

Family Engagement Practitioner West Central Scotland

Job Title: Family Engagement Practitioner

Reports To: Project Manager

Location: West Central Scotland

Contract: 25 hours per week, 52 weeks per annum (working pattern Mon-Fri 9am-2pm)

Salary: FTE £26,199 (£18,713 pro rata)

The Family Engagement Practitioner will promote and adhere to the values, philosophy and policies of Early Years Scotland (EYS) at all times.

In recognition of the value placed on volunteering within Early Years Scotland, the Family Engagement Practitioner will encourage and support volunteer involvement across the organisation.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Family Engagement Practitioner is accountable to the Board of Directors through the Director for Children and Families and the Project Manager.

JOB PURPOSE

The Family Engagement Practitioner (FEP) plays a key role in delivering Early Years Scotland's family wellbeing services across West Central Scotland. The postholder will work directly with children and families to provide relationship-based, strengths-focused support that promotes positive outcomes for children, parents and communities.

Working within a multi-agency environment, the Family Engagement Practitioner will deliver innovative Stay, Play and Learn programmes that strengthen parent-child relationships, support children's learning and development, build parental confidence and connect families to wider support services. The role focuses on early intervention, prevention and whole-family wellbeing, ensuring that families feel welcomed, valued and supported within their local communities.

The Family Engagement Practitioner will create nurturing environments where parents and carers actively participate in their child's learning, recognising them as their child's first and most important educator. Through modelling high-quality interactions, delivering enriching learning experiences and providing practical support, the practitioner will help families build confidence, resilience and stronger relationships.

Key Responsibilities

1. Family Engagement and Support

- Build positive, trusting and respectful relationships with children, parents and carers.
- Deliver relationship-based support that strengthens family wellbeing and resilience.
- Promote parental engagement and capacity building through shared play and learning experiences.
- Support families to develop confidence in understanding and responding to their child's developmental needs.
- Identify emerging needs and provide timely support, signposting and referrals where appropriate.
- Work in partnership with families to recognise strengths and achieve agreed outcomes.

2. Delivery of Stay, Play and Learn Programmes

- Plan, deliver and evaluate high-quality play and learning experiences for children and families.
- Facilitate activities that promote attachment, communication, literacy, language development, creativity, problem solving and social skills.
- Model nurturing interactions and positive parenting approaches.
- Support children to develop confidence, independence and a sense of belonging.
- Encourage family participation in sensory play, storytelling, song, movement, outdoor learning and family learning activities.

3. Child Development and Children's Rights

- Promote children's wellbeing in line with GIRFEC and SHANARRI principles.
- Support children's voice, participation and rights through observation, responsive practice and meaningful engagement.
- Recognise and respond appropriately to developmental concerns and emerging additional support needs.
- Ensure activities are inclusive, accessible and responsive to the diverse needs of children and families.

4. Multi-Agency Working

- Work collaboratively with colleagues and partner agencies to provide holistic support for families.
- Develop effective relationships with health professionals, social work, education staff and third-sector partners.

- Support families to access entitlements, employability opportunities, financial inclusion services, housing advice, health services and community resources.
- Participate in multi-agency meetings as required.
- Contribute to coordinated family support plans where appropriate.

5. Community Development and Participation

- Promote community participation and reduce social isolation.
- Support families to develop peer networks and social connections.
- Contribute to the development of Parent Connector and volunteer opportunities.
- Encourage family involvement in community activities, events and learning opportunities.
- Support pathways that enable parents to build confidence, skills and employability

6. Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality Improvement

- Maintain accurate and timely records in line with organisational policies.
- Support the collection of monitoring and evaluation information, including outcome measures such as Family Star Plus.
- Contribute to case studies, impact reports and service evaluations.
- Reflect on practice and contribute to continuous service improvement.
- Actively participate in team meetings, supervision and professional learning opportunities.

7. Safeguarding and Professional Practice

- Promote the safety, wellbeing and rights of all children.
- Follow Early Years Scotland safeguarding, child protection and health and safety procedures.
- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries and confidentiality.
- Work in accordance with organisational policies and professional standards.
- Undertake any other duties commensurate with the role.

Expected Outcomes

The Family Engagement Practitioner will contribute to:

- Stronger parent-child relationships and secure attachments.
- Increased parental confidence, knowledge and wellbeing.
- Improved early language, communication and learning outcomes for children.
- Reduced social isolation and increased community connection.

- Earlier identification of needs and access to support.
- Positive transitions for children and families.
- Increased family resilience and wellbeing.
- Improved access to services, supports and entitlements.

This role offers a unique opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families by delivering innovative, relationship-based support that helps communities thrive.