

Job Description

Education Safeguarding Adviser

Job Overview

This role supports the development of robust safeguarding practices in schools and other education establishments by providing complex and specialist information, advice, guidance, training, support, and challenge to Designated Safeguarding Leads, Headteachers and Governors. This post requires a specific range of in-depth, specialist safeguarding knowledge, negotiation, influencing, auditing, and signposting skills.

My job improves the quality of life for the people of Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole by building effective relationships with schools, children's services staff and other key partners and providing specialist advice, support and guidance to schools and other educational establishments to ensure high quality and impactful safeguarding practices are maintained in order to keep children and young people safe.

This role will report to Head of Service (TBC) and work closely with teams from across children's services, external partners and play an active role within the PAN Dorset safeguarding children Partnership.

Key Responsibilities

- To maintain and develop pathways for provision of safeguarding advice, support, and training to designated safeguarding leads (DSLs) Headteachers and Governors.
- To promote a thorough understanding of key national and local safeguarding legalisation, including Keeping Children Safe in Education.
- To develop and keep under review, safeguarding audit arrangements with schools which will include the development of traded services for academies.
- To carry out thematic audits as requested by BCP Quality, Performance, Improvement and Governance Service and link with Social Care Academy colleagues to ensure that learning from audit in schools is incorporated within a cycle of practice learning and improvement.
- To work closely with the LADO Service to facilitate timely reporting and investigation of appropriate concerns about adult safeguarding conduct in education establishments. This includes triage and advice on allegations against professionals and volunteers
- To provide timely and comprehensive responses to complaints and concerns raised by regulatory bodies including Ofsted.
- To analyse data and produce reports for senior managers and the Safeguarding Children's Partnership which highlight trends and influence future service delivery.
- To work to a high standard in accordance with agreed policies and procedures and behaviours of the Council.
- To undertake such other duties as may be required from time to time commensurate with the level of the post.

Specific Qualifications and Experience

- Educated to degree Level or above in social work, teaching or similar profession
- Sound specialised knowledge and expertise of safeguarding work practices, policies and procedures (including legal and regulatory requirements and the risks of non-compliance)

This job description is not exhaustive and reflects the type and range of tasks, responsibilities and outcomes associated with this post.

- Previous experience of working with schools and other educational establishments in a senior or advisory capacity.
- Experience of facilitating learning and delivering Knowledge of key safeguarding issues impacting upon children's lives including child exploitation and allegations against professionals and volunteers.
- Knowledge of the role and function of the Safeguarding Children's Partnership
- Experience of carrying out audits of safeguarding practice and providing both support and challenge to senior colleagues in schools and other educational establishments to improve safeguarding practice.
- Experienced in producing high quality reports which include analysis of qualitative and quantitative data.
- Experienced in setting up and implementing complex and specialist operational developments to promote safeguarding arrangements in education settings
- Ability to design, co-ordinate and lead safeguarding related projects across schools, departments and partners
- Good knowledge of ICT including Excel, Word, Outlook and other programmes relevant to the role

Personal Qualities & Attributes

- Highly organised and able to manage own workload in an environment of constant change and where there are competing demands.
- Possess a high level of resilience, emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills
- Ability to represent and promote own area of work, providing specialist input and handling questions or challenge.
- Ability to develop effective relationships and partnerships with schools and partners which will have a direct impact on the service
- An effective communicator at all levels, able to resolve any barriers to collaborating with others by communicating openly and challenging unhelpful behaviour
- Solution focused and able to develop solutions to complex or contentious problems where there are a range of options, and the information is unclear or conflicting
- Able to provide high quality support and appropriate challenge to school leaders and share open and honest feedback in a constructive manner

Job Requirements

- DBS check
- Must be able to travel, using public or other forms of transport where they are viable, or by holding a valid UK driving licence with access to own or pool car.
- May be required to work evenings occasionally.

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