

Job Opportunity: Education Support Youth Worker

Contract: 16th April 2018 to 31st December 2019 – 30 hours per week

Based: Kells, County Meath

Salary: €31,000 to €35,000 – negotiable and subject to experience

Apply with CV and Letter of Application to info@meathpartnership.ie by 12 noon on Wednesday 28th March 2018. Late applications will not be considered. Shortlisting will apply and interviews are likely to be held on 5th and 6th April. Enquiries to jennifer.nolan@meathpartnership.ie

Job Purpose

The purpose of this position is to support and enable young people, aged 15 to 17 years, remain or return to education. To provide specialised developmental programmes to help young people learn new skills and to aid the development of participants' knowledge, skills and attitudes which will enhance their self-confidence and life choices. To work with existing services to ensure that the best possible service is provided to respond positively to the needs of young people and their families in term of education and progression.

Key Areas and Responsibilities:

Reporting to the SICAP Programme Manager, the Education Support Youth Worker will have the following responsibilities:

- On referral, undertake an initial assessment and devise an appropriate action plan identifying the needs of the young person and respond to them effectively in accordance with SICAP requirements and Meath Partnership's Policies and Procedures
- In collaboration with the project steering committee, enlist the support of parents/guardians, family members and others to engage effectively with the young person through youth development programmes and activities
- To provide relevant information to children and their families to enable them to make informed choices in accessing education suitable to age, aptitude and ability
- To mediate and facilitate communication between pupils, parents and schools
- Identify situations where advocacy is needed



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The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020.

- Represent the views and interests of young people to others
- Work with the young person individually in order to facilitate re-integration into the school setting with a view to exploring progression pathways to enable the young person to develop in the areas of personal effectiveness, self-esteem, confidence, social competence, character development and educational achievement
- Enable and empower the young person to fully participate in their own development and that of their community
- Enable the young person to explore the range of options available to them particularly with regard to education/training and or/employment
- Report on individual progress and complete relevant SICAP/IRIS administrative requirements relating to the role

Essential Criteria

Applicants must have:

- A degree qualification in education, youth work, social care, or equivalent **AND**
- A minimum of 3 years' experience in a paid capacity of working with young people and families;

Knowledge/Skills

- Excellent caseload management and a commitment to achieve results for clients
- Excellent communication skills (verbal/written)
- Strong interpersonal and resilience skills
- Ability to engage young people and families in the helping and assistive process
- Ability to assess family dynamics and situations and plan accordingly
- Excellent organisational skills and the ability to manage complex situations in a professional, competent and confidential manner
- Knowledge of child protection legislation and associated procedures; must have up to date child protection training and/or be willing to complete child protection training in line with Meath Partnership's Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Statement
- Knowledge and experience of causal factors associated with early school leaving
- Knowledge of the Education System and its relevant legislation on school attendance
- Knowledge of services and supports available to young people in school and out of school



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Personal Qualities

- Demonstrate ability to work on own initiative and with other team members
- Empathetic nature in the context of working with families experiencing difficulties
- Enthusiastic and dedicated to the position
- Flexible, creative and solution focussed
- Strong interpersonal skills and self-awareness

As part of the SICAP team, you will work to meet programme targets, track progress and prepare reports on results achieved. At all times, you will represent Meath Partnership in accordance with our vision, mission and values, will undertake training and development as requested by CEO, and may be asked to take on other duties at the request of the CEO.

Meath Partnership is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Terms of Employment

- 1 position working 30hours per week. The nature of the work may require working unsocial hours i.e. evenings and weekend and access to own transport is essential for the position given the outreach nature of the post on offer. This position is subject to Garda Vetting in line with Meath Partnership policy.
- Duration: Specified purpose contract subject to continued provision of SICAP funding. A six month probationary period applies.
- Leave: The annual leave entitlement is twenty (20) days per annum, pro-rata for shorter periods. Entitlement to leave for Public Holidays is in accordance with the terms of the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997. Meath Partnership closes for five (5) days at Christmas; this time is additional to the annual leave entitlement detailed above.



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