



Role title: Lead Social Worker and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) - School and Specialist Support

Reporting to: Executive Headteacher

### **Role outline and accountabilities**

Pivot teaches and supports children who are excluded or are at risk of being excluded from mainstream school, and children for whom mainstream education is not the right solution. We have a number of Alternative Provisions schools and also provide School Support Services to mainstream schools.

The purpose of this role will be to develop and sustain an offer that encompasses education with social care in order to fully support our students and their families.

The Lead Social Worker will work as part of the Senior Management team and will have responsibility for managing the Social Care team, which includes the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads at each school.

This role will work closely with Head teachers, teachers, behaviour leads and provide advice and support to them, young people, their parents or carers and at times to schools and other agencies.

### **Responsibilities**

#### *School*

- Lead the day to day operation of support and working practices to bridge the gap between education, social care and family links
- Lead the Social Care team to provide social care support and advice to vulnerable young people and their families
- To act as Designated Safeguarding Lead for the organisation and to respond to, and address any safeguarding concerns raised including making referrals to statutory agencies
- Attend multi-agency meetings and work alongside other agencies and statutory services, maintaining the highest standards of professional practice and working in the best interests of our students
- Assist and advise with any safeguarding issues in relation to staff
- Carry out home visits as required alongside meetings to address identified needs
- Work alongside key academy staff to support families and students with attendance and well-being
- Work on a 1:1 basis and in groups with young people and their parents/carers to provide the necessary support
- Provide advice and support on safeguarding issues across the academy
- Support staff through safeguarding supervision
- Ensure that all statutory and internal reporting systems are in place and fully communicated to all staff
- Undertake regular audits of safeguarding arrangements and their effectiveness in each school and inform the Executive Head of any deficiencies or issues interfering with delivering an efficient service
- Assist with new areas of business and compliance requirements, including Ofsted visits



- Ensure that all Policy and Procedures are in place, followed and the necessary operational controls are in place and updated
- Deliver safeguarding training across the organisation for new starters, including annual refresher training sessions for all staff
- Approve DBS checks for all new employees in line with our safer recruitment procedures
- Undertake training as per the professional requirements of the post and in accordance with HCPC registration requirements.

#### *Specialist Services*

- Assist the Specialist Support team in all areas of Social Care
- Provide advice on specific projects as requested
- Attend external schools if necessary as part of a support package

The post holder may be required to carry out any other duties as directed.

#### **SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES**

- Qualified as a Social Worker and registered with the HCPC
- Knowledge of relevant legislation in relation to safeguarding
- Experience within a similar role
- Experience of multi-agency working
- Leadership and management skills
- Excellent administration and organisation skills
- IT – experience in all Microsoft packages
- High personal standards and able to provide a role model for students and staff
- A high level of verbal and written communication skills
- A team player, with the ability to motivate and inspire team members
- Accustomed to working in a demanding role, with the ability to multitask
- Ability to prioritise independently and work on initiative
- A high level of accuracy and attention to detail
- Willingness and ability to work flexibly, including some out of hours working
- Reliability and integrity and a commitment to confidentiality
- A calming and reflective approach
- Highly resilient
- Must hold a full and valid driving licence and have access to a car