

**DIRECTORATE**

Children’s Services - Education Partnerships

**JOB TITLE**

SEND Placement Commissioning Manager

**Salary:**

Very competitive

**Area:**

Southwest England.

**REPORTING TO:**

Head of Strategic Place Planning, Capital Programmes and School Organisation/Admissions Service

**WORKING TO DELIVER OUR VISION:**

To make a truly great place for children and young people to thrive; where all have the best possible life and opportunities, including those who are vulnerable, disadvantaged and/or have special educational or additional needs.

**Job outline and Purpose of role**

The postholder is operationally responsible for determining the right numbers of places and commissioning contractual arrangements for SEND school places provided to the local authority by maintained and independent schools and providers of alternative provision. The role is to secure the highest quality provision within robust contractual arrangements and terms which represent excellent value for public money. This includes the provision of services provided by private and third sector providers as well as school placements for children whose needs cannot be met within the mainstream or local provision. The postholder will use rigorous contract monitoring regimes to manage the performance of contracts, and in particular outcomes for children and young people; promoting good commercial relationships where consistency in quality and value for money is established.  The postholder may need to work in partnership with key agencies and stakeholders to co-produce and jointly commission some services.

**Main Duties and Key Responsibilities**

* To work with the Head of SEND, Business Intelligence and Procurement colleagues to forecast SEND demand and deliver sufficient and appropriate numbers of local SEND places to meet demand.
* To design and deliver creative solutions to ensure that as many children as possible are supported with placements within the LA.
* To work in partnership with the Head of SEND and delivery managers to deliver the organisational vision and outcomes through integrated planning and the flexible use of resources.
* To secure best value from all SEND placements in independent and out of district provision, through contract management and monitoring performance of placements and through creating strategic relationships with the highest quality/value providers.
* To ensure the highest standards of safeguarding and governance arrangements are in place in all independent school placements and alternative provisions.
* To develop and deliver within strategies to ensure that pupil placement needs are met within the district, working in partnership with colleagues in Education, Health and Social Care. This will include strategies to reduce the number and costs of pupils placed out of the area and placed in independent settings.
* To develop strong relationships with parent cares and other partners in achieving best use of resources.
* Ensure the LA’s aims and objectives, vision and core values are actively promoted and made a reality.

**For an informal confidential chat about this role and others**

**Call 01704 337133**

