



Job Description

Job Title: Early Development Link Worker

Location: Linacre Ward

Hours: Full-time, 35 hours per week. This post is not term time only.

Salary: £25,992 per annum

Contract: Fixed-term until September 2027

Reports to: Cradle to Career Programme Team

About the Role

Due to funding from Cradle to Career, we are recruiting two full-time Early Development Link Workers. These roles will play a vital part in supporting the development and wellbeing of children in the Linacre area, ensuring families can access the services, opportunities, and networks they need for a strong start in life.

The post holders will act as a bridge between families, schools, early years providers, health services, and community organisations, building strong, collaborative relationships and promoting the local school readiness framework.

Key Responsibilities

- Build positive relationships across early years partners (schools, nurseries, childminders, health visitors, family hubs, and community sector organisations) to encourage collaboration and consistent messaging.

- Map existing community provisions and identify local needs, helping to develop new groups where required.
- Support families to understand and access the school readiness framework.
- Promote and help facilitate a shared measurement framework across early years development with schools, childcare settings, and health teams.
- Report successes, barriers, and case studies from families, feeding back regularly to Cradle to Career.
- Develop and support warm welcome groups, led by parents/carers, focusing on early childhood development, family wellbeing, and local resources.
- Amplify parent and carer voices at working group meetings, ensuring lived experiences shape strategy.
- Promote and signpost families to services, groups, and resources available locally.
- Travel between families, schools, and community organisations within Linacre as part of daily duties.

Person Specification

Qualities & Attributes

- Flexible, adaptable, and an excellent listener.
- Passionate about working with and improving outcomes for children and families within the Linacre Ward.
- Understanding of the Linacre area of Bootle and the challenges families living there experience.
- Team player with strong interpersonal skills and an open, honest approach.
- Committed to the belief that everyone has something valuable to contribute to their community.
- Organised, with good time management and the ability to prioritise.
- Confident in reporting casework, statistics, and progress against project targets.

Essential Skills & Experience

- Experience working with families and/or children.
- Ability to build strong, trusting relationships with families and professionals.
- Understanding of school readiness and ability to communicate this clearly and positively to parents.
- Knowledge of the local community and ability to work independently.
- IT literate and comfortable using online communication and reporting tools.
- Experience setting and maintaining boundaries with families.
- Ability to travel throughout Linacre to meet families and partners.
- Enhanced DBS clearance.

Desirable Skills & Experience

- Experience of effectively managing a caseload.
- Experience in early years education or supporting school transitions.
- Knowledge of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.
- Experience recording casework and meeting set targets and deadlines.
- Full UK driving licence/access to a vehicle.

Benefits

- Opportunity to make a lasting impact on children and families in Linacre Bootle.
- Supportive, collaborative team environment.
- Training and development opportunities.
- Fixed-term security until 2027 with potential for progression.