



Role Description

Step Up Step Down Project Worker, Pembrokeshire

Step Up Step Down is a pioneering approach to supporting families on the edge of care, demonstrating a reduction in the numbers of children coming into care, and improved outcomes for children and families. Step Up Step Down operates in partnership with local authority services. Highly trained and experienced foster carers provide time limited, preventative support care to families with support from The Fostering Network.

The Step Up Step Down Project Worker will be the main point of contact for the implementation and delivery of the programme in Pembrokeshire. This will involve nurturing effective working relationships with the local authority team and, in partnership with the Supervising Social Worker, develop relationship with other key organisations to deliver family support.

Responsibilities and accountabilities:

- Build relationships and work directly with the fostering and safeguarding teams in Pembrokeshire County Council
- Work with the Step Up, Step Down Social Worker to promote the programme and train specialist foster carers;
- Establish and build relationships with families to identify needs and design and deliver programmes to meet these, including training programmes for parents and nurture groups for children;
- Implement evaluation frameworks to monitor, review and evaluate progress;
- Develop resource materials and information on the Step Up, Step Down model to facilitate promotion and to inform key stakeholders;
- Provide activities and information to support families in accessing support programmes and engaging with local community supports;
- Co-ordinate and take part in reflective learning sessions and steering group meetings.

Person Specification

Our Values

As an organisation, we believe that we make a difference to foster care and our people values are expressed in the work that we do:

We are TRUSTED

We are TOGETHER

We are VITAL

Essential Knowledge, Skills & Experience

- Significant knowledge and experience of engaging with parents and working with vulnerable families in a community context to provide activities and resources.
- Knowledge and experience of developing, providing, and delivering accredited training, information and support to vulnerable individuals and/or groups in a sensitive and empathetic manner.
- Knowledge of preventative models of practice and how to implement them as part of programme delivery.
- Experience of project management experience including gathering and analysing project and evaluation data.
- Experience of effective communication and information sharing with internal and external stakeholders.
- Experience of handling safeguarding and confidential information in a professional manner.
- Self-motivated with the ability to prioritise, plan, and undertake work in an effective manner, with the minimum of supervision.
- Proven ability to work effectively within a team of internal colleagues and external stakeholders by demonstrating cooperation and flexibility.

- Excellent IT skills including Microsoft Office, Sharepoint, Teams, PowerPoint
- Prepared to work flexible hours and travel frequently across Pembrokeshire, and occasionally Wales. Full drivers licence and access to own vehicle.

Desirable Knowledge, Skills & Experience

- Able to communicate in Welsh, both spoken and in writing
- Management qualification or equivalent experience
- A good understanding of issues relating to foster care and the social care system in Wales.

Qualifications

- Professional qualification to degree level or equivalent, in an area such as social work, education, community development, youth work, psychology, sociology or similar

Attitudes

- A passion and commitment to influencing positive change for children, young people, and families.
- Creative and nurturing with a solutions focussed approach to problem solving.
- Commitment to working within The Fostering Network's equal opportunities and diversity policies and practice.

**Additional Information
Pay and conditions of service**

Band	Band 4
Salary	£28,000 - £32,000
Annual Leave	25 Days plus 5 Fostering Network days and Bank Holidays per annum
Probationary period	6 calendar months.
Hours of work	36 Applications are welcome from people who work part- time, as part of a job share.
Location	This role involves direct work with families and foster carers in Pembrokeshire. The successful candidate will be required to work daily in the local authority area due to the face to face nature of the programme.
DBS	This role will require an enhanced DBS check
Pension	Optional. Money-purchase scheme and salary sacrifice option is available with AEGON: Employee contribution is 3% of gross annual salary Employer contribution is 5% of gross salary.
Season Ticket Loan	An interest free season ticket loan is available to all staff immediately.
Trade Union	The Fostering Network recognises the trade union Unite and members of staff can join if they wish.