

Directorate of Children Family and Adult Services
ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role Title: Independent Visitor

Post Number: DPP

Responsible to: Children's Rights Officer

Scale Point:

Overall Purpose of the role: To be a friend to young people in care who have little or no contact with parents, or experience a lack of positive adult role models. To provide opportunities for children and young people to develop meaningful, long term relationships with adults. To work in partnership whilst maintaining the independence necessary to this role.

Principal Accountabilities:

1. To be available to be an independent visitor throughout the period of matching with a young person..
2. To meet with the child or young person you are matched with at a previously agreed time in a setting which is safe and agreed by the young person and children's rights officer.
3. To befriend and provide a stable, positive and continuous friendship with the child or young person you are matched with
4. To listen carefully to the child or young person and be young person centred
5. To value and respect the wishes and feelings of the child or young person and from time to time represent their wishes and interests to other significant persons
6. To be aware of and sensitive to the impact of issues of race, gender, class, sexuality, disability and to challenge prejudicial attitudes and discriminatory behaviour
7. To maintain confidentiality at all times and to ensure observance of and adherence to East Riding's confidentiality and safeguarding policies and other relevant policies and procedures
8. To participate in supervision and appraisal, and meetings arranged for that purpose
9. To undertake any other duties as identified and agreed .

Person Specification:

Essential:

1. A genuine and active interest in the welfare of children and young people
2. Experience of building and maintaining supportive relationships with children and young people either in an individual or group setting
3. Interest in and open to children and young people's issues and pursuits
4. Ability to focus on young people's needs
5. The ability to promote the safety of vulnerable young people
6. Ability to maintain independence whilst working in partnership
7. Commitment to valuing each person as an individual of worth and value
8. Willingness to challenge discrimination
9. Acceptance of and adherence to policy and procedures including confidentiality and safeguarding.
10. Ongoing time available to commit to working with a child / young person
11. Ongoing time available to attend regular supervision and support groups
12. Willingness to attend training and to travel to meet the young person .

Desirable:

1. Training in a child related area

General Information:

1. The above principal accountabilities are not exhaustive and may vary without changing the character of the job or level of responsibility.
2. The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, 1974 and other associated legislation places responsibilities for Health and Safety on all employees. Therefore it is the postholder's responsibility to take reasonable care for Health and Safety and Welfare of him/herself and other employees in accordance with legislation.
3. The above duties may involve having access to information of a confidential nature which may be covered by the Data Protection Act, and by Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972. Confidentiality must be maintained at all times.

Postholder's Signature:

Date: