

<b>Title of Post</b>	<b>Project Worker – Family Support (Tullamore)</b>
<b>Location</b>	Tullamore Family Support & IPAS Service
<b>Employment Type</b>	Full-time (37 hours per week) and Specific Purpose Contract expected to end December 2026
<b>Salary</b>	€37,498 - €57,961 Depending on Experience
<b>Contact Person</b>	Louise Keogh on 057 9326803 / <a href="mailto:louise.keogh@barnardos.ie">louise.keogh@barnardos.ie</a>
<b>Closing Date</b>	Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026
<b>Interview</b>	Thursday, 07 <sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Barnardos Family Support Service,  
Arden View Community & Family Centre, Arden View, Co. Offaly**

### **What does Barnardos Tullamore Project do?**

Our Tullamore service offers a range of supports for families, which includes for example:

- individual therapeutic support for children through therapeutic play,
- group-based therapeutic support for children,
- parenting support focused on strengthening and modelling core-parenting skills,
- and structured parent-child support

The aim of these initiatives is to enhance and strengthen positive parent-child relationships.

Parents may be seen with their child or children and on their own depending on the presenting needs.

The service operates Monday to Friday

### **Project Worker**

#### **Job Description**

- Post:** Family Support Project worker
- Location:** Barnardos Tullamore Family Support Project, (working across the Offaly and Laois with Families living in IPAS (International Protection Accommodation Services) 2 days per week / Tullamore Family Support Service 3 days per week)
- Responsible to:** Project Leader
- Works with:** Project Leader, Project staff, External agencies as appropriate and Children and families.

## **Role**

The role has two specific areas in which the post-holder will work:

1. Family Support Practitioner Project Worker for refugee families from Ukraine and families seeking international protection living in IPAS accommodation centres, across Laois and Offaly, to support the pathway for integrated community-based child and family support services. 2 days per week
2. Families and children within the Tullamore catchment area in the Barnardos Centre in Tullamore 3 days per week.

## **Job Purpose/Objective**

- Develop and implement programmes that respond to the needs of children and families referred to the service working in partnership with families and other organisational, community and voluntary bodies.
- Provide support that improves the quality of life for families in state provided accommodation such as (but not limited to) IPAS accommodation centres, Emergency accommodation centres, National Reception Centre, National Hub, Emergency Reception and Orientation Centres, while promoting the personal, social and educational development of children, young people and their parents always keeping the child at the forefront of the work.
- Work in partnership with Tusla services, community based statutory agencies and community and voluntary service providers, IPAS accommodation providers, local Child and Family Support Networks and Children and Young People Services Committees.
- Support the Meitheal early intervention practice model to coordinate a child centred approach to individual family needs led support and parenting support.

## **Core Job Requirements**

- Plan, implement and review programmes for children/young people/carers/families based on an assessment of their individual and group needs.
- Change and adapt to new programmes and models of service in line with evidence-based research and required training.
- Be vigilant for signs of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and any concerns regarding the welfare of children. To record concerns promptly and accurately. To consult with the Designated Person and take appropriate action in accordance with Barnardos Child Protection policy.
- 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.
- Key work individual children/young people/carers/families in order to meet their needs and to advocate on their behalf.
- Liaise effectively with families and other statutory, community and voluntary bodies and to attend and contribute to reviews, case conferences and court as required.
- 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.
- Keep regular records in relation to all aspects of work and prepare reports as required.
- Gather information statistics and prepare reports as required, including administration of databases as appropriate to the role.
- 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**

- Work with children and families using the range of service offered.
- Contribute to an analysis of unmet need
- Share knowledge in terms of this catchment area.
- Contribute to ongoing evaluation of the service.
- Collaborate with line manager in developing the role of the Family Support Project Worker and the team.

**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 2 years' post-qualification experience of working with vulnerable children and families. Which may consist of up to one year relevant equivalent experience and at least one year post-qualification relevant experience.
- 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<sup>1</sup> (minimum Level 7 on the QQI) in one of the following:

- Early Childhood Care and Education / Social Care / Education / Social Work / Youth Work or related discipline (Nursing, Psychology, Early Years' Education).

Applicants with a Social Care or Social Work qualification must be registered with CORU as a Social Care Worker or Social Worker respectively. Those eligible for CORU registration who are currently in the process of registration through their qualification, or under CORU's transitional arrangements (grandparenting route), will be required to provide evidence that this in process.

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<sup>1</sup> Course content should include relevant student placements

**A full driving licence and access to the use of a suitably insured car essential.**

The post holder is initially assigned to work from the Tullamore Family Support Service and may be required in the future to work in other project(s) in the Midlands 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.**