**Job title:** Keeping in Touch Practitioner

**Directorate/Service/Team**: Children’s/Life Long Links/Keeping in Touch Service

**Organisation Structure**

**Reporting to**: Keeping in Touch Team Leader

**Responsibility for**: All staff within the service are dedicated to building relationships with the children and families we are working with - supporting and facilitating keeping in touch for our children in care.

The keeping in touch (KIT) practitioners are based out of three localities in the North, South and East of the county to ensure equity in services delivery to our children. Our KIT practitioners are supported through regular supervision and team meetings by a well-established management team consisting of a KiT team manager/operational co-ordinator and co-ordinator who report into the Head of Service - Care Leavers & UASC • Care Leavers & Asylum Seeking Children.

The KIT practitioner's primary role is to supervise keeping in touch sessions whilst Dorset Council are in proceedings with the children and families we are working with. Our services then look to support keeping in touch occurring in a more natural way after proceedings have concluded and step back allowing for other family members and or professionals to take more of a lead if required.

**Context of Work**

The role requires our KIT practitioners to work collaboratively with others, providing supervised keeping in touch reports which will support assessments completed by the social work teams. Our KIT practitioners are key in promoting the safety, health, and wellbeing of our children in care.

You will be required to keep succinct timely records of their Keeping in touch sessions, which are input onto MOSAIC, our computer system for recording and will be included in court papers. You will be required to build professional working relationship quickly and be able to manage complex situations.

There is a requirement to travel between locations including transporting children. To undertake lone working with people in their own homes, in the community or in Children’s Centres. This work is always subject to ongoing risk assessments and is well supported by the Keeping in touch management team.

**Travel Requirement**

This position has significant travel requirements. This means that there is a requirement for a vehicle (or transport deemed to be suitable by the Council) to be available on all working days in order to carry out normal duties. Employees in positions with a significant travel requirement are required to provide a replacement vehicle if their usual vehicle is not available over an extended period.

**Other information**

You will be over the age of 18 and: -

* Have the skills and aptitude to work with young people and their families in a variety of environments, indoors in the family home or a contact centre, in the community in parks or leisure activities.
* Be dependable and reliable and committed to delivering a high-quality service to our children and families.
* The ability to converse at ease with families and provide information in accurate spoken and written English is essential for this post.

It is important that you have:

* Experience of or a real interest in working with children and young people
* The potential to build positive professional relationships and earn trust.
* The ability to think creatively and respond to changing situations.
* Energy and patience.

An enhance DBS is required for this position. This will be requested a point of offer subject to clearances and references.

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| **Context statement prepared by:** |
| Manager | Margaret Elliman | Date | 02 May 2024 |