

## **JOB DESCRIPTION & PERSON SPECIFICATIONS**

### ***Senior Assessing Social Worker (SASW)***

#### **Job Purpose**

To manage a small caseload of complex families (typically 3–4), leading high-quality parenting assessments, intervention and planning that inform decision-making for children and families.

The role combines direct work, structured parenting support, professional analysis and report writing across residential, diagnostic and community-based contexts.

#### **Key Responsibilities**

##### **1. Assessment Leadership**

- Lead responsibility for allocated families and their assessment journey
- Develop and implement clear assessment and intervention plans
- Maintain oversight of all information contributing to the assessment

##### **2. Direct Work and Intervention**

- Undertake purposeful direct work with parents
- Provide structured parenting support and intervention in line with assessment plans
- Support the team to understand and respond to the presenting needs of each family
- Build professional, bounded relationships

##### **3. Analysis and Report Writing**

- Analyse information from direct work, observations, records and multi-agency input
- Identify patterns, risk and capacity for change
- Produce high-quality, analytical and defensible reports

##### **4. Court and Professional Work**

- Present reports to courts and local authorities
- Provide clear, evidence-based professional opinion
- Respond to challenge confidently and appropriately

##### **5. Practice Oversight and Leadership**

- Provide social work expertise within the team

- Guide practitioners in producing meaningful observations
- Ensure parenting support and intervention is purposeful and aligned to assessment goals
- Work closely with Practice Leads to maintain consistency

## **6. Recording and Case Management**

- Maintain accurate and up-to-date records for each family, including:
  - placement plans
  - risk assessments
  - weekly summary reports
  - records of meetings and professional discussions

## **7. Flexible Assessment Delivery**

- Undertake diagnostic (4–6 week) assessments
- Contribute to community-based and hybrid assessments
- Support transition and post-placement work

## **8. Safeguarding and Risk**

- Maintain professional responsibility for safeguarding
- Identify and respond to risk appropriately
- Ensure concerns are clearly reflected in analysis

## **9. Team and Multi-Agency Working**

- Work closely with residential and outreach teams
- Lead case discussions and planning
- Engage effectively with partner agencies

## **Person Specification**

### **Essential**

- Qualified Social Worker (Social Work England registered)
- Minimum 4 years post-qualifying experience
- Experience of completing complex assessments

- Experience of court work and giving evidence
- Strong analytical and report writing skills
- Ability to exercise sound professional judgement
- Experience working with complex families

#### **Desirable**

- Experience in residential family assessment settings
- Experience of community-based assessment work

#### **Personal Attributes**

- Analytical and reflective
- Confident and professionally authoritative
- Able to manage complexity and uncertainty
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills

#### **Accountability**

- Reports to Registered Manager
- Provides professional direction to practitioners
- Works alongside Practice Leads & Family Practitioners