

ELKOLET

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16 July 2021

VACANCY: Family Support Worker

APPLICATIONS CLOSES MONDAY 9th AUGUST 2021 AT 10AM

ELKOLET, a private charity based in Alton, Hampshire is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and dynamic Family Support Worker to play a pivotal role in ELKOLET'S Family Support Services, called EMBRACE.

About ELKOLET:

ELKOLET finds its roots back to the 1960s but since 2013, ELKOLET has been operating in the UK with its Vision of supporting Children and Young People, along with their families, as they progress through their educational journey into a successful job placement.

ELKOLET'S Alternative Education Provision (The King's Way), Family Support Service (EMBRACE), WEX & Apprenticeship Programmes (The Mustard Seed) and other Community Initiatives (Equipping *for* Life) work collectively to create a supporting network for those Children and Young People who have become disengaged or are at risk of having their Life's Journey disrupted.

Please visit our website for further information: www.elkolet.com

About EMBRACE:

EMBRACE is an early intervention service, working closely with the local primary & secondary schools to help identify and address underlying causes for behaviours which may disrupt a child or young person's educational journey.

In addition to working directly with referred families, EMBRACE also offers a range of supportive programmes open to all parents/carers (with children ages 4-16+) in the community. These include parenting courses, support groups and other initiatives.



Position of Family Support Worker:

Responsibilities

Families are usually referred to ELKOLET by the local Primary & Secondary Schools. Your role will vary depending on the needs of the family you are helping.

As a family support worker, you will typically need to:

- complete an initial assessment of families' needs to identify the support needed to address issues and try to prevent any problems from escalating
- Plan a programme of support for individual families and evaluate outcomes
- undertake regular caseload review meetings with individuals and families during home, virtual or at The ELKOLET Centre visits to ensure they're fully supported to progress and achieve desired outcomes
- work with colleagues, health and social care professionals and multi-agency networks to evaluate caseload needs and the progress that has been made
- adhere to professional practice standards and legislation, including confidentiality, safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion policies
- ensure you're up-to-date on your knowledge of local service provision for appropriate signposting and referrals
- manage your own workload, administration and diary commitments
- assess parenting skills and help people to build physical and emotional caring abilities through a range of practical activities
- help children with learning and development difficulties
- enhance parents' understanding of different education and play strategies
- provide practical guidance for home life (e.g. bed-time routines; budgeting, etc.)
- coach, mentor and motivate families to understand the benefits of relevant activities
- maintain accurate and up-to-date administration and caseload records, including reports of all interactions

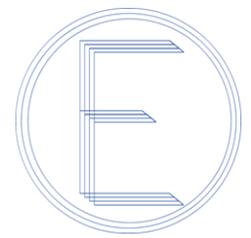


The challenges faced by ELKOLET'S service users could relate to:

- behaviour and social interaction
- parenting skills
- physical and mental health issues, disabilities and learning difficulties
- marital discord, separation and divorce, including care orders
- education and learning
- finance and debt
- domestic violence and abuse
- bereavement and caring responsibilities
- bullying
- housing and homelessness
- drug and alcohol addiction
- anti-social behaviour and criminal activity, such as a parent in prison
- language barriers

What to expect

- You will need a driving licence and your own vehicle to visit different locations within your day-to-day role.
- Some of your working week will be spent in an office, attending meetings, organising workload, typing reports, and updating caseload activities.
- The role can be challenging and emotionally draining as you could be dealing with sensitive and traumatic issues including bereavement and neglect. However, enabling families to overcome wide-ranging challenges and difficult situations means that your role is extremely varied and highly rewarding.
- You will also be required to present parenting courses (face-to-face, virtually or as a video/podcast) and lead parenting support forums.



Your Qualifications, Experience & Skills:

The ideal candidate will have at least a Level-3 qualification in one of the following:

- advice and guidance
- childcare
- community work
- counselling
- education
- health
- social care
- youth work

As an inclusive organisation, we recognise that some applicants may not have the formal qualifications usually required for this role. We welcome applications from those who can demonstrate their enthusiasm and commitment to develop their career in Support Work **AND** have the relevant life/work experience to support this. We will assess this from the information provided in your application – in particular your personal statement - to help us decide on your eligibility for progressing to the interview stage.

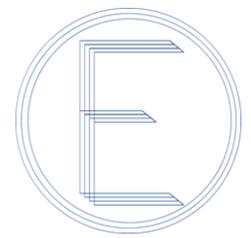
We would also expect you to have experience and knowledge of safeguarding practices and procedures.

You will be expected to undergo further training courses pertaining to your role. These will be offered through ELKOLET or one of its partnering schools/agencies.

Working with children, young people, and vulnerable groups, you will need to undergo an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

ELKOLET is a Christian organisation and whilst you will be required to respect the Christian ethos of ELKOLET and uphold its values in your work, you are not required to be of a particular faith or any.

Examples of our values to be upheld include: being inclusive and welcoming to people of all religious faiths and none; promoting respect and freedom for all; working for tolerance and understanding; having an active care and concern for the community; and affirming the equal value of each person when caring for and working with others. We believe this is encapsulated in the value of “Loving your neighbour as yourself.”



Skills

It would be an **essential requirement** that a successful candidate can demonstrate:

- **good communication and listening skills**
- **the ability to build and maintain rapport with adults, young people & children**
- **able to act calmly and purposefully in crisis situations and recognise own reactions and feelings in response to situations and to manage the effects of these on other people**
- **flexibility and adaptability**
- **a good understanding of the challenges faced by the families you help**
- **organisation and problem-solving skills**
- **resilience and the ability to cope with emotionally-draining and traumatic situations**
- **commitment to making a positive difference to the lives of the families we support**
- **a positive, non-judgemental, empathetic, and sensitive approach**
- **able to work effectively in a team as well as, communicate effectively and confidently conveying clear messages in writing or verbally**
- **the ability to network and establish working relationships with professionals from a variety of settings**
- **competent basic IT skills in order to record and maintain accurate data including familiarity with MS Outlook for email, MS Word & MS Power Point.**
- **the ability to maintain expert knowledge of local services and provision**
- **ability to prioritise effectively across a range of demands**
- **demonstrate commitment to ongoing learning and training**
- **ability and willingness to work additional hours when deemed to be necessary by the needs and demands of the post, to ensure the quality of service remains at its highest**
- **able to manage and adapt to change**



The Offer

ELKOLET would be open to discussing a part-time, full-time or team leader role.

- Permanent or part-time
- Salary – depending on experience
- 2 - 5 days a week
- Between 12 and 30+ hours per week
- Company Pension
- Staff discounts within the ELKOLET Group of Companies

Due to the nature of the role of Family Support Worker, you will be required to attend off-site meetings and visits. It is therefore essential that you have a clean UK driver's license and your own vehicle for transport purposes.

To apply for this vacancy, please complete the application form found on the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/MYVRBQLjL2>

Please note: **APPLICATIONS CLOSES MONDAY 9th AUGUST 2021 AT 10AM**

or scan the QR code with your mobile phone/tablet:



Should you have any questions, you may email info@elkolet.com

