Senior Family Support Worker

Probation Family Services

A message from our CEO, Allan Myatt



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Senior Family Support Worker at Probation Family Services.

As an organisation, Ormiston Families has agreed that our strategy for the next 3 years is to enable children, young people and their families to feel safer, healthier and more resilient. We also recognise that we need to build the resilience of the organisation, so we are fit to meet the challenges ahead.

Over the next few months we will continue to develop the strategy identifying key objectives for the next 3 years and making necessary organisational and operational changes to enable us to deliver the strategy in the new financial year. We see the recruitment of this post as critical in helping us achieve these objectives.

I wish you the best of luck with your application.

Best regards,



Allan Myatt

Our vision

Safe, healthy, resilient families

Our mission

Enabling families in the east of England to build resilience and make choices to improve the life chances of their children

Our values

Collaborative

* Working together with families
* Building partnerships, communities and networks to support families
* Valuing each other to achieve results and improve everything we do

Compassionate

* Listening, so we can understand
* Treating people with respect
* Enabling, recognising and reinforcing achievements

Effective

* Evidencing the impact of our work with families
* Prevention and early intervention being at the heart of our work
* Building resilience to cope and recover from adversity

Ormiston Families is one of the leading charities working with children, young people and families in the East of England. We take early and preventative action to support families to be safe, healthy and resilient. All our services help people to build stronger networks, learn from experience and feel in control of their own wellbeing. We can only achieve this with the people who choose to work for us.

About Probation Family Services

As part of the new nationalised Probation Service, The Probation Family Services works with those who are under probation supervision to develop and sustain positive and supportive relationships with their families and or significant others and helps equip those we support demonstrate responsible and positive parenting behaviours.

About the role

The role of the post holder will be responsible for the management of professional practices of Family Support Workers, Administration Officer and Volunteers operating within your area. This includes undertaking supervision, providing day to day management, guidance and support, engaging in reflective practice, ensuring performance management and quality assurance requirements are applied.

In addition, to be responsible for day to day running of service operations within your area. This includes planning schedules of work for Service Users/ Offenders, seeking and managing referrals, reviewing assessments, liaising with Probation Practitioners within The Probation Service writing reports and responding to managers in both Ormiston Families, Nacro and the Probation Service.

About you

You will be a self-motivated professional with experience of supervising staff and case management. Ideally you will have experience or at least a good understanding of the issues faced by those affected within the criminal justice system. You will strive to achieve quality and tangible outcomes for those we support despite the challenges that can be presented at times.

This is a rewarding role where you can have the opportunity to make a real difference to those, we support who often face complex and multifaceted needs by empowering them to achieve and realise positive change in their lives.

The position is full-time (35 hours per week), fixed term until end of March 2024 with potential for further extension. The starting salary is Grade 7, Point 25, £24,047 per annum.

Probationary Period

The post is subject to a probationary period of six months during which your progress will be monitored in accordance with agreed objectives.

Application Process – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Applicants must send in a completed online application form; you must demonstrate that you hold the personal competencies required for the role and how you meet the relevant skills, knowledge, and experience.

**Ormiston Families is an equal opportunities employer. We value diversity and welcome applications from all sections of the community. We ask individuals to complete a monitoring form to help us monitor the diversity of applicants. It will be separated from your application form and will not be seen by anyone involved in recruitment to this job.**

Please note closing date for completed applications is Midday, Monday 16th August 2021 and only successful applicants will be contacted by Ormiston Families. Previous applicants need not apply and we reserve the right to close the vacancy early if we receive sufficient applications ahead of the closing date.

Job Description

Job Title: Senior Family Support Worker  
Service: Probation Family Services   
Location: Across Suffolk

Job purpose: You will be responsible for delivering an agreed programme of group work and one-to-one interventions with adult offenders to address their family, parenting and relationship needs.

You will also supervise a small team of family support workers and admin officer and volunteers working at different community based and Probation Office locations across Suffolk.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

1. To organise and oversee the delivery of prescribed family support interventions across Suffolk
2. To deliver family support interventions on both a one to one and group work basis. This includes the application of skills in motivational interviewing, pro-social modelling and positive reinforcement.
3. To undertake appropriate assessments, keeping accurate case records and liaising with key members of staff within The Probation Service and Nacro as prime contract provider.
4. To undertake 1-2-1 and group work delivery of family support interventions and to oversee the effective delivery of Family Support Workers delivering the same interventions within your assigned area(s).
5. Regular travel will be required across Suffolk to facilitate both the group work sessions and 1-2-1 work within community-based environments and Probation Service offices
6. To be responsible for the management of professional practices of Family Support Workers, administration officer and Volunteers operating within your area. This includes undertaking supervision, providing day to day management, guidance and support, engaging in reflective practice, ensuring performance management and quality assurance requirements are applied, etc.

1. To be responsible for day to day running of service operations within your area(s). This includes planning schedules of work for Service Users/ Offenders, seeking and managing referrals, reviewing assessments, liaising with Probation Practitioners within The Probation Service writing reports and responding to managers in both Ormiston Families, Nacro and the Probation Service
2. In consultation with the Service Manager, Evaluation Manager and or Operations Manager help to monitor, maintain and manage performance and quality using pre-existing evaluation frameworks and contract management tools ensuring that accurate/ verified information is recorded in the appropriate formats
3. Attend operational interface meetings and other relevant meetings on behalf of Ormiston Families and when required, attend contract meetings to support the Service Manager and/or Operations Manager.
4. To use computer-based systems to produce, update and maintain records and other documentation within agreed timescales
5. To provide cover across teams as required including occasional cover for the Service Manager and/or Operations Manager
6. To contribute as required to Ormiston’s service planning and review process in order to develop the ongoing quality of the service, considering the views of service users, funders and staff
7. To actively attend and contribute to the key network/partnership groups relevant to your area of work and share relevant information with colleagues and other stakeholders.
8. To attend briefings, conferences and training events as required, ensuring the relevant information is summarised and fed back effectively to stakeholders
9. To work within Ormiston’s vision, mission, values, policies and procedures in a way which is consistent with the organisation’s strategic plan
10. To comply with any relevant professional standards and quality marks
11. Access to own transport or the ability to meet the travel requirements as required
12. To carry out any additional relevant duties as instructed by the Operations Manager

Generic Responsibilities – All Posts/Employees

The following are applicable to all posts and all employees.

General Duties

To undertake any other reasonable duty, which is appropriate to the grade when requested by Senior Staff.

To be familiar with and comply with all Ormiston Families policies, procedures, protocols and guidelines.

To demonstrate an understanding and commitment to the charity’s values.

Professional and Personal Development

All staff must ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities by attending Mandatory Training and Induction programme.

All staff will have a formal appraisal with their manager at least every 12 months. Once performance/training objectives have been set, the staff member’s progress will be reviewed on a regular basis so that new objectives can be agreed and set, in order to maintain progress in the service delivery.

All staff will be expected to take responsibility for their own professional development and will be supported to achieve development opportunities as appropriate.

Health and Safety

All staff have a responsibility to maintain health and safety of self and others within the performance of duties in accordance with health and safety policies, and to undertake specific health and safety responsibilities as directed. All staff have a responsibility to adhere to the Risk Management Policies & Procedures.

All staff are required to contribute to the control of risk, and must report immediately any incident, accident or near miss involving service users, carers, staff, contractors or members of the public.

Confidentiality and Information Governance

All staff may gain or have access to confidential information about the assessment and/or treatment of service users, information affecting the public, private or work related staff information, or Charity matters. A breach of confidentiality will have occurred where any such information has been divulged, passed (deliberately or accidentally) or overheard by any unauthorised person or person(s). Breaches of confidentiality can result in disciplinary action, which may involve dismissal.

All staff must maintain a high standard of quality in corporate and clinical record keeping, ensuring information is always recorded accurately, appropriately and kept up to date. Staff must only access information, whether paper, electronic or in other media which is authorised to them as part of their duties.

All staff must ensure compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Safeguarding: Adults and Children (Section 11 of the Children Act 2004)

Every member of staff has a responsibility to be aware of and follow at all times, the relevant national and local policy in relation to safeguarding children and safeguarding adults.

Senior Managers

Under Section 11 of the Children Act senior managers have responsibility for ensuring that service developments take into account the promotion of welfare and is informed by the views of children and families; providing training on safeguarding for all staff; recruiting safely; ensuring there is effective inter-agency working and information sharing.

Freedom of Information (FOI)

All members of staff must be aware of their responsibilities under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. The Act gives individuals or organisations the right to request information held by the Charity. Staff must manage information they hold in such a way that meets the requirements of the Act. All requests for disclosures under the Act must be passed to the Freedom of information Officer.

Data Quality

The Charity recognises the role of reliable information in the delivery & development of its services and in assuring robust clinical and corporate governance. Data quality is central to this and the availability of complete, comprehensive, accurate and timely data is an essential component in the provision of high-quality mental health services. It is therefore the responsibility of all staff to ensure that where appropriate, information is recorded, at all times, in line with the Charity’s Policy and Procedures for Data Quality.

This job description seeks to provide an outline of the duties and responsibilities of the post. It is not a definitive document and does not form part of the main statement of Terms and Conditions. The job description will be reviewed as part of the annual appraisal process and will be used as the basis for setting objectives.

Person Specification

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Essential / Desirable** | **Measured by** |
| A qualification, and/or experience in Probation, Criminal justice and/or work with children and families. | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Experience of providing professional practice supervision to staff and/or volunteers delivering front line services to people with complex needs. | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Ability to manage your own and other people’s workload including scheduling, allocating resources to demand, contingency planning, checking quality of work and verifying information recorded | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Evidence and skills in facilitating and leading both one to one and group work programmes to adults undertaking work to affect positive emotional, social and behavioural changes | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Good knowledge and direct experience of Safeguarding, Child Protection and Prevent policy and practice | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Experience of undertaking risk assessments and risk management planning to ensure that appropriate action is taken to minimise or prevent actual or potential harm to others. | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Evidence of skills in conflict resolution, problem solving and motivational interviewing | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Understanding, knowledge and application of pro-social modelling including the ability to express empathy and positively affirm individuals and groups of people | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Experience of responding to and implementing quality assurance and performance management frameworks. | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Experience of planning an evolving programme of appropriate activities to meet the needs of adult offenders and their families with good knowledge of effective direct intervention techniques and practice | Desireable | Application form/interview |
| Proven skills in effective communication both written and verbal across a diverse range of people | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Good understanding and application of equal opportunities and diversity legislation and associated policies | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Competent in use of MS Excel, MS Word and Outlook | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Evidential skills in partnership building, networking and advocacy to progress Organisational objectives and shared outcomes. | Essential | Application form/interview |
| Full driving licence | Essential | Application form/evidence at interview |

Information about working with Ormiston Families in Probation Family Services

You may find it helpful to know the following information about this position.

Duration:

* The post advertised is a full-time fixed-term contract post which runs until end of March 2024 with a potential for an extension.

**Hours of work and working arrangements:**

* The normal working week is 35 hours, Monday to Friday and covers 52 weeks per year.
* You will be required to work flexibly to meet the needs of the service as part of a rota system. You will be required to work one full weekend and one Saturday per rota period (usually a month).

**Location:**

* The post will initially be based from home with regular travel to probation offices and community based locations to deliver interventions within Suffolk.

**Progressing through your grade:**

* Your salary will rise with the scale by one increment each year up to the maximum of the scale. Increments are awarded annually on the 1st April.

**Probationary Period:**

* The post is subject to a probationary period of 6 months during which your progress will be monitored in accordance with agreed objectives.

**Salary:**

* The scale for this post is grade 7 point 25, currently £24,047, per annum
* Salary is paid in 12 equal instalments on the 25th of each month directly into your bank account and covers work carried out in the calendar month.

Benefits & recognition

All benefits are discretionary, and Ormiston Families reserves the right to change or amend benefits at any given time.

**Cycle to Work:**

* Cycle to Work allows you to order a new bike, equipment or both up to the value of £1,000 which you can pay back through your salary to make tax savings.

**Annual leave entitlement:**

* The basic annual leave entitlement is 27 days plus additional leave for employees who have completed 3 years’ service up to a maximum of 30 days as follows:
* Part-time employees receive a pro-rata allowance according to the number of hours they week per week).

**Group Life Assurance:**

* Ormiston Families provides a death in service benefit to all permanent employees.

**Occupational sick pay scheme:**

* Ormiston Families operates an occupational sick pay scheme in addition to statutory sick pay.

**Pension:**

* Ormiston Families provides a Group Personal Pension Scheme with up to 9% of gross salary employer contribution for any employee where they match the level of contribution.

**Sponsorship:**

* Ormiston Families provides sponsorship to employees who have completed their probationary period and been in post for at least 12 months to undertake nationally accredited or chartered certification awarded by professional associations.

**Employee Assistance Programme:**

* Ormiston Families provides a comprehensive employee assistance programme which offers free and confidential access to telephone and face to face counselling (up to 6 sessions), financial and legal advice and assistance in finding information about a wide range of subjects from childcare to moving to a new house.

**The Hive:**

* The Hive is a savings platform which can be accessed by employees to make everyday purchases at reduced costs. Employees can save money by purchasing reloadable cards, obtain cashback through online purchases, and make savings in some stores.

**The Well-being Centre:**

* Accessed via The Hive, the Wellbeing Centre provides education, support and tools to help you live a healthier and happier life.

Requirements of the post

**Qualifications:**

* If short-listed and you are required to hold a particular qualification for a post it is your responsibility to provide the relevant certification, to prove you are suitably qualified.
* Failure to produce documentary evidence of qualifications or undertake required courses/training may result in the termination of your employment.
* If a post requires you to take training or additional qualifications then, by accepting this post, you are agreeing to do the training or take the qualifications.

**Medical examination:**

* To ensure the post will not have a detrimental effect on your health or your health on your work, you will have to complete a health enquiry form on appointment and may be required to have a medical before the appointment can be offered formally.
* This is to confirm that you are able to satisfactorily carry out the post without any impact on your health (taking account of any reasonable adjustments required).

**Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006:**

* Before you can start working for Ormiston Families a check will need to be carried out to ensure you are eligible to work legally in the UK.
* This check will be undertaken in accordance with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006.
* You must supply proof of your entitlement to work in the UK by producing certain document(s) and you will be asked to bring these to your interview if you are shortlisted.
* Further information on working in the UK can be found by clicking on the link below to the UK Border Agency website: Link: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/working/>

**Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks:**

* As this position meets the definition of regulated activity under the Protection of Freedom Act 2012, appointments to this post will be subject to an enhanced DBS check with barred list check
* Employment can commence once the check has been satisfactorily completed.
* If a candidate has a conviction on their DBS check, an assessment of the relevance and impact of the conviction in relation to the post will be done to determine if the job offer can be confirmed.
* It is a serious criminal offence to knowingly apply for posts when you have been barred from working with children/young people and/or vulnerable adults.
* Additional questions for roles working with children, young people or vulnerable adults to be explored at interview
* As this post involves working either with children and young people or vulnerable adults Warner or Safer care motivational type questions may be asked during the interview process.
* These questions are asked to establish your suitability to work with vulnerable groups by understanding your attitude, behaviour and responses to situations.
* The questions will relate to your inspiration for working with vulnerable groups, your ability to build relationships and your resilience when working with such groups and may also explore your attitude to the use of authority.
* If you feel you would find these questions about yourself difficult to respond to then you may wish to reflect upon your suitability for the post.

**Transport status:**

* If the post requires you to travel as part of your duties, you are responsible for your own travel arrangements.
* Any mileage undertaken on behalf of Ormiston Families’ Probation Family Services will be paid at the appropriate rate and within Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs guidelines.
* If you use your own vehicle for the purposes of work, you must ensure that your insurance policy covers you for this purpose.

**No smoking:**

* Ormiston Families operates a Smoke Free Premises policy.

# Standard Terms and Conditions

# **Probationary period:**

* All new employees of Ormiston Families will be required to complete a 6-month probationary period. This may be extended in some circumstances.

# **Equal opportunities**:

* Ormiston Families seeks to ensure that all employees are selected, trained and promoted on the basis of ability, the requirements of the post and other similar and objective criteria.
* The gender identity, disability, marital status, ethnic origin, age, pregnancy status, religion or belief, or sexual orientation of an applicant or employee does not affect the employment opportunities made available, except as permitted by legislation.
* In addition, applicants declaring a disability who meet the minimum (essential) criteria for a vacancy will be invited for interview.

# **Data protection:**

* Ormiston Families is required by law to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998.
* Employees have an important role to play in ensuring that personal information is processed lawfully and fairly.
* Personal information is information relating to a living individual who can be identified.
* It is each individual employee’s responsibility to handle all personal information properly no matter how it is collected, recorded and used, whether on paper, in a computer, or on other material.
* Personal information must not be disclosed to others unless authorised to do so.

**Notice:**

* Once your probationary period is completed, you will be required to give at least 4 weeks’ notice in writing of termination of employment dependent upon length of service.
* You are entitled to receive a similar period to the notice you have to give or the minimum statutory provision under the Employment Right’s Act 1996, whichever is greater, as set out below:

Grades 1-7:

* Less than 6 months’ service: 1 month
* More than 6 months’ service: 1 month

Grades 8-9:

* Less than 6 month’s service: 1 month
* More than 6 month’s service: 2 months

Grades 10–14:

* Less than 6 month’s service: 1 month
* More than 6 month’s service: 3 months

Application Process

* Applicants must send in a completed application form.
* You must demonstrate that you hold the personal competencies required for the role and how you meet the relevant qualifications, experience, knowledge and skills.
* **Ormiston Families is an equal opportunities employer.** 
  + **We value diversity and welcome applications from all sections of the community.**
  + **We ask individuals to complete a monitoring form to help us monitor the diversity of applicants. It will be separated from your application form and will not be seen by anyone involved in recruitment to this job.**
* Shortlisted candidates will be asked to provide details of all unspent convictions and those that would not be filtered, prior to the date of the interview. You may be asked for further information about your criminal history during the recruitment process. If your application is successful, this self-disclosure information will be checked against information from the Disclosure & Barring Service before your appointment is confirmed.
* Applications will be considered and those shortlisted for interview will be informed.
* If you have not heard by the interview date we thank you in advance for your interest and ask you to assume that you have not been successful on this occasion.
* The post will be offered subject to satisfactory qualifications, DBS if applicable, references and a satisfactory declaration of health.
* The post will also be offered subject to the production of relevant documents as listed in the Immigration (Restriction on Employment) Order 2004.
* The successful candidate will be asked to provide evidence of identity and qualifications.

Closing date for completed applications: Midday, Monday 16th August 2021

Please note previous applicants need not apply and we reserve the right to close the vacancy early if we receive sufficient applications ahead of the closing date.

**Any queries, please email: john.merralls@ormistonfamilies.org.uk**