

Y sort it



Job Description

Post Title: **Care Connections Support Worker**

Location: **West Dunbartonshire**

Term: **18 Month Fixed Contract**

Reports To: **Y sort it Management**

Salary Scale: **£24,581 - £26,860**

Hours: **Full Time (35Hrs) or Part time**

Job Description

We are seeking a dynamic, highly motivated individual who will play a key role in developing and delivering a program of support services and activities for Care Experienced children and young people across West Dunbartonshire. Y sort it Care Connections programme aims to support care experienced young people aged between 10-16 years, within West Dunbartonshire.

The role of the Care Connections Support Worker will be to provide support appropriate to care experienced young people's learning needs, raising attainment by providing a supportive pathway throughout the young person's school life and beyond.

You will be active at providing support and encouragement, helping them to overcome challenges and /or barriers working towards goals to improve their learning, skills and personal development.

Care Connection Support Workers will be the #Keeping The Promise leads, work with young people currently accessing Y Sort It services who are care experienced. Offering guidance, rights based information, creating learning opportunities. You will be developing support plans, providing advice and information, training and peer support. Your role will be to work closely with schools, partner agencies and family members.

The post holder should be flexible as the actual times of work will involve working, evenings, school holidays and weekends. The post holder should be flexible as the actual times of work may change to respond to the demands of the work of the Care Connections programme including overnight stays.

You will be directly managed by Y sort it Care Experienced Support Manager.

Purpose and Objectives

The postholder will provide critical support to Y sort it, schools, and communities to drive West Dunbartonshire's Integrated Childrens Services Plan for care experience children and young people.

Y sort it Care Connections program aims to support care experienced young people within West Dunbartonshire by carrying out a Test of Change initiative with the aim to develop a Supportive School Structure (Right to Education) for Care Experienced children and young people across West Dunbartonshire.

The post holder will have a primary focus on developing & evaluating the impact of learning opportunities, to raise the attainment of care experienced young people by focusing on children and young people aged 10 to 14 who are subject to a compulsory supervision order (or at-risk of becoming so), living at home or in kinship arrangements (ages 10-16 years).

You must demonstrate recent knowledge and experience of the Promise, GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child), UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).

The post holder should be flexible as the actual times of work will involve working evenings, school holidays and weekends. The post holder should be flexible as the actual times of work may change to respond to the demands of the work.

Requirements

You will have a relevant qualification or evidence of previous experience working within social work, healthcare or youth/community/ voluntary work or in the field of Health Promotion, or relevant / equivalent experience, working with children, young people and / or families.

Please note, a driving license is essential for this role.

Responsibilities:

You will have an awareness/experience of primary prevention approaches, developing learning opportunities and providing support either 1-2-1 or groups settings. You will have excellent oral and written communication skills with the ability to communicate with a variety of stakeholders, good interpersonal skills. You will have good assessment and reporting skills with the ability to work with members of the public, to work without constant supervision.

Please note, a driving license is essential for this role.

This post is considered Regulated Work with Children and/or Protected Adults, under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007. The preferred candidates will be required to join the PVG Scheme, or undergo a PVG Scheme update check, prior to a formal offer of employment being made by Y sort it.

Main Role & Key Duties

- Develop and deliver quality support services for care experienced young people through a variety of approaches including group activities, 1-2-1 targeted support and training opportunities
- Provide support for young people on a one to one basis and support them in making informed choices around issues relating to their learning and as a young person.
- Undertake need assessments and care planning techniques which include focussing on personal outcomes important to Care Experienced Young People and their families.
- Advocate on behalf of young people on a range of issues responding to individual needs.
- Develop and deliver issue-based group work, learning opportunities and training for around a range of key issues according to need.
- Liaise with partner agency staff for the purposes of seamless referral of care experienced young people as appropriate
- Ensure support for each individual is reviewed ensuring ongoing provision of information and contact so changes in need are identified and the most appropriate support offered
- Identify where group support, including youth clubs, workshops, training and learning, will address individual needs, and plan and deliver such support, working as appropriate with colleagues and volunteers to maximise outcomes for care experienced young people.
- Carry out development work and delivery of further information and support based projects for care experienced young people throughout West Dunbartonshire as identified by Y sort it according to the needs of young people.
- Work with schools (inc primary, secondary,) to identify and support; this may include developing, planning and delivering assemblies, attending school events to raise awareness of #Keeping the Promise with pupils and teaching staff, to help raise awareness in schools; encouraging schools to share good practices and experiences.
- Deliver a range of workshops and school/college drop ins and training; this may include sibling and carers workshops, peer mentor training as well as specific training identified.
- In collaboration with colleagues, develop and maintain a schedule of awareness and or promotion initiatives for care experience young people and #KeepingThePromise
- Work with colleagues and wider Y sort it teams to identify areas of unmet need, develop ideas and contribute to plans and funding options to address need.
- Keep up to date with changes in legislation and local services which may affect the lives of care experienced young people and/or impact our service
- Ensure expenditure is maintained within budgetary constraints

- Support outreach and awareness raising work, for example in Care Day, Kinship Care Week, #Keeping the Promise events or consultation.

Administration

- Organise and manage your workload in an effective and efficient manner.
- Provide quality feedback, both written and oral, on your work as required by your line manager.
- Keep orderly and confidential records of all work completed and ongoing for individuals
- Keep up to date records of your work as directed by your line manager.
- Produce information, data and analysis for quarterly and annual reports
- Collect data and monitor and evaluate activities to ensure outcomes are achieved and documented for young people
- Ensure availability diaries and timesheets for your own work, are submitted weekly by the appropriate deadlines.
- Engage in team meetings, focus groups and monitoring and evaluation meetings for efficient running of the organisation and its services.

Skills & Abilities

- Ability to empathise with, and relate to, young people.
- Ability to engage young people & families
- Good teamwork approach
- Commitment to self-development and learning
- Excellent administrative & IT skills including Microsoft office
- Supportive and enabling approach
- Ability to demonstrate initiative
- Ability to prioritise and organise own workload
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to be responsive and flexible.

About us

“Y sort it is a young person led service, providing opportunities that responds to the support needs of local young people and inspires them to reach their full potential- we will #Connect # Support #Inspire WD Young people”.

Y sort it Youth project is aimed at young people aged between 8-18 years old that reside within West Dunbartonshire. We are unique in the fact that Y sort is governed by a Youth Management Board, with all members registered as company directors. This ensures that Y sort it continues to be FOR young people BY young people of West Dunbartonshire.

Young people of West Dunbartonshire will reach their full potential through learning and have the capacity to make informed choices and play a key role in decisions that affect their lives.

Application notes

Application deadline is 1st July 2024

Interviews will be held on 8th or 9th July 2024

Late applications will not be accepted.

To apply for this role, please read the application guidance and send completed application form by email to info@ysortit.com

If you would like a confidential discussion about this role please contact Claire McGinley, Head of Services & Development claire@ysortit.com (Mobile) 07593 311 168