

## Kent County Council

### Job Description: *Infection Prevention and Control Nurse*

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**Directorate:** Adult Social Care and Health

**Unit:** Public Health

**Grade:** KR11

**Responsible to:** Public Health Consultant

#### **Purpose of the Job:**

The function of this role is to provide infection prevention and control (IPC) advice and guidance to care settings to maximise recipients of care, residents, and staff safety. The post holder will inform local plans to contain and manage exposures, cases, or outbreaks of communicable disease. The post holder will advise, support, and oversee infection prevention and control working collaboratively with and supported by the IPC Integrated Care System (ICS) team and the Director or a Consultant in Public Health.

You will be expected to successfully complete a qualification in infection control within the first nine months in the post.

#### **Main duties and responsibilities:**

The post holder will:

- Be responsible for the strategic overview of infection prevention and control across the range of care settings. Working in partnership with the care providers, public health, primary care networks and other parts of the system.
- Contribute to the establishment of and oversight of sustainable infection control networks for care settings across Kent ensuring that clinical standards are monitored and adhered to. Observing the Code of practice for the prevention and control of infections (updated 2015).
- Be responsible for the development and management of an effective, sustainable audit programme for care settings. Reviewing new technologies to assist with audit management on a regular basis. Ensure documentation is complete and up to date, in line with the Nursing and Midwifery Council and ICS guidelines.
- Participate and have full oversight of IPC quality visits to care settings carrying out audits and provide feedback to care setting managers, Advisor Community and Residential Care Settings (ACS), Care and Quality Commission (CQC) and ICSs required. Supporting and facilitating change in practice in relation to infection prevention and control.
- Demonstrate a professional approach to work, and act in accordance with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (MNC) Code of Professional Conduct.

- Have knowledge of and adhere to organisational policy and professional standards. Make policy change recommendations where required internally and as part of wider networks. Work with and support care settings as they develop and implement their policies in line with government policy in response to infection control measures.
- Provide expert clinical advice and specialist knowledge on the prevention, management, monitoring and control of infection to clinical and non-clinical staff. Developing and reviewing IPC policies, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for care settings.
- Building on the infection prevention and control education/training programme for all care settings being established in Kent. Working collaboratively to extend the current offer and improve needs across the system. Challenge inappropriate practice and poor compliance with reference to the Health and Social Care Act, 2015.
- Participate in awareness campaigns for infection prevention and control and share best practice through dissemination of evidence and knowledge.
- Positively promote and maintain good working relationships with IPC teams across the health economy. Communicate CQC standards and requirements sensitively and effectively with team members, clinical and non-clinical staff, and the public.
- To meet Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and nursing revalidation requirements. Identify own learning needs and ensure own professional development is maintained by keeping up to date with practice.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what the 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: *Infection Prevention and Control Nurse*

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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.

	<b>CRITERIA</b>
<b>QUALIFICATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Registered nurse.</li><li>• Educated to degree level or NVQ5 in clinical skills /autonomous practice.</li></ul>
<b>EXPERIENCE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Significant nursing experience, including experience of working with Infection Prevention and Control.</li><li>• Proven recent post-registration experience in infection prevention and control.</li><li>• Previous/current work at an advanced practice level. Experience of working with a multiagency collaboration.</li><li>• Experience of working effectively across healthcare professions and with nonclinical staff.</li><li>• Experience of auditing and research</li><li>• Experience of project management</li></ul>
<b>SKILLS AND ABILITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Takes responsibility for own actions and promotes good team working.</li><li>• Ability to plan and prioritise workload.</li><li>• Committed to improving Infection Prevention &amp; Control compliance.</li><li>• Excellent verbal and written communication skills in order to communicate at all levels and across organizations.</li><li>• Ability to positively influence the outcomes of decisions</li><li>• Ability to clearly communicate policy changes when required.</li><li>• Ability to work autonomously and as part of a team.</li><li>• Ability to form, lead and network with effective partnerships, especially with external agencies within a mixed economy</li><li>• Excellent interpersonal skills.</li><li>• Computer literate.</li><li>• Enthusiastic, motivated and approachable</li><li>• Ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day</li><li>• Ability to be innovative and to lead cultural change</li><li>• Demonstrates ability to use initiative.</li><li>• Demonstrable commitment to equality and promoting diversity in all aspects of working.</li><li>• Ability to manage and balance the conflicting demands of the role.</li><li>• Ability to prioritise your workload.</li><li>• Skills which demonstrate a sensitive and empathetic communication style to build trusting relationships that results</li></ul>

	in clear responsibilities being identified and ensures that care is delivered both effectively and efficiently.
<b>KNOWLEDGE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sound knowledge of Data Protection and confidentiality issues.</li> <li>• Demonstrable high-level understanding and knowledge of infection prevention and control measures</li> <li>• Up to date high level understanding of CQC infection control standards for registered homes.</li> <li>• High level of political awareness, diplomacy and sensitivity</li> <li>• Sound knowledge of local care providers and challenges associated with their work priorities.</li> <li>• Sound knowledge of methods and techniques to support involvement of partnership agencies</li> </ul>
<b>BEHAVIOURS AND KENT VALUES</b>	<p><b>Kent Values:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are <b>brave</b>. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge</li> <li>• We are <b>curious</b> to innovate and improve</li> <li>• We are <b>compassionate</b>, understanding and respectful to all</li> <li>• We are <b>strong together</b> by sharing knowledge</li> <li>• We are all <b>responsible</b> for the difference we make</li> </ul> <p>Our values enable us to build a culture that is:</p> <p><b>Flexible/agile</b> - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile</p> <p><b>Curious</b> - constantly learning and evolving</p> <p><b>Compassionate and Inclusive</b> - compassionate, understanding and respectful to all</p> <p><b>Working Together</b> - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent</p> <p><b>Empowering</b> - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions</p> <p><b>Externally Focused</b> - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making</p>