



Head of Commissioning

Salary AfC sp 57-60 | Based in Kingston upon Thames | Permanent | Full time

About the service

Achieving for Children have recently formed a new Commissioning and Partnerships Directorate, this directorate will lead on setting the commissioning framework and strategic commissioning intentions to improve the outcomes for our children and young people. Through the commissioning process this directorate will support the organisation and our colleagues achieve efficiencies, improve partnership working and delivery; while ensuring our children, young people and their families/ cares remain at the centre of what we do. This post will be based in our newly formed Commissioning and Partnerships Directorate.

About the role

We are looking to appoint a dynamic and driven individual who has a passion for supporting children and young people through commissioning practices, to join the commissioning and partnerships directorate as the Head of Service Commissioning. This newly created post is an exciting opportunity for an experienced strategic commissioner to support shaping and developing our commissioning practices across AfC. This is a pivotal role working alongside the Director of Commissioning and Partnerships to develop practical and innovative commissioning responses to our key strategic challenges.

Responsibilities will include:

- Leading the strategic programmes of commissioning for children and families, driving innovation to deliver better outcomes and financial efficiencies. The role will involve commissioning across the whole system.
- Building engaging and productive working relationships with all sectors of the market, supporting the involvement of children, parents and the voluntary sector in planning and delivery of services.
- Supporting the Director of Commissioning and Partnerships to implement an integrated commissioning strategy to improve outcomes for children and familie in the most efficient and cost-effective ways.
- Developing business plans to implement the agreed strategies for AfC and its Councils which are focused on delivering the key priorities.

About you: our role specification

Qualifications

- Educated to a degree level or equivalent experience in commissioning
- Evidence of continuing professional development
- Registration to a professional body (desirable)

Skills and experience

- Experience of leading and managing teams, including managing performance and development to deliver excellent outcomes.
- Experience of strategic commissioning to transform services within Local Authority and/or NHS
- Proven ability to effectively use data, intelligence and evidence to create meaningful insight and to inform own decision making.
- Ability to confidently support and understand decision-making processes, including financial regulations and ability to produce and monitor business plans.
- Experience of keeping and maintaining records (in accordance with local policy) and producing accurate reports, presentations, written updates to a range of stakeholders (which may include families, children or young people).
- Experience of presenting complex reports to a variety of audiences and proven analytical skills (quantitative and qualitative) and data rational. A good range of IT and report writing skills will be required.
- Experience of building strong partnerships, maintaining relationships and co-producing solutions to challenges across a diverse set of stakeholders.
- A proven track record as a successful strategic leader within the public sector, with direct experience of leading the commissioning of services for children and families.

Personal attributes

- A passion for Achieving for Children's vision, mission and values to support children and young people to live safe, happy, healthy and successful lives.
- Strong organisational abilities including: time management, creative-thinking, problem-solving and multitasking.
- Able to work flexibly and independently with limited management oversight.
- Personal determination, drive, energy and ambition to overcome obstacles, achieve challenging objectives, celebrate success and deliver excellent outcomes for children. Taking a strength based approach to managing situations.
- Commitment to resource-sharing and collaborative working within Achieving for Children and across organisational boundaries in the best interests of children and families.
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills that are open, honest, persuasive and pragmatic, including excellent negotiation and influencing skills.

The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties commensurate with the grade of the post, including deputising or or working flexibly across the week to meet the business demands. This job profile is provided for guidance only.

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