

Children's Team Manager - Job Description

Our Vision

Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

Our Corporate Outcome

Every decision we make and every action we take contributes to reduce our carbon emissions and improve nature. We make a difference through our climate conscious decisions each day.

Our Values

Our four values are central to our culture, driving everything we do.

- **Lives Over Services**
We put people and our communities at the heart of everything that we do
- **Collaborative**
We respect and value people equally and work together through a shared purpose
- **Creative and Aspirational**
We use our bravery, boldness and curiosity to challenge and innovate
- **Accountable**
We take ownership for our outcomes, and responsibility for our behaviours

Children's Services

Children, young people, and their families are at the heart of everything we do. We believe that delivering Children's Services well has the potential to transform the lives of children, young people and their families across Cambridgeshire. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and their families. We help children, young people and their families to build their resilience and community connections and empower them to find their own solutions to problems. We understand that children and young people are not all the same, but they all deserve outstanding services.

We promote diversity and want a workforce that reflects the population of the communities we serve in Cambridgeshire.

We have identified six practice methodologies that are used within Cambridgeshire to enable practitioners to work with children, young people and their families.

Every case record will contain at minimum the following up to date areas of practice:

- Genograms
- Chronology
- Voice of the Child (incorporated into assessments plans and visits)
- Meaningful and planned visits
- Supervision/Management Oversight – key decision
- Plans or review of plans and Planning

These are what we call **The Big 6**. They form the basis of all of our practice standards, and they are integral to the records we keep.

Job Purpose

Job Title: Team Manager
Service: Children, Education and Families
Grade: P3
Reports to: Service Manager

Overall purpose of the job

To manage the delivery of high quality and effective social care services to respond to the needs of service users and their families in a timely manner within statutory guidelines or service specifications.

Main accountabilities

Main accountabilities	
1.	<p>Service Delivery</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manage the delivery of a high quality and effective service that responds to the needs of service users and their families or carers in a timely manner within statutory guidelines or service specifications. 2. Manage the planning, allocation and review of workload so priorities are managed, shortfalls identified and services delivered within capacity and within departmental and partnership policies, procedures and timescales. 3. Implement policies and procedures in response to statutory guidance, local policies and the needs of service users. 4. In line with organisational priorities, assume enhanced responsibilities with regard to anonymous decision making and the management of risk, this will include deputising for district and service managers when required. 5. Develop and manage the service ensuring that the service response reflects need and engages service users and carers in the development of the service. 6. Work with local partners to ensure integrated service delivery by developing responses to need with the organisations who are key in providing services. 7. Lead on customer service and stage 1 complaints where appropriate. 8. Lead on the creation and delivery of team development plans that reflect service plans. 9. Manage the team budget and ensure that systems for delegated financial authority are followed.
2.	<p>Safeguarding and Risk Management</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Assess and balance risk and protective factors within a safeguarding framework 11. To take a professional lead on safeguarding and provide expert knowledge of safeguarding processes, policy and case law. 12. Provide leadership and apply more specialist social work practice skills and knowledge to make independent decisions, seeking advice as needed and ensuring subsequent actions are completed. 13. Provide advice and guidance on case management and effective risk management of complex situations, understand when to take positive risks as appropriate. 14. Contribute to the Council's ethos of achieving continual improvement through the review and auditing of service delivery and ensure lessons for learning are embedded into local delivery. 15. Co-produce and oversee clinical interventions for children and their families, in various settings including family homes.
3.	<p>Service and Team Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Ensure every team member has regular, meaningful supervision and appraisal. 17. Ensure every team member has SMART performance and development objectives set and these are reviewed and monitored regularly. 18. Ensure every team member is confident to deliver a service to children and families that utilises a range of evidenced based methodologies including systemic and social learning approaches. 19. Lead on the management of poor performance and inappropriate behaviour, grievance and disciplinary matters in a timely and effective manner, seeking advice as appropriate. Lead regular briefings for staff and organise training events which build an ethos of professional and confident service provision.
4.	<p>Performance Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Utilise management information to inform business decisions and monitor team performance, reporting as required on team performance. 21. Maintain operational systems and ensure compliance with the case file management process in accordance with departmental policy. Ensure services are delivered on the basis of assessed risk for the protection of clients and the public and that safe working procedures are maintained for staff. 22. Prioritise activities and resources to meet team objectives including effective workload management of self and others. 23. Contribute to service plans to reflect links between activity and key performance indicators.

	<p>24. Take responsibility for team employee management related matters including sickness absence, unsatisfactory performance, conduct, discipline, and grievances ensuring that these are managed according to the Council's frameworks.</p> <p>25. Ensure appropriate and consistent training and application of IT skills within the team to meet data requirements.</p>
5.	<p>Partnership Working</p> <p>26. Take the lead in initiating, developing and sustaining internal and external working relationships with other professionals, partner organisations and external agencies.</p> <p>27. Ensure that every team member works purposefully and cohesively with other agencies to promote positive outcomes for children and their families.</p>

Person Specification

Qualifications, knowledge, skills and experience

Minimum level of qualifications and/or equivalent experience required for this job

Qualifications Required	Essential / Desirable
Recognised professional Social Work qualification (Degree/Masters/Post Graduate Diploma/Social Work fast track qualifying programme)	Essential
Relevant specialist post qualifying and or post graduate training	Desirable
Current Social Work England registration	Essential
Car driver with full UK licence. Ability to work from a variety of locations and travel countywide.	Essential

Minimum levels of knowledge, skills and experience required for this job

Knowledge Required	Essential / Desirable
Proven knowledge of the Government and Council priorities and the priorities of key partnership agencies.	Essential
Proven knowledge and understanding of relevant social care practice in relation to the provision of services.	Essential
Excellent knowledge and application of appropriate social care statutory guidance and procedures.	Essential
Excellent knowledge and understanding of systems and processes to manage case work and budgets in order to provide focused social work activity.	Essential
Knowledge and proven experience of managing complex case arrangements.	Essential
Comprehensive understanding and experience of handling of technical and business risk and knowing when to escalate to obtain resolution.	Essential
Knowledge and understanding of Government and Council performance indicators and targets.	Essential
Proven knowledge and understanding of relevant practice in relation to health and education and the provision of services.	Desirable

Skills Required	Essential / Desirable
Demonstrable experience of managing successful service change.	Essential
Demonstrable successful Partnership working.	Essential
Ability to develop and sustain systems and processes to effect high quality service delivery and maintain performance standards.	Essential
Ability to delegate.	Essential
Ability to define expectations of staff, manage individual performance and promote professional development.	Essential
Ability to think strategically across functional and geographical boundaries.	Essential
Ability to lead, develop and motivate a multi team and multi professional service	Essential
Ability to lead and influence teams through periods of change.	Essential
Take personal responsibility for making things happen and achieving desired results.	Essential
Ability to plan, prioritise and oversee the management of the service.	Essential
Ability to make cost-effective use of available resources.	Essential
Ability to analyse complex issues and offer sound professional and managerial advice.	Essential
Ability to encourage and engender collaborative working between agencies.	Essential
Ability to create accessible ways of working that effectively engage and involve service user.	Essential
Strong negotiation skills.	Essential

Ability to challenge others constructively and make informed decisions.	Essential
Ability to communicate effectively at all levels.	Essential
Excellent IT skills and ability to use a variety of IT devices, systems and databases.	Essential
Experience Required	Essential / Desirable
Significant previous experience and demonstrated ability to undertake strategic planning, implementation and evaluation.	Essential
Proven experience of managing a diverse and complex workload.	Essential
Proven understanding of and ability to achieve, maintain and deliver quality social work and specialist health interventions.	Essential
Experience of leading and managing teams to achieve high performance.	Essential
Knowledge and awareness of issues relating to communities from different racial and cultural backgrounds and Equal Opportunities.	Essential
Experience of actively supporting and promoting Equal Opportunities.	Essential
Proven commitment to equality of opportunity for all groups of staff and service users and to challenge discrimination, racism, sexism and other forms of unjust behaviour.	Essential
Proven experience and ability to thrive in a complex environment and demonstrate resilience.	Essential