

Title of Position	Project Worker - Waterford
Location	Barnardos Waterford Student Mothers' Group, Ballybeg Co. Waterford
Employment Type	Part time (30 hrs per week) and Specific Purpose estimated till Sept 2025
Salary	€27,740 - €42,877 (pro rata salary for 30 hours)

Project Worker

Job Description

- Post:** Project Worker - Waterford Student Mothers Group
- Location:** Ballybeg, Co. Waterford
- Responsible to:** Assistant Director of Children's Services
- Works with:** Service Users, staff, schools and other relevant agencies

Job purpose

To develop and implement programmes that respond to the educational needs of pregnant and teenage mothers in partnership with families and other organisational, community and voluntary bodies.

Core Job Requirements

- To assess the needs of the young people, their children and families engaging with the project.
- To plan, implement and review programmes for children/young people/carers/families based on an assessment of their individual and group needs.
- To work with children/young people/carers/families in a variety of ways, including group work, individual work and family work, centre based and outreach work.
- To key work individual children/young people/carers/families in order to meet their needs and to advocate on their behalf.
- To liaise effectively with families and other statutory, community and voluntary bodies and to attend and contribute to reviews and case conferences as required.
- To work in partnership with other Barnardos services to best meet the needs of children and families by collaborating resources with planned interventions targeting groups/families of shared need.
- To keep regular records in relation to all aspects of work and prepare reports as required.
- To gather information statistics and prepare reports as required, including administration of databases as appropriate to the role.
- To identify and document to the line manager any unmet needs of children/young people/carers/families within the service and to participate in the advocacy work of the agency.

Requirements Specific to this Post

- Taking responsibility of the day to day management of the project in accordance with the established aims of the service
- Liaising with relevant statutory, voluntary and community services in the area, with particular emphasis on feeder schools in the area
- Undertaking individual assessments and developing suitable programmes for each service user within the remit of the service
- Linking participants into existing services and supporting their ongoing involvement in education
- Including parents of the young mothers and fathers in the work as appropriate
- Networking with similar projects and organisations and awareness raising where this is of demonstrable benefit to the service user and the service.
- Establishing and operating new dimensions to the project where there is an identified need.
- Facilitating when required the transition from second level education to further education and training.
- To provide written progress reports as required and carry out and /or participate in project evaluations.

Requirements of all Barnardos staff

- Commitment to the purpose of Barnardos and to work within the values, policies and procedures of the organisation and in the context of current legislation and regulations
- To participate in regular supervision with your line manager
- To actively participate in team and staff meetings and service reviews/ evaluations and to contribute to the development of policy and practice with your area of work and within Barnardos as a whole
- To report any area of concern to your line manager in a timely manner
- To show reasonable flexibility in relation to hours of attendance to meet the needs of the work. Work during unsocial hours may be required.
- Have a flexible approach to the work in response to organisational change, development and review of best practice.
- Participate in and engage with a performance management programme.
- Identify training needs with your line manager and participate in training opportunities appropriate to the role

Note: This Job Description will be reviewed and updated in line with the needs of the work.

Project Worker

Person Specification

Personal Attributes

- Commitment to the delivery of quality services to children, young people, families and carers
- Ability to act on own initiative and consult where appropriate.
- Ability to work under pressure, make decisions in consultation with the line manager when appropriate.
- To be committed to adhering to best practice in the work and be innovative and open to change
- Flexibility and adaptability are essential for this post.
- Ability to form objective relationships with children, young people, families/carers, colleagues and other agencies.

Experience

- A minimum of two years' Post Qualification experience of working with children who experience disadvantage.
- Experience of working in partnership with families and carers
- Experience of planning, implementing and reviewing programmes with children and/or families.

Qualifications

A recognised third level practice qualification in one of the following:

- Education
- Child Care – Social Care
- Social Work
- Youth Work
- Or related discipline (Nursing, Psychology, occupational therapy)

Note: this list can be varied depending on the specific requests of the post.

Full clean driving licence and use of a suitably insured vehicle essential.

The post-holder is initially assigned to work in Waterford (based in Ballybeg) but may be required in the future to work in other locations in the Waterford/ Wexford area in line with organisational needs.

Barnardos is an equal opportunity employer.

We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all.