quickly formulate, assess and implement programmes of direct work with children and families.

On an ongoing basis you will:

- Undertake the council's induction for new starters
- Attend all mandatory training
- Promote Wigan's behaviours, Be positive, accountable, courageous and kind.
- Ensure you operate within GDPR guidelines by regularly reviewing data held and destroying information in line with retention schedules

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In this job you will need:

You must be able to demonstrate the following essential requirements:

- Have a good understanding of contextual safeguarding, adolescent development and the potential impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences on adolescent safety and wellbeing.
- Able to work alongside families during periods of significant distress, remaining grounded and resilient when relationships are at risk of breaking down.
- Able to work effectively with other professionals and agencies who are also involved with the family to achieve good outcomes
- Implement evidenced based strategies using your skills drawing upon various methods.
- The ability to remain calm in challenging situations and understanding of the underlying causes.
- Be able to deal with challenging behaviour from children, young people and adults & maintain resilience and a 'can do' approach.
- The ability to produce accurate written reports on a daily basis.
- To attend a variety of professional multi agency meetings in person or via MS teams
- To have excellent communication and engagement skills with adolescents and families
- To be flexible in your approach to your working and be part of a working rota covering shift patterns including some expectations around weekend working

- Have the ability to travel across the borough and transport children and young people when required. This will include having your own car and a full driving licence.

Our Culture

For us, it's not just about all we achieve as an organisation, but how we do it. Therefore, all employees are expected to display our **TeamWigan** behaviours.

Be Positive	“ Take pride in all that you do and support and develop yourself and others. ”
Be Accountable	“ Be responsible for making things better, enabling change and supporting improvement. ”
Be Courageous	“ Be open to doing things differently and working collaboratively with others. ”
Be Kind	“ Be helpful, generous and thoughtful towards yourself and others. ”