



Youth Specialist

Job Description

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About Eikon:

Eikon is a Surrey based charity that has been working in the local community for almost two decades, providing long-term support to some of the county's most vulnerable young people and their families. Over recent years the charity has grown significantly and last year we supported over 3,000 young people through programmes in secondary schools, youth centres and out in the community. Over the past few years Eikon has gone from strength-to-strength and continues to grow rapidly.

The Youth Work Department:

Eikon's vision is to develop happy, thriving and resilient young adults who are able to contribute positively to society. We do this by supporting vulnerable young people through our Youth Specialist programme in secondary schools; by managing youth centres ; and by delivering services in the community to prevent young people from becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment and Training). As a Youth Specialist you will deliver a range of youth work interventions to students.

Approach:

Eikon delivers a variety of programmes that confront social issues facing young people today. We believe strongly in early intervention - helping young people overcome issues before they become significant problems; *building a fence at the top of the cliff rather than operating an ambulance at the bottom*. We have learned that young people most "at risk" need a more personalised and sustained support than is available through other services, often over many years. A key aspect of Eikon's work is placing "Youth Specialists" into secondary schools to provide one-to-one mentoring and group work activities for young people who need our help. We currently have a full time worker in 5 secondary schools in Surrey and deliver courses in another 8. Our aim is to increase this number significantly in the future.

Eikon's aims and objectives

- To inspire greater self-confidence, aspiration, and resilience in young people
- To enable young people to make positive, independent decisions when faced with difficult challenges in their lives
- To help young people become positive citizens in their community
- To dramatically reduce the need for subsequent intervention, and costly remedial action later in life

Job Title:	Youth Specialist
Location:	Broadwater, Summers Rd, Godalming GU7 3BW
Hours:	37.5 hours per week, including occasional evenings and an annual residential
Length of Contract:	Permanent Term Time plus 10 days
Rate of pay:	£20,770 to £24,380 (£23K to £27K FTE equivalent)
Responsible to:	Youth Work Manager at Eikon/ Manager at Broadwater
Holiday Entitlement:	Term Time contract
Pension:	Eikon's Company Pension Plan

JOB PURPOSE

Eikon is looking for an enthusiastic and talented Youth Specialist. This role is to provide sustained support to vulnerable young people at Broadwater School, helping them to overcome issues, before they become potentially life-changing problems. The core work will be providing one to one mentoring and group work activities that develop happy, thriving and resilient young adults who will contribute positively to society.

KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- To proactively address students/young people's needs before issues arise
- To build positive and supportive relationships with young people
- Delivery & co-ordination of high quality one to one mentoring and group work, including design of group sessions and relevant lunch clubs
- To support the work of the Youth Development Board ensuring that young people are engaged and supported
- To ensure that all work is integrated with other in-school support services and the pastoral team
- Management of referral system and caseloads in partnership with Broadwater's manager
- Keep up to date and accurate records and case notes on Social Impact Tracker (SIT)
- Work with key stakeholders and relevant agencies
- Manage and supervise volunteers and social work students
- Contribute to the Eikon team by attending team days half-termly
- Liaison work with parents and guardians where appropriate
- To ensure that an ethos of open communication between key stakeholders is established to discuss specific cases

PERSON SPECIFICATION

EDUCATION

- A recognised degree in social work, teaching, psychology, youth work (or other relevant qualification or significant experience in youth work)
- Evidence of continuous training and personal development
- Current child protection training

EXPERIENCE

- Experience of successful work with young people
- Demonstrable experience in managing referrals system and associated caseloads
- Experience of working in partnership with a wide range of colleagues and stakeholders
- Experience of developing and delivering innovative programmes for young people

KNOWLEDGE

- Understanding of equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice and their importance in working with young people
- Full comprehension and practice of safeguarding policy and procedures
- Awareness of the issues that affect young people and potentially lead to them becoming vulnerable
- Awareness of schools support services

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- To be able to promote themselves and their work; being a positive role model within the community at all times, in line with the values of The Eikon Charity
- Ability to work in partnership
- Good interpersonal skills including the ability to engage and communicate with young people, parents, colleagues, partner organisations and the wider community
- Advanced experience and ability with MS Office software
- Highly self-motivated and creative
- Outgoing, confident and resilient
- Able to work well within a team as well as on their own
- Good time management and organisational skills
- Able to review and modify programmes of work with young people to meet changing circumstances
- Ability to network well with our various partners and other outside agencies

OTHER

- Flexible working including occasional evenings, weekends and residential work
- Must have a driving licence and own transport with the flexibility to be able to travel across Surrey
- Must have an approved DBS disclosure

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Internal: Head of Youth Work, Youth Specialists, Head of Operations and Operations Manager and Head of Fundraising and Communications, Broadwater School staff

External:, Police Youth Interventions Officer, Youth Support Service staff and other partners and providers

Closing date for applications: Monday 10th July

First interview to take place: Wednesday 19th July

Please send completed application forms to info@eikon.org.uk