

# SANDWELL ADVOCACY

## Job Description

<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Independent Advocacy Practitioner - Parents, Advocacy, Guidance and Empowerment (PAGE) Project</b>
<b>Salary:</b>	<b>£24,242 - £25,771 per annum – 3 Year Fixed Term Contract</b>
<b>Responsible to:</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer and the Senior Independent Advocacy Practitioner.</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>28 Wood Street, Tipton, DY4 9BQ</b>

### Job Purpose:

- To provide an advocacy, enabling and support service for parents with learning disabilities that empowers them to ensure that their rights are respected and their views and wishes are heard at all times.
- To provide independent one-to-one support for parents with learning disabilities who are known to children's services.
- To develop a trusted relationship which is user-led and will aim to ensure that parents with a learning disability understand proceedings, that they explore their options and avenues, that they have a voice and are enabled to speak up for themselves and that they are placed at the heart of the decision-making process.
- Working within a multi-agency approach to meet the needs of parents with a learning disability by developing positive partnerships with all key stakeholders involved with the planning and delivery of their services.

### Principle Duties:

**The Independent Advocacy Practitioner will work alongside the Independent Living Skills Officer and a Marketing & Engagement Officer who are collectively responsible for achieving the outcomes set out for the project.**

- Advocating for parents with a learning disability within a variety of setting/meetings relating to their parenting or wider support needs as part of the following processes:
  - The Early Help process
  - Where there is an agreed Child in Need plan
  - Where matters have been escalated to a child protection plan and subject to a Section 47 enquiry
  - Where matters have progressed to court proceedings
  - Where a child or children have been removed and are subject to interim care orders.
- Supporting parents with a learning disability to become involved in the planning and decision-making processes that affect their lives and the services they receive.

- Working within an empowering framework to ensure that parents with a learning disability are included and listened to and take an active role in decision-making and life choices at all levels within settings that impact on their lives.
- Ensure that parent's views and wishes are articulated and that people are able to make informed decisions.
- Raising awareness of issues affecting parents with a learning difficulty who are accessing children's services, and the work of the PAGE Project, within a range of health, social care and educational settings, utilising effective presentation methods appropriate for each setting.
- To proactively work with key stakeholders and referral agencies to implement an accessible and responsive referral process.
- To work closely with the Independent Living Skills Officer to link the advocacy process to our independent living skills offer.
- Conducting Initial Assessments that identify individual needs and develop an advocacy planning pathway based on meeting those needs working towards agreed advocacy outcomes.
- Managing an advocacy caseload and ensure that accurate case management and record keeping is maintained.
- Working collaboratively with project partners to facilitate participant forums and feedback mechanisms.
- To contribute to the identification of gaps in service provision, new opportunities and the implementation of new initiatives.
- To measure the difference your work makes to those we support (Outcomes) through a combination of self-reporting/professional judgement and the use of validated tools.
- To make frequent and effective use of personal supervision and to make use of training opportunities as appropriate.
- To provide monthly monitoring reports that include information measured against key performance indicators and key themes and trends.
- Maintaining up to date knowledge of relevant policy, legislation, case law and good practice.
- Working within all policies, procedures and guidelines relating to safeguarding adults and health and safety as set out by Sandwell Advocacy and the local authority.
- Ensuring the implementation of equal opportunities in all aspects of the work and carry out all duties in an anti-discriminatory manner and where necessary challenge oppressive behaviour and practices.

- To contribute towards the overall objectives of the project, ensuring a quality service to its users.
- To undertake other duties in conjunction with the team to meet the aims of the organisation.