

**THIS IS
LIFE
CHANGING**

Work in Children's Social
Care at Warwickshire
County Council.



Now is an exciting time to be a part of the Children and Families service at Warwickshire County Council (WCC), and we'll give you the support and encouragement you need to succeed.

Social work is a fast-paced, busy career but also a hugely rewarding and fulfilling one. It's a big responsibility that can be challenging at times, but this is what drives our teams to develop and achieve. We will give you the opportunity to develop the career you want and learn different skills.

There's nothing stopping you from going a long way at WCC and personally making a difference to the lives of children and families in Warwickshire.

What is social work?

Social workers support individuals and their families through challenging times and ensure that vulnerable adults and children are safeguarded. It is a challenging but hugely rewarding career for those who really want to make a difference in people's lives.

Roles and responsibilities of a social worker

Social workers carry out many different tasks, dependent on the area of social work they specialise in. Some of the fundamental activities are:

- Working with vulnerable children, young people, and families
- Completing assessments of need
- Helping in crisis
- Supporting change to create safer and more stable family arrangements for children and young people where they can meet their full potential
- Where children and young people cannot remain at home with family, finding alternative arrangements which ensure that children are safe, well cared for and can meet their full potential
- Co-ordinating plans to manage needs and wrap around support
- Building relationships with individuals, their family and friends and other professionals in the social care network
- Writing and filing reports



Do you have what it takes?

- A desire to help others and improve their daily lives
- The ability to empathise with people and understand their experiences
- Excellent communication and listening skills
- Strong ability to build trust and rapport with children and families
- Confident in working under pressure and managing your own workload

Get into social work

University Course

Enrolling onto a University course to obtain a degree in social work (BA undergraduate degree or a postgraduate masters), and then applying for a role once you are qualified, is the most traditional route into social work. The course takes three years for a first degree or two years post graduate degree if completed on a full-time basis.

As a social work student, you will have the opportunity to experience social work through practice learning placements.

Contact universities directly to check entry requirements.

Social Worker Apprenticeship Scheme

WCC work with Coventry University to offer Social Work Apprenticeships to non-qualified social care staff such as Family Support Workers. This is a great route for people wishing to further their career to become a social worker whilst gaining on the job experience. There is an application process with a limited number of sought-after places available. The degree apprenticeship is fully funded and will take three years to complete.

Frontline

WCC works in partnership with Frontline to offer a unique route into social work for graduates and those seeking a career change. Following an intensive five-week residential course at Warwick University you will then join a local authority as part of a unit and will be supported by an experienced social worker throughout this two-year course.

Types of children's social work

The breadth of roles in Children's Services means you can shape your own career, whether that's becoming the best at what you do, progressing with your strengths and ambition, or exploring interests in other areas, you'll grow into who you want to be.

Some of the types of social work roles available are in Initial Response, Safeguarding and Support, Children in Care, Leaving Care and Unaccompanied Asylum, Children with Disabilities, Fostering and Adoption and the Youth Justice Service.

What makes Warwickshire different?

Warwickshire County Council strives for Warwickshire to be the best it can be, offering a great place for children and young people to live, learn and grow.

Children are at the centre of our communities and we work hard to ensure that their voices are heard, they are engaged in all aspects of their lives, and they are empowered to reach their full potential.

- We work together to improve their quality of life and ensure they receive the right support at the right time
- We know families are the experts in their own lives, so we listen to them and understand their needs. We work with them, not to or for them, to keep families together and support them to build on their own strengths and relationships
- We have secured additional investment to transform ourselves and our services so that we can achieve the best outcomes for children
- We are investing in new ways of working to allow increased focus on building strong relationships with families and helping them to find long-lasting solutions to any problems they may face
- We are also investing in our single most important asset, our people, we have launched a Children and Families Academy to support training and professional development

Children and Families Academy

In Warwickshire we put children and families at the heart of everything we do so that they are supported to lead safe, healthy and independent lives. However, we know that in order to achieve this, it is essential that our children and families workforce has continuous professional development.

Our Children and Families Academy provides a supportive community for our people within Warwickshire to develop their skills and experience. The Academy hosts a variety of training sessions, coaching, webinars and learning & development for staff so that they can shape the career they want in the Children and Families Service at WCC.

Benefits

Warwickshire County Council employees have access to a large range of benefits. We want to do everything we can to ensure that we protect your wellbeing, and you can enjoy a work/life balance.

Some of the benefits are:

- A range of family friendly policies and flexible working arrangements
- Relocation allowance
- Childcare voucher scheme
- A generous contractual sick pay scheme
- Occupational health support



Don't just take our word for it

"I love being a social worker because it has challenged me in ways I never expected and allowed me to build deep connections with so many people – both colleagues and children and families – that I otherwise wouldn't have the honour of knowing.

I feel privileged that so many people have trusted me to share their stories and allowed me to support them. I love being a social worker in Warwickshire as I feel valued, supported and my development is prioritised."

RAMANDEEP
Social Worker at Warwickshire County Council

"I encourage others to get into social work because there really isn't a job like it anywhere else. We often work with families when they are in times of crisis and they don't know who to turn to for help. We work with them to build trusting relationships so they can see the positive impact we can collectively make on their lives. There really isn't a job like it in the world - get into social work, you won't regret it."

JAMES
Social Worker at Warwickshire County Council

**This is the difference you can make working in
Children's Services at Warwickshire County Council.**

**Scan the QR code with your mobile phone camera or
go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/workforus**





Working together to make the county the
best place to grow up.