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Relief Support Worker

Reference: 97078

Pendle Drive, Blackburn Learning Disability Service

Thank you for your interest in the above post, please find the specific role requirements and duties for this post detailed within this document. When completing the application form you may submit additional documentation, however we cannot accept a CV as a completed application.

Closing Date: 18 November 2026

Once you have submitted your application form, please allow *10 working days* after the closing date for a response. Please return the application form by email to recruitment@creativesupport.co.uk or by post to Recruitment, Creative Support, Head Office, Wellington House, 131 Wellington Road, Stockport, SK1 3TS**.**

We very much look forward to receiving a completed application from you.

Yours Faithfully,

Recruitment Department

All employees are subject to enhanced DBS checks.

JOB DESCRIPTION – RELIEF SUPPORT WORKER
Pendle Drive, Blackburn Learning Disability Service

Hours: Zero-hour contract, as required.

Responsible To: Relief Staff Team Leader

The Role:
You will work as an essential member of the team of support workers to provide individualised person-centred support for people with learning disabilities enabling them to enjoy a fulfilling and valued life, to participate in the community and to develop their abilities as fully as possible.

Main Duties

1. To develop and sustain warm and trusting relationships with service users.

2. To promote the self-esteem, happiness and emotional health of service users.

3. To offer unconditional positive regard to service users, to respect right to privacy and to ensure that their dignity is maintained at all times.

4. To encourage and support service users to express their needs, views and concerns. To enable service users make choices and decisions and to participate as fully as possible in planning and decision-making processes. To enable people to contribute actively to decisions regarding their own care, support and activities through verbal and non-verbal communication methods which are tailored to their individual needs

5. To respect and promote the rights and entitlements of people with learning disabilities and complex needs and to enable them to participate as fully as possible in their communities and to maintain community connections.

6. To carry out the role of key worker and to enable service users to achieve their goals and dreams by working alongside them to develop and implement within their person centred plans. To be responsive to changing needs and preferences.

7. To support service users in maintaining the safety, security, cleanliness and comfort of their homes. To support service users in understanding and adhering to the terms and conditions of their tenancy agreement and in enjoying the rights and responsibilities of being a tenant.

8. To enable service users to become as independent as possible and to grow in confidence, competence and personal effectiveness in the following areas:
    - Social skills/relationships
    - Personal care & hygiene
    - Daily living skills
    - Managing money
    - Using community resources and facilities
    - Social, leisure and work activities
    - Self organisation and coping abilities
    - Personal safety

To achieve this through the provision of practical assistance, support, therapeutic recreation and education sessions, teaching, advice, role modelling, encouragement and positive feedback.

9. To support service users in claiming their full benefit entitlement, budgeting and managing their personal finances as independently as possible to support their chosen lifestyle.

10. To provide respectful personal care in accordance with the needs, wishes and preferred routines outlined in the individual's personal support plans

11. To support people to enjoy a wide range of activities within the home and community which meets their needs. To support service users in developing a socially valued lifestyle which includes a varied range of culturally and age appropriate experiences, building on the strengths, interests and aspirations of the service user. To enable people to access social, leisure, work and educational opportunities.

12. To ensure that service users receive all necessary advice, care and regular health checks to ensure their physical health and well being. To promote nutrition, relaxation, exercise and a healthy lifestyle. To observe and monitor the service users' emotional and physical well being and to inform the Manager, families and other agencies of any concerns or significant changes in their needs, behaviour and circumstances.

13. To offer positive behaviour support to individuals who express their frustrations and needs through challenging behaviour by using appropriate strategies, management protocols and guidelines agreed with the multi-disciplinary team.

14. To work closely with the families of service users and other professionals involved in their care and support to provide coordinated services to meet the needs of the individuals. To encourage and support connections with families and friends. To positively and respectfully communicate with families and other professionals at all times.

15. To follow the guidance and risk management strategies outlined in the individual's risk management plan. To work in a safe and responsible manner to safeguard vulnerable service users from harm whilst ensuring they are able to make choices, enjoy new experiences and live a full life.

16. To ensure that vulnerable adults and children are safeguarded from harm. To comply with Creative Support and Council's safeguarding policy and procedures and to report any concerns regarding vulnerable adults or children with immediate effect to the Council, the Manager and the Duty/On Call Manager.

17. To complete CITRUS training including both understanding both Breakaway and Physical Intervention techniques and to renew this training as and when required.

18. To assist service users in the administration and monitoring of prescribed medication in accordance with the Scheme's Medication Policy.

19. To take appropriate action in the event of unforeseen incidents and emergencies, ensuring that the Manager is informed promptly.

20. To follow health and safety guidelines carefully and to alert the Manager immediately of any concerns in relation to Health and Safety issues.

21. To contribute to project records and individual case files.

22. To carry out and record all financial transactions involving service users within agency guidelines.

23. To carry out general administrative duties, housing management tasks and services as required.

24. To contribute to person centred reviews, through the provision of verbal and written reports and by attending Support Planning meetings.

25. All employees should be aware that due to the nature of work Creative Support undertakes there is a requirement to support service users with daily living skills and individual activities which include moving and handling & may involve supporting people with personal care needs.

Other

26. To notify Line Manager of planned whereabouts and to submit accurate timesheets weekly.

27. To provide regular verbal and written reports to colleagues.

28. To accept support, supervision and guidance from senior colleagues.

29. To carry out all work in a manner consistent with the aims of the project and the service principles adopted by Creative Support.

30. To comply with and to implement the Equal Opportunities Policy.

31. To maintain confidentiality at all times, in accordance with the agreed policy.

32. To identify and take responsibility for ensuring mandatory training is kept up to date in discussion with Line Manager and to attend training events and courses as required.

33. To observe written policies, procedures & guidelines for good practice agreed by Creative Support.

34. To take on the role of shift co-ordinator when required.

35. To provide respectful personal care in accordance with the needs, wishes and preferred routines outlined in the individual's personal support plans. Some individuals will require support with their physical/mobility disabilities and may require support in wheelchairs, using hoists and other appropriate equipment to meet personal needs.

36. In accordance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008, to actively participate in the prevention and control of infection within the capacity of the role.

37. Any other duties as required.

PERSON SPECIFICATION –RELIEF SUPPORT WORKER

Pendle Drive, Blackburn Learning Disability Service

	QUALITIES REQUIRED	How Assessed	Essential or Desirable?
1	Ability to demonstrate unconditional positive regard and a warm, respectful and person centred approach to service users	Interview	Essential
2	Ability to demonstrate basic insight and understanding into the needs of people with learning disabilities and complex needs	Interview	Essential
3	Good verbal and non-verbal communication skills with the ability to tailor these to the needs of the preferences of the individuals	Interview	Essential
4	Ability to work constructively and co-operatively as part of a team and to demonstrate self-motivation and initiative	Interview	Essential
5	Ability to work safely and responsibly without direct supervision in service user's own home	Interview	Essential
6	Ability to enable people to enjoy developmental opportunities without being exposed to unacceptable risks	Interview	Essential
7	Understanding of the person centred aims and principles of Creative Support and ability to put these into practice	Application & Interview	Essential
8	Ability to maintain professional boundaries, to liaise in a professional manner with other agencies	Interview	Essential
9	Ability to demonstrate respect for difference and diversity.	Application & Interview	Essential
10	Ability to provide emotional and practical support with all aspects of everyday lives.	Application & Interview	Essential
11	A non judgmental, accepting approach to working with people who may be challenging and the ability to cope in a mature way	Application & Interview	Essential
12	Ability to work in a calm, patient and tolerant manner at a pace appropriate to the needs of the individual	Interview	Essential
13	Possession of relevant social care qualification (eg NVQ/QCF & Health and Social Care Diplomas)	Application	Desirable
14	Experience of providing care or support to people with a learning disability and complex needs.	Application & Interview	Essential
15	Ability to provide respectful personal care and assistance with mobility needs	Interview	Essential
16	Willingness and ability to work flexibly to meet the needs of the individuals and the service	Interview	Essential
17	Ability to support service users with their physical health needs, this may include pushing wheelchairs and using hoists of which a degree of physical fitness will be required	App Form, Pre-Emps & Exercise	Essential
18	Willingness to attend training courses and events	Interview	Essential
19	Willingness to accept feedback and guidance to reflect on practice and to be accountable to service users, colleagues and managers	Interview	Essential
20	To have a clean driving licence and be willing to drive service users cars	Application Form	Desirable

TERMS AND CONDITIONS – RELIEF SUPPORT WORKER

Pendle Drive, Blackburn Learning Disability Service

Pay Structure:

£13.45 per hour, plus accrued holiday credit

Please note, National Minimum Wage (£12.71 per hour) will be paid when completing training.

Hours of Work:

Zero-hour, as required.

Probationary Period:

The first four months will constitute a probationary period.

Holidays:

You will receive paid holiday hours in respect of holidays which have been accrued. Payments will be calculated as an average, using hours worked over the preceding 12 week period up to a maximum of 180 hours (24 days) per holiday year. Holiday pay is not automatically given and these must be requested.

Sickness Policy:

You will not be entitled to company sick pay.

Sona app:

It is mandatory for all bank staff to sign up for the Sona app which is used to advertise available shifts.

Sponsorship:

We are unable to offer any Skilled worker visas for any relief/ bank posts. This is because the Home Office require individuals to have a set annual earnings threshold of over £21,000 per annum and we are unable to guarantee hours on an ad-hoc basis.