

Young People's Support Worker (Casual)

Salary range: £13.75 per hour / £60 for a sleeping night shift | Based in Kingston and New Malden | Casual

About the service

This post will be based within the Young People's Supported Accommodation Service (YPSAS) and you will be working at both our supported housing projects in Kingston and New Malden

The YPSAS provides supported accommodation and floating support services to young people aged 16 - 25 including care leavers, young parents and unaccompanied asylum seekers. Support offered includes: housing and licence/tenancy support; development of independence skills; accurate record keeping and communication with permanent staff, signposting to other professionals and agencies; and support to access benefits, education, training and employment. The service directly manages Beverley House, which provides seven flats for young people and an emergency room and Green Leas, which provides 16 flats for care leavers and one emergency room for a young person whose placement has broken down. It is a 24 hour, seven day a week service.

About the role

What skills would you bring to the role? Are you a budding chef, sportsman or artist and could you use your talents to benefit others? Perhaps you are a good motivator or communicator? We are currently looking for individuals who relate well to young people and are passionate about wanting to help them develop their independent living skills. Flexibility is key as there will be changing priorities during a shift. One minute you could be cleaning or doing a Health & Safety inspection and the next dealing with a young person in crisis or an emergency move in. A can do attitude is essential as most of the time you will be working alone or with one other colleague and you will be responsible for the safety of the young people and the security of the

building. You will need to have a solution focused mindset, be proactive and use your own initiative and be confident making decisions whilst on shift.

We are looking for people that have availability, sometimes at short notice, at different times during the week. Shifts can be during the day, at evenings, at weekends and overnight in order to meet the needs of the service.

The key responsibilities include:

- Support the permanent Support Workers with keyworking of the young people, making referrals and signposting as necessary
- Help deliver independent life skills sessions with young people e.g. cooking, budgeting, cleaning, and literacy & numeracy
- Identify and record any safeguarding issues, incidents and accidents
- Support the permanent staff with housing management tasks such as rent collection, adherence to licence conditions, guest management and implementation of the warning system
- Ensure that regular Health & Safety checks of communal areas and equipment are completed & communal areas are regularly cleaned, issues are logged and actioned appropriately
- Minimise void losses by packing rooms, helping young people move in and move out and carrying out deep clean of the flats/room when they become vacant
- Accurately recording the movements and activities of the young people
- To accompany young people to appointments
- To report young people that are missing and to act as an appropriate adult if necessary

When undertaking night shifts the postholder should also refer to the key responsibilities in the Night Support Worker Job Profile

About you: our role specification

Qualifications

- Educated to A level with a relevant professional qualification in working with children or young people

Skills and experience

- Experience of delivering services to vulnerable young people within a supported housing setting. Advocating the voices of those we are working with.
- Experience of delivering services that value equality and diversity to a wide range of people with different cultural backgrounds & needs
- Experience of keeping and maintaining records (in accordance with local policy)
- Knowledge and understanding of the life skills needed to live independently and experience in delivering these to young people
- Knowledge and understanding of welfare rights, including benefits and grants and an understanding of how young people can be enabled to access education, employment and training

The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties commensurate with the grade of the post, including deputising or working flexibly across the week to meet the business demands. This is not a comprehensive list of the duties and the job profile is provided for guidance only.

Version_0.1_March 2020

- Ability to work as part of an effective, flexible and supportive team and willing to work weekends and unsociable hours

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: managing priorities, 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.
- Knowledge of how to use ICT effectively i.e. google or microsoft packages

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Version_0.1_March 2020