

## School Social Worker

### Job Description

The primary duty of a school-based social worker involves counselling students by meeting with them to discuss the issues they face and their root causes. Social workers help students with learning problems such as dyslexia and attention deficit disorder, or social problems, including poverty and being a victim of domestic or sexual abuse. Social workers also help students who frequently disrupt classroom activities or show violent behaviour toward teachers and other students. Social workers help in identifying factors in the home, school and community that influence a student's academic and social success, and find ways for students to maximize their success. They assist students who face social and learning challenges, and help students develop and reinforce correct behaviour. Social workers keep notes to document their sessions with students and meet multiple times with students to monitor their progress.

### Job Duties

Because they are tasked with helping students function effectively in a school environment, school social workers interact with students to assess the areas in which they might need counselling or assistance. Communicating with parents, teachers and SLT team and ADEC is essential to provide a full view of the issues facing an individual student. School social workers also maintain case files and reports to track student problems and progress and to recognize patterns in behaviour. Once issues or behaviour problems have been identified, school social workers assist in remediation by providing counselling, treatment plans or workshops.

### Communication

School-based social workers must communicate often with parents, teachers and SLT members to share information about students. Through conversations, they seek information to help them understand students' challenges and to monitor each student's level of success in addressing issues. Social workers provide these individuals with resources, such as referrals to organizations and government offices that provide assistance with learning difficulties.

### Developing Plans of Action

Social workers along with SENCO and MLT draft and implement plans for dealing with common student problems and family hardships, including divorce. They establish personalized intervention programs to help these students. They liaise with the SENCO and MLT to provide students with special learning opportunities and programs, including after school mentoring and tutoring programs where necessary.

### Collaborating with External Establishments

School-based social workers work cooperatively with outside establishments to help students and their families deal with hardships.

***WHAT are some of the specific services that School Social Workers provide?***

**Essential Functions:**

- Provides direct support service to individual students, small groups.
- Completes assessments, referrals, and counselling with students and families.
- Oversees implementation of the school's program. Consults with other professional staff and outside establishments.
- Completes written reports as needed or as requested by Principal.
- Completes reports as required by Federal, State and local agencies.
- Interview students and families.

**Related Services:**

- Participating in special education assessment meetings as well as individual Educational Planning Meetings
- Working with those problems in a child's living situation that affect the child's adjustment in school. (home, school, and community)
- Counselling (group, individual)
- Assisting in developing positive behavioural intervention strategies.

**Services to Students:**

- Providing crisis intervention.
- Developing intervention strategies to increase academic success.
- Assisting with conflict resolution and anger management.
- Helping the child develop appropriate social interaction skills.
- Assisting the child in understanding and accepting self and others.

**Services to Families:**

- Working with parents to facilitate their support in their children's school adjustment.
- Alleviating family stress to enable the child to function more effectively in school & community.
- Assisting parents to access programs available to students with special needs.
- Assisting parents in accessing and utilizing school.

**Services to School Personnel:**

- Providing staff with essential information to better understand factors (cultural, societal, economic, familial, health, etc.) affecting a student's performance and behaviour.
- Developing staff in-service training programs.
- Assisting teachers with behaviour management, with the support of the MLT
- Providing direct support to staff.

**This position is open now. Please send all applications to**

**[recruitment@reachbritishschool.com](mailto:recruitment@reachbritishschool.com)**