JOB TITLE:
Outreach Worker

HOURS:
36 hours per week

LOCATION:
The Red Oak Sure Start Children's Centre, Radstock Way,
Merstham, Surrey RH1 3NH

SALARY:
Surrey Pay Scale SP7 (£24,642 to £28,590.)

JOB PURPOSE:

- To ensure that all families within the Children's Centre area are aware of the services available at the Children's Centre and that families in most need are supported to access these services.
- To ensure that all parents and carers in the Children's Centre reach area have access to the support they need to get involved with their children's development, health, learning and wellbeing, to give them the best possible start in life.
- To provide outreach family support to all families that include young children 0 – 5 years at risk of social exclusion, in order to reduce inequalities within the Children's Centre area.
- To provide outreach and family support to families in most need that include children 0-5 to identify, assess and evaluate the outcome of the impact the intervention has achieved.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES:

- To contact all families to promote the services available in the Children's Centre reach area including early year's provision, health, family support, and employment related services.
- To provide, in partnership with health and other agencies, a home visiting family support service to those identified as needing additional support, with the aim of enabling them to access group services within the centre.
- To plan, develop and evaluate activities within the Children's Centre reach area to support Father's in their role within their family and the community and encourage their involvement in all aspects of the Children's Centre, in response to local consultation.
- To plan, implement and evaluate an outreach service for parents in targeted groups and parents to be, encouraging their involvement in all aspects of the Children's Centre in response to local consultation.

- To plan, evaluate, set up and deliver a range of activities for children, families and carers within the Children's Centre reach area based on the core purpose of Children's Centres to support the developmental needs of young children ensuring that up to date evidence based practice methods are used.

- To keep accurate and safe records adhering to relevant policies regarding confidentiality and information sharing and take part in appropriate supervision.

- To be responsible for keeping up to date with and adhering to all relevant policies, procedures and multi-agency working protocols related to the post, including Lone worker training.

- To facilitate, in partnership with other practitioners and agencies, a range of outcome based family learning and parenting programmes within the Children's Centre reach area

- To attend relevant meetings and training, some of which may be out of normal working hours. To keep up to date with best practice and support continuous professional development.

WORK CONTEXT:

The multi-agency approach of Sure Start Children's Centres is at the heart of the Supporting Families in the Foundation Stage Guidance (DfE and DH, 2011) there is a Sure Start Children's Centre for every community in Surrey.

All services to be developed ensuring that the needs of children are paramount.

Children's Centres will play a central role in improving outcomes for all young children, and in reducing inequalities in outcomes between the most disadvantaged children and the rest. Centres will provide access to high quality early years provision, health, family support and employment related services.

Each centre is intended to become the first, local port of call for all families with young children whether they need advice or support on their child's health, development or care, or help with the challenges that parents face every day in bringing up their children in the crucial early years.

The post holder will play a key role in ensuring that all families within the Children's Centre reach area including the wider community are informed about services that are available at the centre and are supported to access them.

The post holder will be based at a Children's Centre but will be required to provide an outreach service to families within the whole Children's Centre reach area focusing on those identified as needing additional family support.

This role will require the post holder to work with families as a lone worker and be responsible for adhering to personal safety guidance.

To ensure that family support is delivered effectively, the post holder will be required to liaise with other local Children's Centre staff and other partners to plan, monitor and evaluate services.

The post holder will be based in Merstham but may be required to work within other local venues to ensure that services meet the needs of local children and their families.

DIMENSIONS

Financial:

N/A

Non-Financial

- To work with all children and their families within the Children's Centre reach area with a focus on those most in need.
- To work in partnership with all local agency teams and other organisations within the Children's Centre reach area.

PERSON SPECIFICATION:

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND WORK QUALIFICATIONS	**Method of assessment**
Essential:	
• A full and relevant NVQ level 3 or equivalent in early years, childcare or health and social care.	Certificates
• Hold, or be prepared to work towards, an NVQ level 3 in parenting.	

KNOWLEDGE	
Essential:	
• Understanding of the need for inclusive quality community and family support services. • Awareness of the roles and responsibilities of other agencies and professionals working with all children and families. • Understand the issues faced by Surrey's diverse communities and barriers to inclusion. • Understanding of Early Years Foundation Stage and other relevant early years legislation. • Knowledge of the importance of play and the developmental needs of children from birth to five years.	Application and Interview
Desirable:	
• Understanding of Early Help Assessment (Formally the Common Assessment Framework) and Safeguarding procedures • An Awareness of Evidence Based Practice	

SKILLS AND ABILITIES	
Essential:	
• A good level literacy and numeracy. • Competent IT skills including the use of databases and other relevant programmes. • Good organisational skills to ensure that Children's Centre priorities are met.	Application and Interview

- Good interpersonal skills combined with the ability to work independently and effectively within a team.
- Ability to work, empathise and communicate effectively with all sections of the community.
- Ability to manage difficult conversations and complex situations.
- Ability to deliver family focused activities.
- Understanding of the need to attend professional supervision.

Desirable:

- Ability to use solution focused approaches.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Essential:

- Significant experience of working with children and families
- Experience or an understanding of multi-agency working
- Experience of developing positive working relationships with a range of service users.
- Experience of delivering a range of support services to children and families, for example Parenting Interventions.

Application and Interview

Desirable:

- Experience of developing new support services for children and families.
- Experience of delivering parenting courses.
- Experience of working with user groups who traditionally do not access services.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Essential:

- Commitment to supporting inclusive services.
- Commitment to Equal Opportunities.
- Ability and willingness to attend evening and weekend meetings if and when required.
- Full driving licence and use of car.
- Commitment to continuous personal development

Application and Interview