



# Strategic Placement Commissioning Lead

Salary Grade 10 £46,893 - £51,283 | Based in Maidenhead | Permanent  
| Full time

## About the service

Achieving for Children have recently formed a new Commissioning and Partnerships Directorate, this directorate will lead on setting the commissioning framework and strategic commissioning intentions to improve the outcomes for our children and young people. Through the commissioning process this directorate will support the organisation and our colleagues achieve efficiencies, improve partnership working and delivery; while ensuring our children, young people and their families/ carers remain at the centre of what we do.

## About the role

The Strategic Placement Commissioning Lead will work to improve decision making and processes that influence the efficiency of placement decisions. The post-holder will ensure the efficient and effective procurement of social care and education placements, and will ensure that all placements and contracts are appropriately managed to ensure they deliver good value for money. The post-holder will be responsible for maintaining effective relationships with practitioners and managers involved with the identification of children's placement needs and with placement providers. The post-holder will also support market development strategies and the development of effective partnership arrangements with providers, including through consortia commissioning arrangements. The post holder will report to the Director of Commissioning and manage a team of commissioning officers. The lead will also work closely and be able to access support from our education and social care senior leaders.

# About you: our role specification

## Qualifications

- Educated to degree level or equivalent
- Professional qualification in an area relevant to the role or experience demonstrating applied knowledge of commissioning.
- Math and English GCSE or equivalent

## Skills and experience

The post holder will work to inform and implement improved commissioning practice.

- Experience of leading, managing and motivating teams of staff to deliver high-quality and effective services.
- High-level communication skills, including the ability to use different communication styles and techniques to present ideas and influence others.
- Proven experience of achieving improved financial efficiency through the development and use of effective commissioning strategies
- Experience of effective contract negotiation and management
- Knowledge and understanding of legislation, statutory frameworks and national policy affecting services for children, young people and families.
- Creativity and strategic thinking skills, including the ability to improve services, develop new ways of working, and find appropriate solutions to complex issues.
- Strong organisational ability, including the ability to lead and manage projects using best practice approaches.
- Ability to demonstrate a high level of determination, personal drive, energy and ambition to achieve challenging targets and improve outcomes.

## Personal attributes

The post holder will be expected to have strong interpersonal and communication skills, the personal attributes required include:

- A passion for Achieving for Children's vision, mission and values to support children and young people to live safe, happy, healthy and successful lives.
- Strong organisational abilities including: time management, creative-thinking, problem-solving and multitasking.
- Able to work flexibly and independently with limited management oversight.
- Commitment to resource-sharing and collaborative working across Achieving for Children.
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills that are open, honest, persuasive and pragmatic, including excellent negotiation and influencing skills.
- Champion of continual review and improvement to achieve value for money.
- Confident to challenge the way things have always been done and influence others
- Commitment to an organisational culture and the development of services that value equality and diversity.

*\*The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties commensurate with the grade of the post, including deputising or or working flexibly across the week to meet the business demands. This job profile is provided for guidance only.*