

# Job Description

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**Job Title: Vision Rehabilitation / Habilitation Specialist – Dual Role**

**Department: Community Services**

**Primary Objectives:** To promote independence through reablement programmes that enable individuals and their families to overcome the effects of visual loss. This will include, the independence and inclusion opportunities for children and young people with a sight loss in education, social and leisure.

To deliver a high quality habilitation service to include, assessments, orientation and mobility, life skills training and group work for children & young people.

**Main Duties:**

1. Accepting referrals from multi-agency including Rehabilitation Services Management and Vision Support Teams for Children and Young People, you’ll carry a manageable caseload as agreed. This will primarily consist of initial contact visits following receipt of the Certificate of Visual Impairment (CVI).
2. Referrals sources via the Low Vision Letter (LVL), from Social Services, possibly via the Referral of Visual Impairment (RVI), as a result of a re-referral for a more intensive package of rehabilitation, referrals from the Vision Support Team and SPOC.
3. You’ll carry out reablement assessments in the SU’s home, education setting place of work or other public place and use these to design and implement comprehensive reablement programmes for visually impaired adults, children and young people.

1. You’ll teach visually impaired adults and young people and those with additional disabilities a range of independence skills appropriate to their needs. This may be conducted on an individual basis or in groups, within people’s own homes, education setting or in the community.

1. In addition to life skills you’ll also teach a range of indoor and outdoor mobility and independence skills to adults and young people. This may also include sighted guide, pre cane skills, cane skills, orientation, public transport, the use of navigation technology and other mobility aids.

1. You’ll assess the need for equipment, aids and gadgets that will enable visually impaired adults and children and those with additional disabilities to retain skills and independence.
2. To source items according to the assessment and to train individuals in their use including advice on the production of auditory and tactile diagrams, maps, plans etc. for orientation when required by the school or individual.

1. To source funding for specialist equipment and to complete bursary and charity link applications.

1. To teach communication skills as appropriate, including braille, IT and audio equipment.

1. To assess and teach visually impaired adults and young people in the techniques for Eccentric Viewing and Steady Eye.

1. To assess and implement adaptations for lighting.

1. To assess and implement other health and safety adaptations i.e.grab rails, marking of steps etc

1. To assess for Low Vision Aids during a domiciliary visit. To source and teach as appropriate..

1. Conduct Access assessments with local councils, schools and other organisations where required.

1. To work closely with and refer to other agencies in order to achieve the desired outcomes for visually impaired adults and young people.

Working with adults and young people you’’ develop a comprehensive range of short and long term strength based, person centred and outcome focussed enablement and reablement programmes with clear timescales.

1. To maximise opportunities for acquiring and enhancing the social skills and self confidence of visually impaired adults and young people including those with additional disabilities in cooperation with other Vista teams.

1. To undertake functional vision assessments of individuals with additional disabilities as agreed with the Rehabilitation Services Coordinator.

1. To assist during some information days and specialist courses as agreed.

1. To keep up to date with all new technologies and equipment.

1. To be able to meet deadlines and keep to timescales in accordance with the SLA.

1. To write up records of work using remote working and the database within the agreed timescales in accordance with the SLA. This will include monitoring the individuals progress, keeping records from visits, meetings and progress reviews and writing reports for schools and the Qualified Teachers of Visually Impaired learners.
2. Flexibility is required in light of possible changes within the reablement team due to council changes.

**Resources (refer to Guidance Notes):**

* 1. **People:**

Daily visits to SU’s and their families/carers (carries a caseload) Other professionals/other agencies

* 1. **Financial:**

No

Occasional couriering of cash for purchases made from the shop and donations to the charity

* 1. **Non-financial:** Laptop

Mobile Phone

Car

**Additional responsibilities**

1. To ensure activities comply with current law

1. To operate within the law at all times, with particular reference to health and safety; safeguarding; equality and data protection legislation

1. To work flexibly, including additional hours from time to time to meet the needs of the job, and some unsocial hours working

**Prepared by: C Bayley Date: 29/7/2022**

This job description sets out the duties of the post at the time when it was drawn up. Such duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and cannot of themselves justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.

**Person Specification**

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| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** | **How**  **Identified (e.g. form, interview, test)** |
| **Qualifications**  **& Training** | Diploma in Higher  Education in Rehabilitation  Studies (VI)  Recognised Habilitation  Officer qualification for Visual Impairment or prepared to work towards    4 GCSE or equivalent – A-C (one must be English) | Experience working with people in a supporting role | **Form**  **Interview** |
| **Experience** | Work with people from different ethnic and cultural origins    Experience of working with older people , children and young people with disabilities    Experience of working in a variety of settings: voluntary and local authority    Experience of supporting  people with a disability | Post qualifying experience with visually impaired  people    Experience with dual sensory loss  Experience of  Conducting risk assessments with children | **Form**  **Interview** |
| **Skills &**  **Knowledge** | Knowledge and skills using  IT equipment  Proven written and verbal communication skills and  excellent interpersonal skills    Ability to work as a member of a team    Ability to work with little  supervision and manage  your own caseload    Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines    Demonstrate report writing skills  Knowledge of data protection and  confidentiality | Adaptable and open to change | **Form**  **Interview** |
| **Personal**  **Qualities** | Flexibility  Adaptable  Empathetic  Organised and self motivated |  | **Form**  **Interview** |
| **Other** | Able and willing to travel around Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland |  | **Interview** |