



St. Michael's House
SENIOR PRACTITIONER SOCIAL WORK JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	Senior Practitioner Social Work– Children Disability Network Team
Employing agency	St. Michael's House
Taking up Appointment:	A start date will be indicated at job offer stage
W.T.E.	Full time
Qualification:	Degree or Masters in Social Work, National Qualification in Social Work 3 years post qualification experience
Registration:	Continued registration with CORU to work as a Social Worker in Ireland
Reporting to:	Children's Disability Network Manager (CDNM) The CDNM will provide clinical assurance regarding professional supervision.
Purpose of the Post	The successful candidate will work as part of the Children Disability Network Team (CDNT) within St. Michael's House in the delivery of services to children and young person (0-18yrs) with complex needs arising from their disability. The purpose of this job is to provide quality evidence based Social work services in a family centred model while working as a member of an interdisciplinary team.
Clinical Duties and Responsibilities:	To provide quality Social Work services to children and their families referred to CDNT who present with complex needs arising from a combination of intellectual/physical/sensory disabilities. To carry an appropriate clinical caseload assigned by CDNM, based on the clinical need of the CDNT. To prioritise referrals and manage waiting list in order to optimise the quality, efficacy and equity of the service provided. To demonstrate sufficient clinical and professional knowledge to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the role. To demonstrate an ability to apply knowledge to best practice. To contribute and support development and monitoring of a child's Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) in line with family centred practice and PDS principles.

	To work collaboratively with clinical colleagues as part of the interdisciplinary team, to participate and contribute to team meetings/case conferences as required. To work in collaboration with other clinical teams, including education, CAMHS/CAMHS-ID, residential and respite services, as appropriate, to ensure a co-ordinated approach to on-going case management. To take on role of key worker/contact to support families engaging with the CDNT, a key principle of family centred practice supporting the completion of the child's IFSP. To demonstrate a commitment to assuring high standards and strive for a user centred service. To display awareness and appreciation of the service user (child & family) as expert through experience. To demonstrate the ability to empathise with and treat others with dignity and respect. To participate in Assessment of Need (AON) process and Preliminary Team Assessment (PTA) process as required by the CDNTs under the Disability Act. To undertake clinical risk assessments as required. Compile and prepare reports as requested. To demonstrate initiative and innovation in identifying areas for service improvement. To keep abreast of new developments and best practice in all areas relevant to the provision of social work services to the children and families supported by the CDNT. Undertake and participate in clinical audit and other initiatives aimed at improving or maintaining clinical standards as required. To work collaboratively with the CDNT, CDNM and Principal Social Worker to enhance the quality of service within St Michael's House.
Teaching, Training & Supervision	Assist CDNM in the induction and probation of new social workers on team Oversight of cases require a high level of experience and expertise on own caseload To participate in regular clinical professional supervision and continued

	professional development. Clinical supervision will be provided by the Principal Social Worker or Social Work team leader at St Michael's House. CDNM and Principal Social Worker to collaboratively support CPD opportunities. Participate in mandatory and organisational training as required for post. Take key role in training in relation to child safeguarding on CDNT and SMH lead agency. Act as a Deputy Designated Liaison Officer on CDNT working collaboratively with CDNM and St Michael's House Designated Liaison Officer (Principal Social Worker) in line with Children's First Act and SMH Child Safeguarding Policy. To participate in the development and delivery of training/education to children, families and staff as required, including those from external agencies.
General	To maintain a high standard of clinical record keeping, including completion of professional reports in a timely manner in line with St Michael's House record keeping policies and the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. Reliability and a flexible approach essential for position. Ability to conduct oneself in a professional manner throughout the course of one's duties. To undertake such other duties and responsibilities, appropriate to the grade of the post.
Health & Safety	These duties must be performed in accordance with St Michaels House health and safety policies. In carrying out these duties the employee must ensure that effective safety procedures are in place to comply with the Health, Safety and Welfare at Work Act (2005). Staff must carry out their duties in a safe and responsible manner in line with the local policy documents and as set out in the local safety statement, which must be read and understood. Quality, Risk and Safety Responsibilities It is the responsibility of all staff to: • Participate and cooperate with legislative and regulatory requirements with regard to quality, risk and safety. • Participate and cooperate with local quality, risk and safety initiatives as required. • Participate and cooperate with internal and external evaluations of

	the organisation's structures, services and processes as required, including but not limited to, The National Hygiene Audit, Health and Safety Audits and other audits specified by the HSE or other regulatory authorities. • Initiate, support and implement quality improvement initiatives in their area which are in keeping with local organisational quality, risk and safety requirements. • Contribute to the development of PPPGs and safe professional practice and adhere to relevant legislation, regulations and standards. • Comply with St Michaels House Complaints/Compliments Policy. • Ensure completion of incident/near miss forms and clinical risk reporting. As a mandated person under the Children First Act 2015 you will have a legal obligation to report child protection concerns at or above a defined threshold to TUSLA & to assist TUSLA, if requested, in assessing a concern which has been the subject of a mandated report. Maintain standards of practice and levels of professional knowledge in the children's disability teams.
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Working Hours

35 hours per week based on a 5 day week. Contracted hours of work are liable to change between the hours of 8am - 8pm over seven days to meet the requirements of the service.

The Health Service is undergoing ongoing transformation and therefore it is critical that a flexible attitude to changing environments and work requirements is held by the successful candidate.

Probation

A probationary period of 6 months from the date of appointment applies to the post. The employment may be terminated at any time during the probationary period should the employer find that the appointee is unsuitable to continue employment. The probation period may be extended at the Employer's discretion.

Please note:

The above job is not intended to be a comprehensive list of duties and responsibilities and consequently the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him / her from time to time and to contribute to the development of the post when in office. This job description may change in line with the changing needs and objectives of St. Michaels House CDNTs.

