

## Head of Children's Services

**Autism Early Support Trust** is recruiting a **Head of Children's Services**, a new position designed to drive forward all facets of the support we provide to children and their families.

### Who We Are

- **Autism Early Support (AES)**, established in 2001 as Puzzle Centre, is a UK charity based near Winslow, Buckinghamshire.
- We have a growing national reputation as a leader in the development of 'best practice' in early years education and intervention for young children with autism and other communication difficulties.
- AES operates a specialist nursery, **Circle Centre**, which has repeatedly been rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. In addition, we operate an **Outreach** service for children and families, as well as education and healthcare professionals.

Full details of the work of the AES can be found at: [www.autismearlysupport.org.uk](http://www.autismearlysupport.org.uk)

### The Role

The Head of Children's Services, reporting to the CEO, will be responsible for all of AES' activities which provide support for children.

We wish to appoint an experienced and energetic practitioner to manage and lead both the Circle Centre specialist nursery and the Outreach team, and to oversee the day-to-day running of both services. We are looking for a skilled practitioner who has both solid management experience and a good understanding of the vital part that specialised early intervention plays in increasing positive outcomes and life chances for this vulnerable group of children and their families.

We are looking for:

- A qualified teacher, speech and language therapist, occupational therapist or other relevant practitioner (such as psychologist), with a minimum of 5 years experience in working with young children with communication and learning difficulties.
- Experience in managing a professional team.
- Specific experience and qualifications in the education of children on the autistic spectrum would be an advantage.
- Ability to work closely with parents, local and national statutory authorities, other professionals and specialists involved in the education and welfare of children.

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| <b>Salary:</b>   | Circa £50K; the position is equivalent to level L6                   |
| <b>Pension:</b>  | 10% non-contributory scheme  |
| <b>Contract:</b> | Full time, Permanent. Part-time (4 days per week) may be considered. |
| <b>Location:</b> | Winslow, Buckinghamshire   |

To apply:

- Email your completed application form to [mandysimons@autismearlysupport.org.uk](mailto:mandysimons@autismearlysupport.org.uk) attaching your most up to date CV.
- Provide a letter of application, clearly stating how you would meet the key requirements
- Closing date for applications is **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**

*Autism Early Support Trust Limited is committed both to equality of opportunity and to ensuring the safeguarding of our children and employees. These values are paramount to our ethos of working and are reflected in the policies of our charity.*