

All correspondence to:
The Breastfeeding Network
PO Box 11126, Paisley PA2 8YB
Admin Tel: 0844 412 0995
Email: Julie.muir@breastfeedingnetwork.org.uk
www.breastfeedingnetwork.org.uk



Job Code:

Job Description: Hospital Peer Supporter (Princess Anne Southampton)

Job Title: Breastfeeding Network Hospital Peer Supporter, Princess Anne Hospital Southampton

Salary: £12 per hour

Number of posts: 3 part time posts

Type of contract: Fixed term temporary until 31st March 2025

Start date: September 2024

Hours of work:

Three evenings a week for 3 hours (total 9hrs/week)

Saturday mornings for 5 hours & two evenings for 3 hours (total 11hrs/week)

Sunday mornings for 5 hours & two evenings for 3 hours (total 11hrs/week)

(Covered by 3 part-time posts to cover the full 7 day week evenings and weekend mornings)

Work location: Princess Anne Hospital Maternity Wards

Responsible to: Project Manager – BfN Southampton

Background and Purpose of the Post:

The Breastfeeding Network is commissioned by Southampton City Council, Public Health to deliver a universal breastfeeding peer support service across the area. This

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includes delivery of training, supervision and breastfeeding support in the community, as well as implementing a scheme to welcome and support breastfeeding in public. The current service is primarily daytime, weekday, community-based offering, drop-in groups in Family Hubs and public venues, as well as home visits through the Health Visitor Infant Feeding Team along with ongoing phone and online support. The paid roles of the Hospital Peer Supporters will offer weekend and evening breastfeeding support on Princess Anne Hospital's maternity wards.

The service will contribute to improving health outcomes by offering early breastfeeding support and will enable those people who choose to breastfeed to have access to appropriate support regardless of age, ethnic origin, beliefs, gender, sexual orientation, social status and employment status.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Provide bedside support for all families on the maternity wards who have initiated breastfeeding or wish to
- Listen to breastfeeding/pregnant parent's concerns and answer questions about breastfeeding
- Offer support with positioning and attachment and provide key information about breastfeeding
- Provide information about the Southampton infant feeding support services and BfN national support (National Breastfeeding Helpline, Drugs in Breastmilk Service and BfN Website)
- Encourage parents to go to their local breastfeeding groups and give out the groups information
- Ensure the BfN hospital resource store is maintained with up-to-date resources of breastfeeding leaflets, stickers and leaflets on local and national support
- Keep accurate data records to enable evaluation of the service in accordance with BfN's Information Governance Policy and local processes
- Ensure all data and attendance records are maintained accurately and submitted in a timely manner for reporting purposes

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- Refer parents with complex or medical breastfeeding problems to the Infant Feeding Team, Midwives or other Health Professionals on the ward
- Attend Hospital meetings pertaining to the Hospital Peer Supporter role and attend BfN team meetings as appropriate
- Provide support to Volunteer Hospital Peer Supporters on the ward by way of shadowing
- Provide occasional cover for other BfN peer supporters in the hospital
- Build on the existing close relationships with the Hospital; working with management and frontline staff to continually improve the integration of Peer Supporter, systems and pathways so that our work complements maternity staff and creates seamless care for families.
- Work within the Baby Friendly Initiative remit
- Work within the BfN's Code of Conduct and Information Governance procedures, seeking supervision on a regular basis from a BfN Supervisor to fulfil the requirements of this role
- Liaise with other project staff about updating hospital processes and community support details.
- Maintain up to date knowledge of BfN's Policies
- Undertake the supervision and training required to maintain peer supporter Level 3 registered status with BfN, and fulfil the requirements and demands of the role
- Participate in regular 1 to 1 meetings (including annual performance reviews if relevant) with the Service Manager
- Keep up to date with personal administration including timesheets, leave forms and shift forward planning schedules

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This is not an exhaustive job description and may be subject to change according to the needs and development of the role. It is expected that the post holder may undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested.

Hospital Peer Supporter (Southampton) Person Specification

Please refer to this document carefully when completing your application form and preparing for your interview. You must demonstrate how you meet the criteria on your application form.

Requirements	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
Level 2 accredited Helper - peer support training with The Breastfeeding Network (BfN) & have had at least minimum supervision required from your named supervisor. Or equivalent training and prepared to transfer into BfN.	√	
Level 3 accredited Breastfeeding Supporter Registration with the BfN or be currently in training to become a Breastfeeding Supporter, or be prepared to sign up to the next Breastfeeding Supporter training course		√
Experience of working as a volunteer with BfN offering breastfeeding support to families		√
Show evidence of continued professional development since qualification		√
Experience and Knowledge		

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Requirements	Essential	Desirable
Experience of supporting breastfeeding face to face with parent	√	
Experience of working in a health or community setting in paid or volunteer capacity	√	
Experience of working with diverse ethnic and social groups		√
Knowledge of importance and application of the BfN Code of Conduct	√	
Knowledge of the BfN Equality and Diversity Policy	√	
Skills and abilities		
Ability to speak and write fluently in English	√	
Ability to provide information and support to parents in a non-judgemental fashion.	√	
Ability to provide an effective 'hands off' approach when helping mothers with positioning and attachment	√	
Ability to follow established processes, organise and manage work independently	√	
Ability to work effectively as part of a team	√	
Excellent interpersonal and communication skills	√	
Ability to work with people from different cultures sensitively	√	
Ability to keep the confidentiality the parent and their families	√	
Basic IT skills including Word, Excel, email and internet use	√	
Ability to maintain records and write reports	√	

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Requirements	Essential	Desirable
Awareness and commitment to equal opportunities	√	
Ability to work well with a range of health care professionals	√	