

<b>Title of Post</b>	<b>Child and Family Development Worker – Knocknaheeny</b>
<b>Location</b>	Ardmore Avenue, Knocknaheeny
<b>Employment Type</b>	Permanent & Full-Time (37 hours per week)
<b>Salary - Depending on Experience</b>	€30,980 - €48,853 <b>Depending on Experience</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Aileen O'Keeffe
<b>Closing Date</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
<b>Interview Date</b>	Week of 11 <sup>th</sup> May

The Knocknaheeny Brighter Futures project offers support programmes to children and parents with the specific aim of improving children's capacity to learn and develop, improve emotional well-being and social skills.

The Early Years' service works with children between the ages of 1-5. The early years HighScope Room caters for children aged between 2 - 3 years and the Tús Maith pre-school service caters for children between the ages of 3-5.

The afterschool service facilitates programmes to improve emotional wellbeing and promote school achievement, such as the friendship group, issue based groups and individual support.

The team consists of a Project Leader, Project Worker and five Child and Family Development Workers, Programme Assistant, and an Administrator. CE Scheme Participants also work to provide support in the service.

Referrals to the project come from families themselves, and other professionals such as the local social work department.

The service operates Monday to Friday.

## **Project Worker Job Description**

- Post:** Child and Family Development Worker
- Location:** Brighter Futures, Knocknaheeny, Cork
- Responsible to:** Project Coordinator/ Project Leader
- Works with:** Barnardos teams, service users and other agencies.

### **Job purpose**

To provide quality services to children who experience disadvantage in partnership with families / carers and other agencies in order to support children's development.

### **Core Job Requirements**

- To deliver a high quality service to children attending the service.
- To design, implement and evaluate individual and group programmes for children and their families.
- To assess the needs of children referred to the service and their families/carers and to prepare individual intervention plans.
- To 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.
- Participate in the selection of children referred to the service.
- To liaise with other agencies in order to provide an integrated approach to the needs of children and families, and to attend and contribute to reviews and case conferences as required.
- To keep regular records in relation to all aspects of work and prepare reports as required.
- To choose, organise, present and care for equipment and materials relevant to the project.
- To work as part of a team within Barnardos and to work in an integrated way with other Agencies.
- To gather information statistics and prepare reports as required, including administration of databases as appropriate to the role.
- To identify and document to line manager any unmet needs of children / young people / carers / families within the service and to participate in the advocacy work of the agency.
- To supervise students and volunteers where necessary and to ensure they are aware of all Barnardos policies and compile placement reports as appropriate.

### **Requirements Specific to this Post**

This post will operate the HighScope programme for children under the age of five years, incorporating elements of the Barnardos Tus maith programme and Aistear/Siolta Early childhood curriculum framework.

**Note:** This Job Description will be reviewed and updated in line with the needs of the work.

## **Child & Family Development Worker Person Specification**

### **Personal Attributes**

- Commitment to the delivery of quality service to children
- Ability to assess the needs of children.
- Ability to design, implement and evaluate individual and group programmes for children.
- Ability to liaise with families and carers in relation to the welfare of their children.
- Ability to work as part of a team and liaise with colleagues and other agencies.
- Ability to keep clear records and prepare reports.
- Flexibility and adaptability are essential for this post.
- Ability to work on own initiative and to consult where appropriate.

### **Experience**

A minimum of two years' post-qualification experience of working with children (young children if relevant) and families, required. Experience of working with children who face disadvantage is desirable.

### **Qualifications**

A recognised third level practice qualification<sup>1</sup> (minimum Level 7 on the QQI) in one of the following: Social Care / Education / Social Work / Youth Work /Early Childhood Care and Education or a related discipline e.g., Nursing/ Psychology / Early Years Education

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