

# The National Deaf Children's Society

## Job description

### Senior Audiology Adviser

<b>Reports to:</b>	Senior Policy Adviser
<b>Department:</b>	Policy and Campaigns
<b>Job Grade:</b>	Circa £40,000 (full-time) depending on experience and location
<b>Hours:</b>	Up to 35 hours a week*
<b>Location:</b>	London, Birmingham, Glasgow or Belfast office or office or home-based (UK)
<b>Contract:</b>	Permanent
<b>Level of disclosure check:</b>	Basic

*\* We committed to supporting the post-holder to maintain their professional qualification and are open to applications from candidates who wish to continue working as an audiologist for a number of hours a week.*

## Principal Contacts

- a) Internal**
  - Policy and Campaigns teams
  - Children, Parents and Young Families teams
  - Communications
  - Deaf Child Worldwide
  - Chief Executive
  
- b) External**
  - Audiology professionals and networks and related health experts
  - Health service decision makers and policy influencers
  - Parents of deaf children

## **Main purpose of post**

To act as the professional lead for audiology within the National Deaf Children's Society, ensuring that our work is informed by evidence and insight, whilst also proactively driving and supporting the development of high-quality paediatric audiology pathways and services across the UK.

## **Key Tasks**

1. Maintain and develop professional networks to ensure that the National Deaf Children's Society has an excellent understanding of good practice in paediatric audiology, including related and developing areas of research and practice such as genomics and technology.
2. Support the National Deaf Children's Society in creating the evidence base required to support effective influencing and campaigning so that paediatric audiology and related health services are of high standard. Working with the Chief Policy Advisor, contribute to horizon scanning and the development of research plans.
3. Plan an active role in the National Deaf Children's Society engagement with audiology professionals and engage directly with decision makers and opinion formers to support improvement in paediatric audiology in each UK country.
4. Support local engagement activity so that it makes an effective contribution to service reviews, policies and plans, resolves issues and conducts successful campaigns in relation to audiology.
5. Draft relevant content and support/review the writing of a wide range of resources for multiple audiences including families, deaf young people, professionals, as well as our colleagues, volunteers, Executive Directors and Trustees. Ensure that our resources reflect best evidence and practice in audiology.
6. Attend and present at conferences, events and meetings in support of the above. Act as a media spokesperson on relevant issues.
7. Manage an Audiology Adviser, supporting them to respond to individual queries, whilst also providing support for their professional development.
8. Abide by and promote our Policy of *Informed Choice*, its Vision and Values and *Equal Opportunities Statement*.
9. Take responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people.
10. Carry out other tasks that are reasonably requested.

This post will be working in environments where deaf children and young deaf adults up to age 25 may be present.

This post will be working in a position of trust and responsibility within the charity.

This list of tasks is not exhaustive and will be reviewed from time to time in discussion with the post holder.

The National Deaf Children's Society is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young adults and expects staff and volunteers to share that commitment. A disclosure check will be sought in relation to the successful applicant for this post. This will be shared with Human Resources and may also be shared with the Safeguarding Manager and the relevant management team.

# **The National Deaf Children's Society**

## **Person specification**

### **Senior Audiology Adviser**

#### **Essential skills and experience**

1. A relevant degree level or equivalent professional qualification.
2. Experience of working within a paediatric audiology service and providing audiological information and advice to families and professionals.
3. A good awareness of the features of high-quality paediatric audiology services and pathways, and the possible enablers and risks to this. A commitment to ensuring every deaf child has access to high-quality provision and a willingness to influence and constructively challenge decision-makers and professionals.
4. An ability to monitor and understand current research on audiology and childhood deafness and identify key salient points and implications for the organisation.
5. Excellent written and communication skills, with the ability to read, review, understand and present complex information clearly and succinctly in plain English to a wide range of different audiences.
6. Ability to work on your own initiative and manage a busy and varied workload, taking personal responsibility for making things happen, whilst also being an effective team member.
7. Good interpersonal skills with the ability to interact effectively with colleagues of all levels across the organisation, as well as senior professionals and decision-makers.
8. A commitment to informed choice and equal opportunity, and the ability to translate these principles into everyday practice.
9. A willingness to travel and to work occasional evenings and weekends as may be required.

#### **Desirable skills and criteria**

1. Experience of managing staff or volunteers.
2. Experience of developing and delivering information sessions or training to families and professionals.

3. Knowledge of British Sign Language or a willingness to learn.
4. Confident in using Customer Relationship Management or Patient Management databases with a good overall understanding of the applications of such systems.
5. An interest in or a willingness to develop knowledge about wider health policy and NHS structures.