

## Job Description

### Executive Director of Education and Children's Services (Grade ED)

#### Job Purpose

Reporting to the Chief Executive and working with Senior Leadership Team colleagues and the elected Leader, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Members, and in partnership with other private and public sector partners and agencies, lead and direct the Education and Children's Services functions to develop a vision and strategy that delivers effective and safe children's services along with supporting and achieving strong ambitions and outcomes for children and young people. Align the strategy with wider council objectives and optimise resources to ensure effective delivery within a shifting political and economic context.

This is underpinned by the Council's Core Purpose to enable the people of Lancashire to:

- Live a healthy life.
- Live in a decent home in a good environment.
- Have employment that provides an income that allows full participation in society.

#### Accountabilities/Responsibilities

- Hold the statutory role for Children's Services; providing effective strategic leadership and professional guidance to the Council and Senior Leadership Team to ensure the discharge of all relevant statutory responsibilities, management of risk and assist the Council to influence public policy.
- Contribute to a strong, cohesive and collegiate Senior Leadership Team, role model the organisation's values and lead the delivery of a number of strategic, cross cutting initiatives that reach beyond the functional and operational remit of the role.
- Deliver strategic, decisive, influential leadership and direction to ensure the combined efforts of internal and external multi-agency services are effectively co-ordinated to deliver quality educational outcomes and secure safe, sustained and effective social care support, safeguarding and protection services for Lancashire's children and families.
- Working in partnership with schools, colleges and employers to support the drive for high educational standards, achievement and opportunities for all children and young people and creating effective pathways into meaningful careers.
- Deliver inspiring leadership to create a culture of accountability that challenges the status quo and promotes a relentless approach to implementing solutions.
- Build a high performing senior team who gain leadership credibility by modelling the behaviours and performance standards expected of others and ensure they develop and maintain a motivated, performance focused workforce that is trained, professional, effective and committed to achieving successful outcomes and targeted objectives.
- Promote and support a learning culture which considers emerging practice, research and latest thinking to continually improve and innovate across all service areas.

- Develop corporate strategy, strategic business plans and delivery metrics whilst contributing to overall organisational strategy as part of the senior leadership team.
- Ensure services are delivered and measured against internal and external objectives, performance targets and standards in order to achieve positive outcomes for children and families whilst driving out cost.
- Initiate, develop and influence positive external relationships with key stakeholders and partners on a local, regional and national level in line with organisational strategy and direction.
- Develop solutions to new and emerging issues within a challenging financial landscape and constantly changing political and economic contexts.
- Lead on developments that mitigate against significant risk on business and organisational strategies.
- Lead on external assessments, e.g. Ofsted, sector-led and Peer reviews.

#### **Performance Indicators**

- Responsible for quality of service and compliance against statutory, legal, safety and best practice standards and requirements.
- Achievement of organisational objectives and targets.
- Adherence to relevant internal/external quality standards.
- Adherence to policies and procedures.
- Delivery of joint performance indicators and standards of practice with partners and multi-agencies.