

Date as postmark

Dear Applicant,

A.B.B.E.Y SURE START

Re: Family Support Worker FSWS17

Closing date for receipt of completed applications: Monday 28th August 2017 at 12pm

Thank you for your enquiry regarding the above post. Please find enclosed the following:

- Application form
- Job description
- Person specification
- Equal Opportunities monitoring form
- General information on the Sure Start Programme Project
- Guidelines for candidates

Interviews will take place 5th September 2017

Should you require any reasonable adjustments to be made in order to allow you to attend for interview, please let us know in advance.

As a voluntary and community organisation our resources are limited and it will not be possible to respond to each applicant individually. We will only contact successful applicants to invite for an interview. If you have not heard from us within six weeks of the closing date please assume you have not been selected for interview. I hope this does not deter you from applying for this post.

Thank you for your interest, and I look forward to hearing from you.

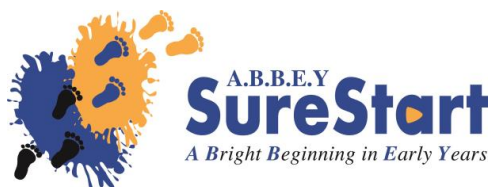
Yours sincerely,

Cathy Todd
Project Manager

A.B.B.E.Y Sure Start
440 Shore Road, Newtownabbey, BT37 9RU
Tel: 02890 860 938 Fax: 02890 860 365
Email: admin@abbeysurestart.co.uk

A.B.B.E.Y Sure Start project is a Company Ltd. by Guarantee
Company Registration No. NI41606 Charity No: XR53098





For Office Use	
	Date
Monitoring Form	
Shortlisted	
Interview	
References	
Access NI	
Health Dec	
Reserve List	

APPLICATION FORM (Please do not enclose a C.V.)

Post applied for: Family Support Worker

Reference no: FSWS17 Closing Date: 12pm 28/08/2017

How did you learn about this position? _____

Surname: _____ First name(s): _____

Title: Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Other (Please circle)

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Home Telephone number: _____

Work Telephone number: _____ Extension: _____

National Insurance Number: _____

Do you require any reasonable adjustments to be made in order for you to attend for interview/carry out the duties detailed in the job description? (Please circle) YES/NO

Do you hold a current full UK Driving Licence? YES/NO

Do you have access to a motor car? YES/NO

Do you require a work permit in order to work in the UK? YES/NO

Please continue on a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

Please Ensure That You Complete The Monitoring Form Provided And Return In A Separate Envelope Along With Your Application. See notes on form.

If you choose not answer the questions, we are encouraged to use the residuary method of making a determination, which means that we can make a determination as to your community background on the basis of the personal information supplied by you in your application form/personnel file.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer. We do not discriminate against our job applicants or employees and we aim to select the best person for the job.

Education (Qualifications obtained at School):

Please summarise: all qualifications equally valid, not just those received in the UK

Date received:

Subject	Level/Stage e.g. GCSE, 'A', RSA etc	Result and grade obtained	Year

Further Education

Degree/Diploma/Certificate	Subject taken and year	Result and date obtained	Examinations yet to be taken

Professional Qualifications

Name of Professional Body	Part No. with date and result	Final with date and result	Registration No. (if applicable)	Examinations yet to be taken

Work Experience:

This need not necessarily be paid work; it is of equal importance to include voluntary work or unpaid work within the home.

Please start with your current or most recent position.

Name and Address of employer	Position held	Dates of employment	Summary of main job tasks	Reason for leaving

Referees:

Please supply the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees who know you in a professional/education/training capacity, one of which should be your current or last employer (if applicable). You should not give the names of relatives or friends.

References will only be taken up for the successful candidate after the interview.
Please state if you would like us to contact you prior to taking up these references.

Current or last employer

1	2

Email:	Email:
Tel No:	Tel No:

Sick Leave

Number of days sick leave in past year: _____

Reason(s) for absence(s): _____

Have you ever been convicted of any offence: YES/NO

If so, please state nature of offence and date occurred: _____

Provision under Rehabilitation of Offenders Act does not apply for this post. This means that you are not entitled to withhold information about convictions or cautions which are “spent” under the Act. Failure to disclose such convictions or cautions could result in your dismissal at a later date.

ALL INFORMATION GIVEN SHALL BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Send completed application forms to: Office Manager, ABBEY Sure Start
440 Shore Road, Newtownabbey, BT37 9RU
Tel: 02890 860 938 **Fax:** 02890 860 365

Please make sure we receive the form on or before the closing date. Applications will be accepted via post, hand or email to admin@abbeysurestart.co.uk. Managers often shortlist on the closing date, so late applications may not be considered.

CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

Please read these notes carefully before completing your application form.

General Information

This form will be photocopied please complete it clearly in BLACK INK. If you need help completing the form, please call the contact number on the covering letter.

Applications for employment are not accepted on Curriculum Vitae.

Please make sure we receive the form on or before the closing date. Applications will be accepted via post, hand or email to admin@abbeystart.co.uk. Managers often shortlist on the closing date, so late applications may not be considered.

Section 1 Personal Details

This section tells us how we can contact you.

The Asylum and Immigration Act 1997 requires employers to ask employees if they are eligible to work in the United Kingdom. All successful applicants will be asked to produce documentary evidence to support this before commencing employment.

Section 2 Education and Training

This information will help us to find out about any training and qualifications, which you have which may be relevant to the requirements of the person specifications.

Section 3 Employment History

We ask you to please give full details of your employment history.

Section 4 Meeting the person specification

Please find enclosed with this application form a Job Description and Person Specification. The Job Description details the responsibilities and duties for the job for which you are applying. You should check that you feel able to undertake the duties of the job before completing this form.

The Person Specification details the type of person we are looking for to do this job. Please use the Person Specification when you are completing the form to explain why you think you could do this job and how you think your skills and experience match those given. Please include any other information that you think is important, for example, any voluntary work or relevant social activities with which you have been involved.

Section 5 Other Information

Please add any other information you think is relevant to your application and tell us why you are interested in this particular position.

Section 6 References

You are asked to provide details of previous employers who can tell us about you and whether or not they would consider you to be suitable for the job for which you have applied. If you are not able to provide an employment reference, then you should give details of someone who knows you well, but is not a member of your family. If you have no previous employer, please contact the main ABBEY Sure Start office who can advise you accordingly.

Section 7 Rehabilitation of Offenders

If the vacancy for which you are applying is exempt from Rehabilitation of Offenders legislation, you are required to complete this section of this form and you should declare ANY cautions or convictions or if there are proceedings against you.

Section 8 Equal Opportunity Monitoring

ABBEY Sure Start is committed to Equal Opportunities. All our managers have a responsibility to ensure that all recruitment decisions are based on criteria relevant to the job. ABBEY Sure Start will not discriminate unfairly on the grounds of an applicant's sex, race, skin colour, disability, ethnic or national origin, religious belief or lack of it, marital status, sexual orientation, responsibility of dependants, age, appearance, social background or membership of a trade union.

ABBEY Sure Start monitors all applications for employment. Please complete and return the monitoring form. It will be held separate from your application form and shall not be seen by the employing manager.

Full details of ABBEY Sure Start's Equal Opportunity Policy are available on request.

Section 9 Pre Employment Consultancy Service

Prior to taking up post with ABBEY Sure Start, the successful candidate shall be required to consent to ABBEY Sure Start requesting a Pre Employment Consultancy Service Check. All offers of employment are subject to satisfactory ACCESS NI check and references.

Any Questions

If you have any concerns or questions about ABBEY Sure Start's recruitment procedure, please contact ABBEY Sure Start.

Private & Confidential

INTRODUCTION:

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer. We do not discriminate against our job applicants or employees and we aim to select the best person for the job.

We monitor the community background and sex of our job applicants and employees in order to demonstrate our commitment to promoting equality of opportunity in employment and to comply with our duties under the *Fair Employment & Treatment (NI) Order 1998*.

You are not obliged to answer the questions on this form and you will not suffer any penalty if you choose not to do so. Nevertheless, we encourage you to answer these questions. Your answers will be used by us to prepare and submit a monitoring return to the Equality Commission, but your identity will be kept anonymous. In all other regards your answers will be treated with the strictest confidence. We assure you that your answers will not be used by us to make any decisions affecting you, whether in a recruitment exercise or during the course of any employment with us.

COMMUNITY BACKGROUND:

Regardless of whether they actually practice a religion, most people in Northern Ireland are perceived to be members of either the Protestant or Roman Catholic communities.

Please indicate the community to which you belong to by ticking the appropriate box below:

I am a member of the Protestant community:

I am a member of the Roman Catholic community:

I am not a member of either the Protestant or the Roman Catholic communities:

If you do not answer the above question, we are encouraged to use the residuary method of making a determination, which means that we can make a determination as to your community background on the basis of the personal information supplied by you in your application form/personnel file.

SEX

Please indicate your sex by ticking the appropriate box below:

Male:

Female:

Note: If you answer this questionnaire you are obliged to do so truthfully as it is a criminal offence under the Fair Employment (Monitoring) Regulations (NI) 1999 to knowingly give false answers to these questions.

Date application form received: _____

ABBEY SURE START BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PREMISES	OFFICE ADDRESS	CONTACT
A.B.B.E.Y Sure Start is based in:	A.B.B.E.Y Sure Start 440 Shore Road, Newtownabbey BT37 9RU	Tel: 02890 860938 Fax: 02890 860365 E-mail: admin@abbeyesurestart.co.uk www.abbeyesurestart.co.uk Opening hours: Monday to Friday - 9am to 5pm
Also based at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abbeystown Square, Monkstown • St James' Nursery School, 19 Kings Walk. • Merville Garden Village • Monkstown, Village Centre. • Dunanney Centre, Rathcoole 	OUR PARTNER AGENCIES ARE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SENSE Northern Ireland • NHSCT 	TARGETED AREAS: ABBEY Sure Start covers the following ward areas:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABBEY • Cloughfern • Coole • Dunanney • Monkstown • Whitehouse • Valley These wards cover Rathcoole, part of Rushpark, Merville Garden Village, Whitehouse, Bawnmore, Longlands, Rathfern, Cloughfern, Abbeyville and Glenville

CRITERIA

This service is available to anyone living within the catchment area that is pregnant and / or has a child / children under the age of four years.

ABBEY SURE START

Sure Start is a Government funded initiative, targeting children under four years old. It is aimed at giving everyone a good start in life and is about a long-term investment.

Research has indicated that where children have access to early intervention and play opportunities it will help their development through school and adult life.

The overall aim is to “improve the well-being and life opportunities of young children under four, through better health, childcare and educational opportunities”, so that “children can flourish when they enter school”.

Each Sure Start programme has identified and implemented specific projects to suit the needs of the local Community, therefore each Sure Start is different and unique.

These services are additional to existing provision already provided by Statutory and Voluntary Organisations in the Sure Start catchment area.

MISSION STATEMENT

ABBEY Sure Start is a local partnership of community, voluntary and statutory organisations working within the Bawnmore, Longlands, Rathcoole, Whitehouse, Rathfern, Cloughfern, Monkstown, Abbeyville and Glenville areas.

Our aim is to work with parents / families and carers, with children 0 – under 4 years, and the community to help all children within these areas to reach their social, emotional, physical and intellectual potential.

To achieve this aim we provide a range of accessible, flexible, responsive services to all parents and / or expectant parents and families with children aged 0 – under 4 years old.

ABBEY Sure Start Family Support Worker FSW/S17

Post:	Family Support Worker - Permanent
Hours:	25hrs per week (48 Weeks/annum)
Hourly Rate:	£9.06 to £10.48 per hour
Responsible to:	Family and Community Liaison Co-Ordinator
Reporting to:	Senior Family Support Worker

JOB DESCRIPTION

The role of a family support worker is to befriend and provide emotional and practical support to parents of pre-school children, living within the defined ABBEY Sure Start area, in their role as carers and primary educators of their children and to encourage the parents to become involved in community activities and personal development.

The Family Support Worker will provide support through home visiting and will also facilitate a range of programmes.

PRINCIPLE DUTIES

1. To develop an understanding of the Sure Start ethos and to respect, be sensitive to and supportive of parents and children and other partners involved in the project
2. To contribute to developing and implementing a programme of activities that respond to the needs of our client group.
3. To carry out planned home visits to families, providing intensive support, for a time limited period.
4. To support parents to understand their role in enhancing their child's development.
5. To provide information to individuals or groups, in an accessible and user friendly way.
6. To promote all ABBEY Sure Start services to families within your area.
7. To encourage parents to engage in personal development and other ABBEY Sure Start programmes.
8. To refer parents to appropriate relevant statutory and voluntary agencies if required.
9. To develop close working relationships with the local community, voluntary and statutory services.
10. To undertake necessary induction and ongoing training required for the post.
11. To resource appropriate materials as requested by the Family and Community Liaison Co-Ordinator.
12. To work closely as a member of the ABBEY Sure Start team and where appropriate support all partner agencies.
13. In consultation with your line manager - maintain ongoing evaluation and reviews of service provision.
14. To maintain accurate records detailing all contact with families, as required.
15. To assist in the provision of crèche facilities as required.

16. To ensure all services are operated in line with ABBEY Sure Start monitoring and evaluation systems, in consultation with the Family and Community Liaison Co-Ordinator.
17. To carry out any other duties as deemed necessary by the Management Team.

Please note that the ABBEY Sure Start operates a “No Smoking Policy” and all employees must comply with this.

ABBEY Sure Start is an Equal Opportunities employer. It is expected that all employees adhere to ABBEY Sure Start Equal Opportunities policy throughout the duration of their employment.

The duties and responsibilities outlined in this job description are not meant to be definitive nor restrictive and may be modified to meet changing needs. It should be noted therefore that duties, designation and location of the post might be subject to change in the future to meet the changing requirements of the service.

Family Support Worker

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Criteria

Qualifications and experience

- QCF level 3 in Early Years Care and Education or equivalent with a minimum of one year's experience of working in a community or voluntary environment with families who have children in their early years.
- Experience of providing intensive support to individual families, with young children, through home visiting.
- Experience delivering programmes to families.
- Must be able to organise and complete tasks and projects using software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel and Microsoft Outlook

Or

- 3 years' experience of working in a community or voluntary environment with families and children in their early years.
- Experience of providing intensive support to individual families, with young children, through home visiting.
- Experience delivering programmes to families.
- Be able to organise and complete tasks and projects using software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel and Microsoft Outlook

It is essential that the person meets the travel requirements of this post.

Knowledge and understanding

- Knowledge and understanding of child development
- To be aware of and understand Child Protection guidelines.

Skills and abilities

- Ability to demonstrate an understanding of the needs of young children and families.
- Good listening and communication skills.
- Ability to build positive relationships with families.
- It is essential that the person meets the travel requirements of this post. It will involve travelling within the ABBEY Sure Start area and beyond.