

Job Description

Engagement & Activity Practitioner

Homeworking

TACT is a homebased workforce. We recognise the benefits that flexible home working creates for both the employer and the employee, but we also encourage staff to meet face to face for regular supervision and the social and wellbeing benefits of team working. Where roles involve meeting with carers and children and other agencies, the expectation is that employees will live within a reasonable travelling distance to carry out those duties. As a remote working organisation, we are committed to work with our staff to enable consistent inclusion and engagement across the organisation to ensure the optimum standards of service for our carers and children.

Overall Purpose

To work closely with looked after children, the birth children of foster carers and foster carers to achieve agreed objectives for excellent care as outlined in the respective National Minimum Standards or their equivalents.

Core tasks

1. To attend the TACT Young People's participation groups (Speak Out Loud and Young Voices) which includes representatives from each area team in TACT and take forward relevant tasks and activities for children and young people arising from this group.
2. To be involved in planning, risk assessing and taking part as appropriate in occasional residential activity weekends for children and young people and other relevant day activity events for children and young people.
3. To establish appropriate electronic and written resources for children and young people relevant to the local area office / country.
4. To work directly with children and young people who are, or have been, with TACT foster carers on an individual and group work basis e.g., Skills 4 Life in line with the agreed care plan, and risk assessments, or other work referred by TACT Social Work staff.

Our Values



ASPIRATIONAL



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5. To meet with children and young people who are placed with foster carers to provide TACT's Children's Guides and other relevant information related to safe care, rights and advocacy.
6. To meet with Children who are Looked After and birth children to obtain their thoughts and feelings on their fostering experiences for Foster Carer's Annual Reviews.
7. To visit Children who are Looked After in accordance with TACT's procedures.
8. To ensure foster carers in the relevant area are aware of the role and responsibilities of the Engagement & Activity Practitioner
9. To work directly with foster carers and their birth children in line with agreed plans for support and intervention.
10. To supervise contact between members of the child's birth family and the looked after child if and when required.
11. To attend and participate in relevant meetings if and when required. These may include child-care reviews, placement planning meetings, educational meetings as well as internal TACT team meetings and practice sessions and Children & Young Peoples Support Worker/Participation meetings.
12. To take a lead in developing and maintaining opportunities for children and young people in TACT to participate and support consultation and involvement activities within TACT and their home local authorities.
13. To keep accurate records of work undertaken, complete appropriate reports etc in line with TACT's policies and procedures.
14. Alongside colleagues in local teams to promote TACT Connect and encourage young people to become members and work with the TACT Connect service in the local offer for care experienced young people.
15. To ensure that all recording is up to date through the use of CHARMS.
16. To ensure that they read, and where necessary, reply to all e-mails in a timely fashion, keep their online calendar up to date and maintain their MS Outlook folders.
17. To undertake other tasks as decided by the Registered Manager / Practice Manager relevant to the overall purpose of the post.

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Our Vision

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PERSON SPECIFICATION	E (Essential) D (Desirable)
Education/Qualification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A formal qualification in working with children and young people. 	D
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience in a paid or voluntary capacity of participation, advocacy or direct work with young people. A proven track record in working with, and on behalf of, children; respecting and maintaining their individuality and promoting their positive development. Experience of working within the 'care system'. Experience of group work and/or delivering of training. 	E E D D
Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A good working knowledge of relevant legislation, regulation and statutory guidance relevant to the country of practice guidance. Good understanding of child development. Understanding the care experience for Children & Young People. Good understanding of safeguarding / child protection. Knowledge of certain IT platforms including Word, Outlook, Teams & Excel Understanding of Social Media platforms used by young people (or a willingness to learn about them). Understanding of trauma and attachment with care experienced children and young people. 	E E E E E E E
Ability and Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective verbal and written communication skills with children, young people and colleagues. Can establish constructive and effective working relationships with other colleagues, agencies and partners. Understands inter and multi-agency working. Basic IT skills – use of Word, Excel, databases, email and internet. Good organisational skills. Creative, interactive and innovative. Ability to work on own initiative. Ability to engage positively with children and young people. Good time management skills. Problem solving skills and ability to make decisions. 	E E E E E E E E E

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PERSON SPECIFICATION	E (Essential) D (Desirable)
<p>Personal Attributes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can relate well to young people. • Confident and flexible. • A commitment to and knowledge and understanding of Equal Opportunities and Anti-discriminatory practice. • Ability to work as a member of team. • A positive and flexible attitude to change. • A willingness to learn and an ability to self-direct and self-motivate. • An ability to make effective use of supervision. 	<p>E E E E E E E</p>
<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared to be flexible with working hours including evening and weekend working. • Prepared to be flexible to work additional hours particularly during holiday periods when more activities for children and young people are likely to be required and organised. • The use of a car that is suitable for transporting children. • Ability to travel extensively within TACT and any other locations as desired. 	<p>E E E E</p>

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