



| Job description | | | |
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| Job title | Prevention Senior Practitioner (STEP) | | |
| Grade | M | | |
| Directorate | Children's Services | | |
| Service/team | Prevention Team (STEP) | | |
| Accountable to | Prevention Team Manager | | |
| Responsible for | STEP Youth Engagement Workers | | |
| JE Reference | K013611 | Date Reviewed | May 2026 |

Purpose of the Job

Under the line management of the Prevention Team Manager, the Senior Practitioner will support the work of the prevention service, ensuring the highest standards of practice are maintained in the delivery of preventative interventions to children and their families in Knowsley.

The Senior Practitioner will be responsible for supporting the Team Manager to ensure and maintain quality assessments, plans and interventions for children and families with complex needs with the aim of reducing youth crime and preventing children becoming exploited. Alongside supporting operational delivery, they will assist the Team manager with managing the overall performance of the team

To support the development of the therapeutic approach within the team and maintain and adhere to the Trusted Relationship model approach.

The Senior Practitioner will deputise for the Team Manager on some occasions or absences.

In addition to specialist areas of development, the Senior Practitioner will manage a small number of practitioners and may hold a caseload.

Duties and Responsibilities

This is not a comprehensive list of all the tasks, which may be required of the post holder. It is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the work to be undertaken.



1. To provide line management and professional supervision to a small number of staff in line with the supervision framework which encourages reflection, challenge and improved outcomes for children and their families. To be responsible for their training and development.
2. To undertake a lead role in specific areas of work within the service, such as screenings, triaging referrals, and quality assurance.
3. To model a 'Child First' and Trauma Informed approach, ensuring building trusting professional relationships underpins all areas of practice.
4. To develop and review programmes/models of intervention and delivery for different levels of concern for children.
5. To contribute to the protection of the public, taking account of Risk Management policies and procedures relevant to Youth Justice.
6. To contribute to the safeguarding of vulnerable children in accordance with Knowsley Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures.
7. To support others to develop risk management skills and safety planning.
8. To support the Prevention Team Manager in raising the profile of the service in a range of multi-agency environments and in the wider community.
9. To support the graduated response to the youth crime prevention offer in the Borough from Universal through to targeted services.
10. Deputise for the Team Manager when necessary at relevant meetings, and perform the duties of the Team Manager which are essential in their absence.
11. To contribute to quality assurance systems and performance management frameworks in the team to ensure the best outcomes for children and families.
12. To promote the participation and engagement of children and families and enable their views and feedback to be considered in the delivery and development of services.
13. Prepare reports on service performance and quality assurance to make recommendations to inform ongoing development.
14. Ensure that case management, information and data systems are accurately maintained and updated by staff.



15. To Use the Council’s IT systems effectively to communicate, screen/triage referrals, allocate work and oversee caseloads.
16. To work flexibly to meet the needs of the service, including evening, weekend, and Bank Holiday working.
17. To undertake any other duties commensurate with the grading of this post, as required by the Executive Director for Children’s Services or their delegated Officer.

As part of your role with the Council, you share a collective responsibility to support and champion children and young people who are cared for by the Council and young people who are care experienced. Children and young people tell us that including this in all job descriptions “is good” because they want all Council employees to understand how important it is to “treat children in care and care experienced young people as they would their own”. We ask that you do this with the same commitment, care and ambition that any parent would, regardless of your job role or service area. Children and young people tell us that they want all Council employees to be “genuine”, helping to create a supportive environment, remaining alert to any worries and concerns, and ensuring that safeguarding is promoted and responded to appropriately.

Knowsley Better Together – Staff Qualities



Health and Safety

- To use equipment as instructed and trained.
- To inform management of any health and safety issues which could place individuals at risk.



Data Protection and Information Security

- To ensure suitable and sufficient risk assessments are carried out taking into account employees capabilities
- To use equipment as instructed and trained
- To inform management of any health and safety issues which could place individuals in danger