BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN'S TRUST

Job Description

Solicitor / Barrister / FCILEx (Childcare)

Job Details	
Grade	D
Number of Posts	1
Department	Finance and Resources
Reporting to	Principal Lawyer (Head of Service)

Who Are We?

We are Birmingham Children's Trust.

'Working Together to make Birmingham the greatest city to grow up in.'

The sole purpose of Birmingham Children's Trust is to make a positive difference for children, young people and families in the city, by driving up the quality of practice and partnerships across the city and its services.

Every employee from Family Support and Social Workers to Finance and Legal, work together to make a positive difference to children, young people and families. We are one team, and each have an important role to play in achieving the Trusts objectives.

Birmingham Children's Trust Leadership team comprises of six Executive Directors who are responsible for leading and managing the Trust to be an autonomous and high performing organisation.

Our Vision:

Our vision is to build a Trust that provides excellent social work and family support for and with the city's most vulnerable children, young people and families.

We will do this:

- with compassion and with care.
- through positive relationships, building on strengths.
- in collaboration with children, young people, families and partners.
- by listening, involving and including.
- in ways that are efficient and deliver value for money.

Success will mean significant progress towards these outcomes:

- healthy, happy, resilient children living in families.
- families able to make positive changes.

- children able to attend, learn and achieve at school.
- young people ready for and contributing to adult life.
- children and young people safe from harm.

Our Values:

ONE TEAM

ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

QUALITY AND INNOVATION

RELATIONSHIPS

HIGH SUPPORT HIGH CHALLENGE

Overview of the role:
To provide high quality legal advice and support in complex and sensitive cases to the Children's Trust. To represent the Trust in public law proceedings including contested hearings to achieve the best outcome for the Children's Trust To work collaboratively, positively and creatively with all divisions within the Children's Trust to achieve the best outcome for the child. To carry out any such other duties as required by the role.

Key Responsibilities:
• To be responsible for and conduct case management of public law proceeding in relation to children.
• To attend Legal Planning Meetings and other meetings as required.
• To undertake advocacy on behalf of the Children's Trust in the Family Court including the High Court and be robust in presenting the case on behalf of the Children's Trust.
• To actively contribute to the Trust's strategic objectives and business plan.
• To undertake duty during office hours and out of hours duty.
• To be committed to personal development and Investor in People principles.
• To give assistance to the Senior Lawyer/ Head of Legal with regard to the conduct of legal casework.
• To undertake such other tasks as may be allocated from time to time by the Senior Lawyer Trust

Solicitor or Head of Legal.
• To comply with the Trust's equal opportunities policy and other valuing diversity policies.

Key Information

Is a Safeguarding Check needed? *(DBS and Experian background checks)*

Dropdown Options:

Not Required	
Required	**x**

If Required, what type:

	Children	**Adults**	**Children and Adults**
Basic			
Enhanced			x

Will this position have Line Manager responsibility?

Dropdown Options:

Yes	
No	x

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Person Specification

Essential Criteria		
Method of Assessment (M.O.A): AF = Application Form; E = Work Based Exercise; I = Interview; P = Presentation; Q = Qualifications		
CRITERIA	**Essential**	**Method of Assessment (M.O.A)**
Qualifications	Solicitor/Barrister/FCILEx with current Practising Certificate	AF/Q
Experience	Must be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the Children Act 1989, the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and relevant Statutory Guidance and Regulations.	AF & I
Experience	Must be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the Public Law Outline	AF & I
Experience	Must be able to demonstrate an ability to utilise transferable skills if experienced in a different area of law.	AF & I
Skills	An ability to communicate concisely and effectively both in writing and orally with good IT skills	AF, I & P
Skills	An ability to work to tight court timescales in a pressurised environment.	I
Skills	An ability to manage a substantial caseload and work within conflicting priorities.	I
Skills	An ability to respond effectively to urgent situations.	I
Skills	An ability to handle sensitive situations with tact and diplomacy.	I

Skills	An ability to work as a member of a team and contribute positively to its development.	I
Skills	Ability to demonstrate confident advocacy and drafting skills.	AF & I
Skills	Ability to demonstrate competent case management skills in court /public law proceedings.	AF & I
Skills	Must have a commitment to customer care and work in partnership with all divisions within the Childrens Trust and external organisations.	I
Skills	Must have proven organisational skills and attention to detail with sound problem solving skills.	I & P
Skills	An ability to fulfil all spoken aspects of the role with confidence using the English Language as required by Part 7 of the Immigration Act 2016.	I
Training	Evidence of continuous professional development as required by the Law Society, Bar Council and FCILEx	AF & I
Practice Management	Ability to understand and implement good practice management standards.	AF & I
Other	May be required to work outside or normal working hours as required or specified in the job description.	AF & I
Other	Must demonstrate an understand of diversity and its impact on service delivery and the wider organisation.	AF & I

At Birmingham Children's Trust, we are dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect our staff to create an environment and culture that promotes equality, diversity, and inclusion and advocate for anti-discriminatory practices and behaviours.