



## Job Description

<b>Directorate</b>	Families and Wellbeing
<b>Service</b>	Family help and protection

<b>Post details</b>	
<b>Job title</b>	MACPT Lead child protection practitioner
<b>Grade</b>	7/8
<b>Location of work</b>	As required across all work locations within Warrington Borough Council and outside the geographical area as required through service provision
<b>Directly responsible to</b>	Team Manager
<b>Directly responsible for</b>	None unless Practice Educator
<b>Hours of duty</b>	37 per week
<b>Primary purpose and scope of the job</b>	
<p>To provide a statutory social work service to children and families working within local and national guidance and legislation. To embed and adopt our systemic model of practice rooted in relational work with families, which emphasizes people's relationships as key to understanding their experiences. Use evidence based interventions to instigate change to improve outcomes for vulnerable children and families</p>	
<b>Working Relationships</b>	
<p>The following list is not exclusive but represents the majority of services/personnel that the post holder will be expected to have working relationships with, some more frequent than others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children, young people and their families/carers</li><li>• Independent Reviewing officers, Team and Service Managers, staff with particular responsibility for a service area e.g. legal officers, fostering, adoption</li><li>• Partners in other Divisions within the Directorate.</li><li>• Partners in other Council Directorates, particularly legal services, housing advice</li></ul>	

- Partners in Health Trusts, particularly those with responsibilities in working with children and families such as midwives, health visitors, named nurses, etc.
- Partners in criminal justice agencies such as the Police Service, Probation Area, and Youth Offending Team
- Partners in voluntary sector services, particularly those services that have contractual relationships with the Division
- Leadership team of Families & Wellbeing, Director of Children's Services, Operational Directors, Heads of Service and other Senior Officers within the Council

### **Key Tasks and Responsibilities**

Be curious and ask purposeful questions, with a focus on the root causes of the child and families difficulties

Work alongside families helping them to solve problems and create change for themselves

Approach families with empathy, compassion and creativity using relationships for positive change

Be respectful and think about the situation from the child and families perspective taking a whole family system approach

Intervene in a timely way and act decisively to achieve permanence for all children

Be able to reflect and use critical thinking to evaluate and analyse the needs of the child and the family's capacity to change / meet the child's needs

Use a range of direct work approaches to elicit the views of children and families, whose voices are heard and responded to

Communicate clearly and sensitively with children of different ages and abilities, their families.

Build skilful and influential working relationships with other professionals and agencies

Make good use of supervision to reflect on practice, planning and decision making skills

Understand your legal and statutory responsibilities and execute these in children's best interests

Take appropriate responsibility for your own conduct, practice and learning, maintaining an up-to-date and accurate record of activities in line with requirements of the social work regulator

Operate successfully in a wide range of organisational contexts complying with departmental policies and procedures

Help keep children safe and improve welfare and outcomes for children and families

Respond to referrals and contacts received from a range of sources

Undertake assessment of need and risk to children; use professional curiosity and authority while working in partnership, involving all key family members.

Undertake child in need and child protection work and work with children in care including, completing section 47 investigations, participating at child protection conferences and facilitating core group meetings and care planning meetings.

Ensure home visits are completed within agreed timescales to ensure child safety.

Identify the impact of adult mental ill health, substance misuse, domestic abuse, physical ill health and disability on family functioning and social circumstances and the effect on children.

Exchange information with partner agencies about children and adults where there is concern about the safety and welfare of children.

Establish the seriousness that different risks present and any harm already suffered by the child, balanced with family strengths and potential solutions

Undertake court work, using legal powers and duties to support families, to protect children and to look after children in care

Ensure that where it is in keeping with their welfare children return home within agreed timescales

To work with the complex arrangements (with parents, permanent carers, children and other agencies) where children need a permanent placement either with relatives or other carers

Grade 8 Social Workers are expected to supervise student social workers while on placement once they obtain the Practice Educator Award.

#### General responsibilities

1. To comply with the statutory obligations of the Council and the Directorate.
2. To comply with all Health and Safety requirements in the performance of all duties.
3. To carry out all duties with due regard to confidentiality and data protection.
4. To comply with the professional regulators Code of Conduct.
5. To undertake any other duties as may be allocated from time to time, which are deemed to be commensurate with the designation and grading of the post.
6. A commitment to work outside of normal working hours as and when required.

#### **Review Arrangements**

The details contained in this job description reflect the content of the job at the date it was prepared; however, it is inevitable that over time, the nature of the jobs may change. Existing duties may no longer be required and other duties may be gained without changing the general nature of the post or the level of responsibility entailed. Consequently, the Council will expect to revise this job description from time to time and will consult with the post holder at the appropriate time.

<b>Prepared / Revised By</b>	Charlotte Sweeney
<b>Role</b>	Service Manager
<b>Date</b>	October 2025