



## Job Description

<b>Directorate</b>	Families and Wellbeing
<b>Service</b>	Foster4

<b>Post details</b>	
<b>Job title</b>	Foster4, Therapeutic Practitioner
<b>Grade</b>	8
<b>Location of work</b>	Throughout the Cheshire and Merseyside region including: Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens, Warrington and Wirral.
<b>Directly responsible to</b>	Foster4 Programme Manager
<b>Directly responsible for</b>	N/A
<b>Hours of duty</b>	37 Hours FTE
<b>Working Relationships</b> 1. Children & families, foster carers, and partners across Cheshire & Merseyside. 2. Social work teams across Children's Services, across the Cheshire and Merseyside Foster4 Collaboration. 3. Partners in other Divisions within the Directorates such as Public Health and Adult's services. 4. Partners in other Council Directorates such as legal, housing and financial services. 5. Partners in Health Trusts, particularly those with responsibilities in working with children and families such as District Nurses, Community Matrons, Community Psychiatric Nurses, Therapists, Hospital staff etc. 6. Partners in criminal justice agencies such as the Police Service and Partners in voluntary sector services 7. Leadership teams across Foster4, Directors, Heads of Service and other Senior Officers within the Councils.	

### Primary purpose and scope of the job

1. To embed and adopt an agreed model of practice rooted in relational work with families, which emphasizes people's relationships as key to understanding their experiences.

2. Use evidence based therapeutic interventions to instigate change to improve outcomes for vulnerable children and families.
3. To offer advice and guidance to the social work teams, and foster carers regarding therapeutic approaches with children and families.
4. Consistently model high quality social work by: identifying and managing risk, being curious and analytical, hypothesising, building strong relationships and using evidence-based interventions to help families change.
5. Share specialist knowledge and experience with others to provide a therapeutic and family therapy approach to children and families requiring social work intervention.
6. Support Team meetings which: incorporate models of therapeutic thinking about family cases, encourage worker to hold multiple hypotheses, encourage peer challenge and critical reflection in decision making.
7. Support social workers to apply evidence based therapeutic practice to their work with children/ families, and their foster carers.
8. To undertake therapeutic work with children and young people, their families and foster carers.
9. To support colleagues within the social work teams in undertaking direct work with children and young people.
10. To offer consultation, joint work and support to the social work teams to support their work with children and families.
11. Facilitate group supervisions across the social work service, and Foster4 partnership.
12. To assist in promoting and maintaining good practice across directorates, particularly in relation to therapeutic work and safe caring policies and practices with children and young people.
13. To assess the need for a social work service including the identification of risk to children and young people, assess their need for protection, and determine the best method of intervention, ensuring that the Service and Team Manager is consulted/advised throughout the case progression.
14. To ensure that accurate and thorough records; case notes and regular reviews are maintained in accordance with Departmental procedures, and that information required for management purposes is recorded and inputted appropriately.
15. Manage and appropriately prioritise tasks within an agreed timescale.
16. To work cooperatively with other team members in the interests of children and families, and provide support/cover for other staff e.g. in their absence, as required by the Service and/or Team Manager.

17. To take personal responsibility for continuing professional development and maintaining the required level of performance for the post.

#### **Review Arrangements**

The details contained in this job description reflect the content of the job at the date it was prepared; however, it is inevitable that over time, the nature of the jobs may change. Existing duties may no longer be required, and other duties may be gained without changing the general nature of the post or the level of responsibility entailed. Consequently, the Council will expect to revise this job description from time to time and will consult with the post holder at the appropriate time.

<b>Prepared / Revised By</b>	Alexandra Kinsella
<b>Role</b>	Foster4 Programme Manager
<b>Date</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> June 2025