**Job Description**

**Family Support Worker**

**Role Description**

My children are adopted and have complex challenges that stem from their earliest experiences of disrupted attachment and developmental trauma. An enduring lack of security means that education, socialisation, behaviour and basic routines can be difficult for them. My son also has autism and adhd which affects on his behaviour. As a family support worker you will help me with the children’s day to day care and activities to help provide me with some respite and enable me to work on my parent-child relationship to support my children. As our family needs will vary at different times it is important that as a support worker you can be flexible about what the work involves.

**Main Duties**

* Your main duty will be to spend time with my son and support his needs both at home and by going out to activities with him
* You will also be required to look after my daughter at times so I can spend time with my son. You will not be required to look after both children together when you are alone.
* Support with my son with basic self-care e.g dressing / getting ready for an activity
* Facilitate meaningful activity – spending time playing with / talking to my son
* Practical tasks e.g. driving to activities or preparing meals/snacks
* Support with educational activities at home
* Communication with me to discuss a particular behaviour or reflect on triggers
* Facilitate healthy sibling interactions
* Supporting me to take both children to social activities outside of the home.
* Supporting my son to interact with other children in a positive way when out
* Supervising my son to ensure he is safe and generally responding to his needs.
* Supporting my son to deal with his anxiety and emotional issues.

This list is not exhaustive and duties may vary according to need

**Person Specification**

The right candidate will:

* Be able to commit to the work for more than 6 months at least, as time to form relationships and have consistency in routine is needed
* Have some experience of childcare / working with challenging behaviour
* Be ready to learn about trauma and attachment-informed care (access to some online training can be provided)
* Be able to communicate effectively with children and parents
* Be able to look after themselves emotionally – on occasion the role can be emotionally demanding due to challenging behaviour
* Be able to work with/manage challenging behaviour appropriately
* Demonstrate calm, flexibility, empathy and a sense of humour
* Be willing to work alongside me, as well as independently
* Be able to work flexibly to meet my children’s needs
* Be reliable and trustworthy
* Be a good timekeeper
* Be able to work in different settings
* Be patient and understanding
* Keep information gained in the course of your employment confidential
* Be able to respond appropriately in an emergency
* Be able to accept responsibility and work on your own initiative
* Have at least basic reading, writing and number skills
* Be a non-smoker
* Be a driver and have a clean driving licence
* Be able to provide referee details and undertake an enhanced DBS check

There will be a probation period of 3 months during which time only one weeks notice will be required by either side to terminate the employment.