

## Social Pedagogy in Fostering – Head, Heart & Hands

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Title:	<b>Social Pedagogue</b>
Salary:	To be confirmed
Location:	Various – Six locations in England and Scotland (2 Social Pedagogues in each)
Interviews:	Early Autumn 2012
Start Date:	Autumn/Winter 2012
Contract:	3 years full time, or permanent
Qualification:	Social Pedagogy or Social Work with a focus on Social Pedagogy

### **GSCC Registration is required**

#### **The Project:**

This is an exciting project that builds on the development of Social Pedagogy in the UK. The project, “Head, Heart and Hands” is funded by a number of funding organisations and managed by a charity for foster care. The broad aim is to introduce a sense of social pedagogic practice in foster care in six sites throughout England and Scotland for the benefit of children and young people in foster care - and through this experience learn more about how Social Pedagogy may be more widely developed in the fostering sector.

The project is likely to comprise of a number of mutually supportive elements to achieve this aim: personal and professional development (training) with foster carers and supervising social workers; practice groups; projects with young people; direct work with foster carers; systemic support relating to change within the organisation and partner organisations.

The roles of 2 Social Pedagogues in each site has not been fully defined, but is likely to include the following:

- To support and work in tandem with the training providers and within the organisation to develop a sense of social pedagogic practice
- To run practice groups within the site, helping to consolidate the learning from training sessions
- To explore and work constructively with the barriers and opportunities for learning and development of social pedagogic practice
- To work directly with foster carers, children and young people
- To support the required systemic change to enable the development of a social pedagogic approach e.g. communication surrounding potential local policy changes
- To communicate with the various parties involved in the project, including the project manager, senior managers within the site, training providers, evaluators of the project
- To attend the personal and professional development (training) sessions, to ensure a shared understanding of the concepts and to be part of the development experience
- To attend and contribute to various workshops and project meetings

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

- (Social) Pedagogy Qualification
- Some years' work experience in settings relevant to the project
- A good understanding of fostering and Children's Services

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- Excellent communication skills
- Excellent spoken and written English
- A passion for social pedagogic practice and an ability to articulate social pedagogic theory, apply it to practice and enable learning and social pedagogic practice for others
- An ability to balance the need for sensitivity and determination in situations of change
- To be articulate and effective in communicating at a variety of levels and with a range of people within sometimes large and complex hierarchical organisations
- To be able to manage the challenges that may be posed by having dual accountabilities; to the project and to the direct employer
- To work creatively and constructively with both determination and empathy in challenging situations

**Next step:**

Please email your CV and a supporting statement to [admin@jacaranda-recruitment.co.uk](mailto:admin@jacaranda-recruitment.co.uk) quoting vacancy reference **VR757**

See <http://www.arbeiten-in-england.de/resources> "Write a Good CV" **before** sending us your CV. The CV should be in Word and *not* contain tables or pictures – many thanks! Please also include a personal statement to say why you are interested in this role, what you can contribute, why you are suitable and what your expectations would be. There are hints and tips on writing a statement on page 18 of our Jacaranda Tips <http://www.arbeiten-in-england.de/images/stories/pdf/jacarandatips.pdf>