



## **Job Description - Family Support Practitioner Cued Speech UK**

**Hours:** Permanent, part time/flexible to include some weekends and evenings 0.5 of FTE

**Salary:** £27,000 – £32,000 pro rata

**Pension:** The charity will contribute 3% to a suitable pension.

Income Protection Plan. After 12 months of employment the post holder will be enrolled in the charity's income protection plan.

**Location:** Hertfordshire. The administration offices are in South Devon.

**Travel:** UK-wide travel, and occasional weekend working.

**Contract:** Three-year contract, with a six month probation period, reporting to the Executive Director and the Service Manager for Hearing Impairment Hertfordshire.

**Cued Speech:** - Language made visual for deaf and hearing impaired babies and children UK.

Cued Speech is a charity whose aim is to give deaf and hearing impaired babies children and adults full access to their home language so that they can acquire the communication skills which they need to reach their maximum potential in their family and social context.

Cued Speech is a visual version of spoken language which uses just eight handshapes in four positions near the mouth to completely clarify all the lip-patterns of speech. You cue as you talk and the deaf baby/child can see what you say.

We are currently looking to recruit a Family Support Practitioner to work in Hertfordshire This region is being targeted through new funding to support the dissemination and use of Cued Speech, providing support information and training for parents.

This is an exciting new project which has been funded to reach every child or young person born deaf, up to the age of 18. The project is being rolled out in three different geographical areas.

We have an innovative and dynamic team supporting this project and we are looking for an individual who has knowledge and experience of working with parents and families who have children who are deaf, or who have special or additional needs. You will need to be empathic, professional and practical in your approach.



The Family Support Practitioner will:

- Offer one-to-one home visits with parents to accurately assess their needs and offer them family centred support in parenting a deaf baby.
- Introduce the concept of Cued Speech to parents and families.
- Provide basic training in Cued Speech to parents of deaf babies and children.
- Help to set up parent support groups for deaf babies and children.
- Encourage and support parents in maintaining parent led groups.
- Provide information advice and guidance to professionals about Cued Speech and how it works in partnership with Cochlear Implants and Sign Language and supports language acquisition.
- Collaborate with other practitioners in the team around the child in order to support the best outcomes for the child and the family.
- Be able to present to groups of both parents and professionals

You will already have experience of working with families and preferably deaf children.

You will have a comprehensive knowledge and practice of safeguarding procedures, confidentiality and data-protection

You will have excellent knowledge and experience of child development.

You will understand the concept of family centred practice.

You will have a good understanding and knowledge of language development and acquisition.

You will be able to work as part of a team and on your own initiative.

You must be prepared to commute to Devon where we have our Central Office, for team meetings and as required.

You may have to work some evenings and week-ends in order to meet the needs of the family and other professionals.

You need to have experience of accurate recording and using a data-base with a good understanding of data-protection and confidentiality protocols

You must be experienced in Cued Speech or prepared to work towards your Level Two qualification in Cued Speech while on in your probationary period.

In return we offer a fantastic job, in a great team, with excellent support, training and supervision within the third sector.

**Cued Speech Association UK**, The Forces, Forces Cross, Blackawton, Devon TQ9 7DJ

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