

Child Support Worker	
<b>Grade</b>	Child Support Worker - £19,019pa (£10.45 per hour)
<b>Reporting to</b>	Local Management Team
<b>Location</b>	Mater Dei 298 Antrim Road, Belfast, BT15 5AB
<b>Contract</b>	Fixed Term till 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2022 with a possible extension depending on funding
<b>Hours</b>	35 Hours Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm
<b>Service Remit</b>	Mater Dei offers 13 self-contained apartments to families. All of the Families have a key worker to help them access the services they need so that they get the very best support for a positive move-on out of homelessness. During each family's stay, the staff help in finding suitable long-term accommodation. Mater Dei provides the time and space so that families can address the issues that led to their homelessness. Taking time to mend broken relationships; address debts; develop and maintain a household budget; plan and cook nutritious meals for their families and learn to run a family home.
<b>Scope of Responsibility</b>	To be a member of a highly professional team providing a welcoming, safe, secure, developmental and fun environment for children and their parents/carer who are experiencing homelessness. Depaul staff are committed to providing a high standard of service provision where service users are empowered to manage their own lives and participate in future service development.
<b>Key Areas of Responsibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To contribute to the provision of a welcoming and safe environment, providing a high standard of support to children experiencing homelessness in a hostel setting.</li> <li>• To contribute to the planning and implementation of childcare programs that meet the emotional, developmental, recreational and social needs of all children living in the services.</li> <li>• To promote, maintain and contribute to effective partnership working, within a team setting and with relevant external partner agencies.</li> <li>• To develop individual child related support plans in conjunction with family members and any other agency involved in the care/welfare of the child (through effective needs and risk assessment.)</li> <li>• To plan, develop and deliver creative and stimulating learning opportunities that contribute to the social, emotional and intellectual development of children.</li> <li>• To provide support to families and children as they address the issues that have led to their homelessness.</li> <li>• To encourage all parents/carer to actively participate in their child/children's development.</li> </ul>

## Child Support Worker

- To support and signpost parents/carers to access appropriate services within the voluntary and statutory sectors
- To work in partnership with specialists to aid the development of children.
- To provide parents with information on health, nutrition and child development related issues. (To support nurturing positive relationships between parents, carer and children)
- To ensure that all activities positively reflect cultural and religious differences and provide for the overall development and care of all children
- To comply with Health and Safety legislation and organizational Health and Safety policies to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and their parents/carers.
- To work with children, young people and their families, on a one to one or group basis, using a variety of interventions, to identify needs and to achieve positive outcomes.
- To work in partnership with parents/carers to empower them and to enable them to achieve better outcomes for their children.
- To work co-operatively with children's services, health agencies and other community based services, to provide the most effective service for children young people and families.
- To apply safeguarding and child protection procedures.
- To at all times undertake your role in a professional manner maintaining a high quality standard of work in line with Depaul Values and ethos.

The above list is not exhaustive; additional areas of responsibility may be added over time and flexibility to cover for other staff roles is required from time to time.

### Person Requirements

#### Qualifications

- 3 GCSE's A-C to include Maths and English or equivalent

#### Experience

- 1 years paid experience or 2 years volunteering experience working with children and their parents, engaging them in their child's learning and development.
- 1 year experience of planning and delivering age related developmental activities.
- Experience of facilitating parenting related workshops/training/advice.

#### Skills

- Good working knowledge of risk assessment and risk management processes (i.e. S/U Risk assessment, Lone Working, Activity Risk Assessments)
- Working knowledge of using IT systems to record case notes

## Child Support Worker

- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Good IT Skills
- The ability to compile and present written and computerised reports

### Knowledge

- Have an understanding of why people become homeless and the issues they can present with also understand what supports can be offered in homeless family services to promote positive futures
- Have knowledge/experience of working with needs assessment, key working and support planning for families
- Have a knowledge of the statutory and voluntary sector resources available to homeless families
- Understand the importance for Health and Safety in a residential setting.
- knowledge of relevant statutory and voluntary agencies and the ability to network/liaise with all relevant bodies
- Knowledge and willingness to work within the guidelines of Depaul vision mission and values.

### Access NI

This Post is subject to an Enhanced Access NI check. Having a criminal record will not necessarily debar you from working with Depaul. This will depend on the nature of the position, together with the circumstances and background of your offences or other information contained on a disclosure certificate.

### NISCC

This post is subject to NISCC registration, if you do not hold a valid registration this must be completed within your probationary period.