

Job Role: Independent Social work Assessors for Barnardo's Midlands and South West and North England Adoption services.

Contract – Freelance – Self Employed

About Barnardo's:

We are the largest not-for-profit fostering and adoption agency in the UK and have over 100 years' experience of placing children with families. We recruit, train and support adopters so they can transform children's lives.

We are looking for experienced assessors who are just as passionate as we are about making a difference

About the role:

We are seeking to recruit experienced freelance Social Workers to assess applicants for their suitability as adoptive parents and Early Permanence carers. You must be able to work with families in one or all of the following areas - Bristol, the Midlands, Thames Valley, the North East and Yorkshire. Applicants will be self-motivated, able to work to deadlines and be flexible in meeting the needs of the families and the agency. Substantial experience in adoption work is essential. Although you will work independently as an external consultant on a freelance basis, you will be supervised and supported in your work by a Practice Manager and will be invited to training events.

Main Duties & Responsibilities:

To assess applicants for their suitability as domestic adopters using the Adoption Assessment Report (AAR) Framework.

To set clear timescales with applicants and with the Agency for the assessment process.

To prepare reports, either full or brief for the Adoption Panel and to attend panel to present your report

To attend for supervision sessions as and when required by the Practice Team manager.

To prepare summary reports of all contacts with applicants.

To maintain detailed records of all contacts and correspondence with adopters on the agency's recording system – Charms.

To work collaboratively with the administration service in undertaking the necessary checks and references.

To support the agency approach of early linking during assessment and support adopters to consider suitable children through access to Linkmaker, Activity Days and On-line profiling events. To be done in collaboration with colleagues in the teams.

To participate in Agency training as and when required.

To adhere to Agency policies and procedures including those on confidentiality and record keeping.

Undertake any such other tasks as may be reasonably requested from time to time

by the relevant manager.

Requirements are:

Qualified Social Worker registered with Social Work England.

At least three years post-qualifying experience in child care social work, including direct experience of adoption work;

Eligible to work in the UK

A UK driving licence, your own transport and willingness to travel

Knowledge of Adoption NMS and Adoption Agencies Regulations

A sound understanding of safeguarding issues

An ability to produce highly professional reports which are evidence based and with an emphasis on analysis

IT skills commensurate with producing high quality reports and associated documents;

The ability and flexibility to manage your time, prioritise and organise your workload and to work to strict deadlines

Willingness to work evenings and weekends to fit in with applicants in full time employment

Excellent verbal and written communication skills and an eye for detail

Agreed Fees for work undertaken:

Midland and South West areas - up to £2,500 per full assessment plus Mileage.

Accommodation costs where required will be paid separately.

North England areas – up to £2,000 per full assessment plus mileage, (£1,400 for stage 2 only).

Accommodation costs will be considered.

Contacts:

Midlands and South West service: Alison Andrieux, Practice Manager

alison.andrieux@barnardos.org.uk, Tel: 07808 736859

North England adoption service: Judith Sargent, Adoption Operations Manager,

judith.sargent@barnardos.org.uk Tel: 08001577015

Please note the successful applicant must agree to an enhanced disclosure under the Disclosure and Barring service