Kent County Council

Job Description: *Education Lead – Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT)*

Directorate	**Children, Young People and Education (CYPE)**
Unit/Section	**Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT)**
Grade:	**KSG**
Responsible to	**Assistant Director Education East Kent**

Purpose of the job:

To provide specialist education safeguarding and act as a lead within the Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT), ensuring that statutory child protection decision-making and planning consistently reflect children lived experience, risk and protective factors in education, and that education settings are effectively supported, challenged and coordinated to fulfil their role in multiagency child protection activity.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Provide high-quality, timely and appropriate education safeguarding oversight to MACPT statutory child protection activity, including strategy discussions, section 47 enquiry planning and oversight, child protection conferences, and child protection planning.
- Ensure education information, analysis and professional judgement are used effectively within MACPT to identify risk, protective factors, and educational vulnerability, so that child protection decisions and plans are informed by a clear understanding of the child's lived experience in education.
- Exercise a quality assurance, coordination and oversight function in relation to education involvement in MACPT processes, supporting schools, settings and education professionals to contribute appropriately, constructively challenging practice where required, and helping to resolve barriers where education input is insufficient, unclear or delayed.
- Ensure education-related actions are reflected in child protection planning, including championing plans that keep children of statutory school age safely engaged in education wherever appropriate, promoting appropriate escalation where children are missing education or not currently able to attend, and ensuring relevant safeguarding considerations are addressed for children who are not of statutory school age.
- Act as the conduit between MACPT and education partners by coordinating communication, clarifying expectations, supporting consistent understanding of education's role in child protection, and taking forward matters arising from MACPT activity, including actions, themes, learning, and areas of concern.
- Exercise a quality assurance, coordination and oversight function in relation to education involvement in MACPT processes, supporting schools, settings and education professionals

to contribute appropriately, constructively challenging practice where required, and helping to resolve.

- Identify themes, practice issues and system learning to strengthen education safeguarding quality assurance emerging from within MACPT activity, to share this learning within strategic networks in order to strengthen practice and improve multi-agency responses.
- Maintain professional standards, compliance, and safe practice in all MACPT education activity, including accurate recording, reflective practice, continuous professional development, and escalation of operational or safeguarding risks where required.
- Prioritise and sustain high-quality education safeguarding input within MACPT demand, escalating capacity, or operational risks where these may affect safe oversight, coordination or quality assurance.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

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Person Specification: *Education Lead – Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT)*

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted.

Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

Qualifications	• Relevant degree-level qualification and/or equivalent professional qualification/experience within education. • Substantial recent safeguarding training appropriate to the role (e.g., Level 3 / DSL-level safeguarding training). • Evidence of continuing professional development (CPD) in safeguarding in education and education practice.
Experience	• Significant experience in the education sector with direct responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (e.g., Designated Safeguarding Lead; education safeguarding advisory role). • Experience of contributing to multi-agency safeguarding decision making (e.g., strategy discussions, section 47 enquiries, child protection conferences, core groups). • Experience of gathering, analysing, and presenting education information to inform risk assessment and planning (attendance, inclusion, exclusions, SEND, AP/EHE/CME as relevant). • Experience of producing high-quality written reports and recommendations for multi-agency forums.
Skills and Abilities	• Ability to analyse complex, multi-agency information and provide clear professional judgement, recommendations, and constructive challenge. • Excellent communication skills (written and verbal) with the ability to influence across agencies and settings and to engage sensitively with families and professionals.

	• Ability to work at pace, manage competing priorities and meet time critical deadlines. • Ability to build and sustain effective professional relationships across a diverse education landscape and multi-agency network. • Good IT and data literacy, including ability to use case recording systems and to interpret basic performance/attendance/exclusion datasets. • A child-centred, strengths-based approach; professional curiosity and resilience; commitment to equality, inclusion, and anti-discriminatory practice; and integrity with strong information governance.
Knowledge	• Strong working knowledge of child protection legislation and statutory guidance relevant to multi-agency safeguarding, including the Children Act 1989 and Children Act 2004, Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act (2026) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (2026). • Strong understanding of safeguarding duties and statutory guidance in education, including the Education Act 2002 (s175/s157) and Keeping Children Safe in Education (current statutory guidance for schools and colleges). • Understanding of Families First Partnership reforms and how Family Help interfaces with statutory child protection and multi-agency child protection teams. • Understanding of education settings and how relevant legislation can be adhered to in different parts of the education sector (including early years providers and further education).
Kent Values and Cultural Attributes	**Kent Values:** • We are **brave.** We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge • We are **curious** to innovate and improve • We are **compassionate**, understanding, and respectful to all • We are **strong together** by sharing knowledge • We are all **responsible** for the difference we make Our values enable us to build a culture that is: **Flexible/agile** - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile **Curious** - constantly learning and evolving **Compassionate and Inclusive** - compassionate, understanding, and respectful to all **Working Together** - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent

	Empowering - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions **Externally Focused** - Residents, families, and communities at the heart of decision making