

## Company Profile

Established in 2017, Together for Children is on a mission to improve services in social care, early help and education and engage the whole community in giving children and young people in Sunderland the best possible opportunity to thrive.

Our workforce is AMAZING with a passion for improving the life chances of children and young people. We all strive to make a difference, irrespective of our work vocation or specialism.

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### Reporting to:

Strategic Commissioning Manager

### Direct Reports:

Tbc

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### Location:

City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland  
SR1 3AA

We operate within an agile work environment and you may be required to work at any Company recognised workplace.

## Strategic SEND Commissioning Lead

### Grade 10

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### Service Directorate

Chief Executive Sub-Directorate (Commissioning)

### Purpose

This is a 12-month fixed-term post to develop, coordinate and manage innovation programmes and services for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) within Sunderland.

The post holder will lead the implementation of year three of the Department of Education (DfE) funded Breathing Space programme and develop strategic commissioning arrangements for associated short breaks services to improve outcomes and the quality of support for children with SEND and their parents/carers.

The role will require the development of strong and effective multi-agency approaches, with the postholder working system-wide in partnership with families, social care, education, health, early help and the third sector.

## Responsibilities

- Lead on the implementation of the third year of the Breathing Space programme, including expanding existing Hubs and delivering innovative new provision to meet the needs of children with SEND.
- Ensure impact and outcomes against agreed targets as part of the DfE Grant Agreement.
- Develop strategic commissioning arrangements to ensure the sustainability of Breathing Space support and other associated short breaks services.
- Work closely with families and young people to coproduce services and remove barriers so that families are empowered to commission their own short break services via direct payments and personal budgets, where appropriate .
- Work closely with internal and external partners to review system pathways and processes so that children with SEND receive the right services at the right time.
- Be accountable for delivering on improvement actions agreed via SEND governance arrangements.
- Provide key support for area SEND inspections and other regulatory activities and visits.
- Support the development of the Local Offer to ensure that clear and accessible information about commissioned SEND services is available to young people, families and practitioners.
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge of the latest SEND legislation, reforms and good practice and share relevant information with colleagues across services.
- Contribute as required to wider SEND developments across the city.
- Manage designated Commissioning Officers as required and ensure that staff are effectively supervised, supported and developed.

- Champion diversity and equality.

## Key Relationships

- Breathing Space Steering Group and Project Team
- Parent Carer Forum
- Young Commissioners and STARs groups
- DfE Programme and Policy Leads
- Strategic Service Manager, Social Care (Children with Disabilities)
- Specialist SEND Teams
- TfC Commissioning Specialists
- ICB Commissioners
- Designated Clinical Officer
- SENCOs, school staff and leaders
- SENDIASS

## Statutory Requirements

- Comply with the principles and requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in relation to the management of Together for Children Sunderland's records and information and respect the privacy of personal information held by Together for Children Sunderland.
- Comply with the principles and requirements of the Freedom in Information Act 2000.
- Comply with the Together for Children Sunderland's and the NHS ICB information security standards, and requirements for the management and handling of information.
- Undertake the duties of the post in accordance with the Company's Equal Opportunities Policy, Health and Safety Policy and legislative requirements and all other Company policies.

# Role Specification

Essential Requirements	
<b>Qualifications:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A relevant degree, for example in a subject related to education, social care or health.</li> </ul>	Application Form Interview
<b>Experience of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working in a social care, SEND or healthcare environment for 3 or more years.</li> <li>Developing pathways and processes, systems or transformation projects.</li> <li>Working in partnership with parents and young people.</li> <li>Collaboration and relationship management and providing leadership across all stakeholders to optimise and create new and/or improved processes.</li> <li>Delivering effective services and managing change.</li> <li>Designing and implementing robust project plans with clearly defined deliverables.</li> <li>Producing high quality data and clear, concise written and verbal reports for a range of audiences including elected members, Board members, Chief Officers, service users and partner organisations.</li> </ul>	Application Form Interview
<b>Knowledge and understanding of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant SEND legislation and associated regulations, such as the Care Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice.</li> <li>Safeguarding principles and best practice.</li> </ul>	Application Form Interview

# Role Specification

## Essential Requirements

### Ability to:

- Use ICT effectively, including MS Office, Word, Excel, PowerPoint.
- Demonstrate strong oral and written communication skills.
- Implement excellent organisational skills to handle multiple tasks, competing priorities and maintain attention to detail.
- Use excellent collaborative and interpersonal skills to motivate and influence stakeholders to achieve shared goals within a matrix management structure.
- Be flexible, innovative and forward thinking and use problem solving skills to creatively think through issues to find practical solutions based on sound technical knowledge.
- Use analytical skills to interpret data and make recommendations from reports.
- Show commitment to personal and professional development.

Application  
Form Interview

Commitment to Equal opportunities

Interview

"TFC HAS SUCH A GENUINE FOCUS ON EMPLOYEE WELLBEING"  
TFC STAFF ENGAGEMENT SURVEY (2023)



Better Health  
at Work Award  
Silver Award

