**JD (Consultant Social Worker)**

Exploitation Lead

Words for Ad

Are you passionate about young people and interested in supporting colleagues through mapping, auditing and training to ensure young people are protected or diverted from exploitation. Do you have a good understanding of extra familial harm and experience of safeguarding in this context and wish to utilise your quality assurance skills and or further develop them?

In this role, you will be a key player in supporting practice development and identifying where we need to strengthen practice in Bexley. You will have the opportunity to work as part of a team auditing and developing practice. You will be able to access support through your peers and specialist staff. You will have access to group supervision and training.

This role is non-case holding and will provide opportunity for both operational and strategic working and allow you to be creative and innovative in your approach.

Working closely with colleagues across children’s services, youth justice, health and education you will be a key player in strengthening our grip on children who go missing, those at risk of exploitation and in need of support.

Are you are interested in what we can learn from young people, and practice? Do you enjoy working multi-agency, and want to make a difference?

This role is a fixed term period currently and will be reviewed in May 2026.

**Job Purpose: Specialist Consultant Social worker for Exploitation and Contextual Safeguarding**

1. Support the implementation of extra-familial safeguarding across the London Borough of Bexley by supporting Bexley CSC and linking with partner agencies to embed contextual safeguarding work.

2. To support the provision of high-quality services for young people who go missing and who are at risk of being exploited, playing a major role in developing, monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the contextual safeguarding approach

across Bexley CSC and the multi-agency partnership.

3. To lead on and co facilitate learning and quality assurance activity with managers and practitioners to embed strong practice with children who experience extra-familial harm, and who go missing ensuring those young people and families experience consistent service standards and staff have the skills necessary to deliver services to a consistently high standard.

4. To provide specialist advice and support to staff on extra familial harm as a whole and in relation to specific young people who go missing. This may include joint working with the adolescent team, and or undertaking case mapping, family network meetings and file audits to ensure that young people are kept safe and that information is shared with safeguarding partners as needed.

5. To plan and deliver training and development sessions as needed and as agreed with managers.

**Principal Accountabilities and Responsibilities:**

* Developing and embedding of contextual safeguarding by working collaborating and effectively with members of the senior management team, MACE panel, and representatives across children’s social care.
* Liaison with Independent Reviewing Officers, Child protection chairs, social workers across all children's services, personal advisors, foster carers, semi-independent providers, host and support carers and specialist exploitation team in developing practice and service improvement across Bexley CSC, Bexley Council and with partners.
* Promote and advise on effective contextual safeguarding approaches, keeping up to date with research developments and ensuring social workers, managers and senior managers can utilise available research effectively.

**Operational Duties**

* Review of and oversight on children who are missing and at risk of all areas of exploitation
* Input into MASH triage and multi-agency discussions on referrals/contacts concerning children and young people at risk.
* Ensure SINS are completed on any young person who is in custody/extensively missing/has committed serious offences and or victim of serious offence
* from the overnight BOXI / cross reference with the police list. Follow up with social workers, team managers via TEAMS call and e-mail.
* Daily contact with missing police and MASH via telephone or e-mail to ensure that information is consistent across local authority and police systems.
* Review RHI data and errors to ensure that all children have been offered an RHI – ensure this is followed up with both TYS and the allocated social worker.
* Review overnight reports – this is sent from community safety following intelligence / reports from the police
* Support social workers and team managers to arrange strategy meetings where there are blockages / escalate when required.
* Liaise with social workers and team managers on case specific tasks to ensure processes are followed and understood where missing or exploitation is a concern and ensure that there is clear and effective planning which is tailored to the needs of the individual.
* Attend strategy discussions and ensure that there is clear planning for exploitation or missing.
* Support with direct work ideas / case mapping / peer mapping and review of information from strategy meetings.
* Support with participation and engagement activities with children, including planning,
* promotion and supporting the lead workers at events.

**Practice Development and Quality Assurance**

* Deliver training and workshops regarding Contextual Safeguarding, in partnership with others and which promotes equality and includes the importance of cultural competence, neurodiversity, trauma informed practice, and addresses disproportionality.
* Contributing to and leading on quarterly thematic audits and monthly dip sampling auditing.
* Participate and lead in local and multi-agency thematic audit activity to test out impact and evaluate practice and contribute to both local and national evaluation of contextual safeguarding tools when required
* Ensure carers, family and children participation in feedback and consultation to measure how effectively we are responding to exploitation.
* Contribute to the development/review of local policies, procedures and protocols so these incorporate contextual safeguarding.
* With support of Quality Assurance team, prepare reports for the local authority and strategic partners on contextual safeguarding issues, leading on practice analysis and insight to identify areas of strength and development across the service.
* Attend relevant steering groups and participate in task and finish activity working closely with Heads of Service and all relevant panel chairs and practitioners and multi-agency service area leads to support them in developing practice improvements, including systems for monitoring the impact of any changes. E.g NRM, Sexual health, Horizons.
* Work with the Vulnerable Adolescents Analyst and partner agencies in the triangulation of information to inform a wider data set. *This includes provision of reports highlighting the children we are most worried about and ensuring the relevant actions to address concerns are followed up with management.*
* Represent Bexley Council at external and internal multi-agency meetings, including the Violence and Vulnerability Panel, the Child Exploitation and Missing Panel and the CRAMM Panel and contributing to these meetings as required.

**Values**

* Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and all employees are required to act in such a way that always safeguards the health and well-being of children and vulnerable adults.
* To inspire and motivate staff and colleagues to achieve success in embedding Contextual Safeguarding, using constructive criticism, challenge and support and modelling the highest standards of integrity and work ethic.
* Carry out duties with due regard to the Council’s Customer Care, Equal Opportunities,
* Information Governance, Data Protection, Health and Safety and Emergency Planning & Awareness (including to aid where available) policies and procedures.

**DBS Status**

Enhanced

**Politically Restricted**

No

**Person Speci**

***To be identified by:***

*Application Form(A)*

*Test/assessment (T)*

*Interview (I)*

**Qualifications and Professional Membership requirements:**

* Social Work registration with the HCPC and Social Work England
* Evidence of relevant post-qualifying training and or experience

**Knowledge (please specify all essential criteria):**

* Extensive knowledge and experience of contextual safeguarding and extra-familiar harm including children who go missing, criminal and sexual exploitation.
* Broad knowledge of service delivery within a children’s social care context and an understanding of the national/local policy environment

**Experience (please specify all essential criteria):**

* Chairing/Co-chairing multi-agency meetings
* Initiating practices to improve overall delivery service, maximising

resources using inter-agency and partnership approaches.

* Challenging and supporting practice and service development in a

constructive and effective manner.

* Responding creatively and flexibly to rapidly changing work contexts
* Contributing to the development of new and existing services within

social care and multi-agency settings

* Producing reports that can analyse and evaluate the impact of work being undertaken

**Skills and abilities (please specify all essential criteria):**

* Work independently including proactively progressing an evolving

work plan

* Work in partnership with other professionals within services and

across disciplines

* Inspire and motivate staff and colleagues to achieve success
* Provide constructive criticism, be able to challenge and support and model

the highest standards of integrity and work ethic.

* Construct high quality reports and briefings related to the work of

children’s social care to staff appropriate for a variety of audiences

including for chief officers of the Council, strategic groups and multi-agency

partners

* Good written and verbal skills.
* Respond creatively and constructively with both determination and

empathy in challenging situations

* Use IT packages effectively

**List desirable criteria:**

* Training and or experience of contextual safeguarding and extra-familiar harm