

West Midlands,

Home: 0121

Work: 0121

Mobile:

I am a highly experienced education professional with proven success managing services for children and families, specifically in the early years, childcare and related sectors. I am skilled in leading teams, developing effective strategies to improve educational outcomes and building successful partnership working in order to develop integrated service provision. I also have strong research and report writing skills from my local authority roles and current doctorate level research at the University of Birmingham. I am now looking to apply this experience and expertise in a consultancy role, working on projects to improve early years education.

KEY SKILLS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Education sector expertise

- Thorough knowledge of all aspects of service provision and the regulatory framework for early years and childcare through current role as Strategic Manager at Sandwell MBC.
- Deepened knowledge of learning and learning contexts through current Doctorate in Education.
- Qualified teacher (BA Education and Teaching Certificate in Further and Adult Education) and Ofsted nursery inspector with extensive experience teaching and assessing on FE childcare and early years courses.
- Worked directly with children in early part of career in nursery, school and hospital settings.

Strategy development

- In local authority roles, developed a number of successful strategies which resulted in improvements in early years and childcare outcomes in deprived areas including: raising the qualification levels of practitioners which resulted in improved Ofsted outcomes; raising awareness of child poverty issues amongst local authority staff and health professionals; securing and allocating funding to expand the provision of services and introducing a scheme to help parents budget for childcare fees which resulted in increased participation.

Leadership and management

- In current role manage up to 60 staff across five teams, co-ordinating the provision of early years services, including managing staff through significant change such as four restructures during nine years.
- In current role developed and promoted integrated working practices and systems across the teams, which was identified as a model of good practice to be applied in other units in the local authority.
- At Bilston Community College managed two teams and co-ordinated 27 franchises for family learning projects across the West Midlands

Written and oral communication

- Strong report writing skills from current doctoral research project and local authority roles.
- Experienced presenter and lecturer, having taught on childcare courses and presented at a number of student and professional conferences.

Training, development and coaching

- Integral part of local authority roles included the development and delivery of training for local authority managers and staff, healthcare professionals and childcare practitioners.
- Working as a peer mentor/adviser for local authority staff as part of role with C4EO (Centre for Excellence in Outcomes), helping them improve performance, for example following a poor Ofsted outcome.
- Diploma in Performance Coaching. In current role use coaching as an integral part of management role, coaching current and former employees on career development and job performance. Particular interest in mentoring and coaching women.

Building partnerships

- Local authority roles involved building effective partnerships with providers of services including evaluating business plans, allocating funding, organising training and monitoring quality.
- Worked effectively in politically sensitive environments in local authority roles.

CAREER SUMMARY

- Oct 2002 – May 2012 **Strategic Manager, Early Years & Childcare Unit**, Sandwell MBC
- Manage up to 60 staff across four areas in the delivery of early years and childcare services: capital building, information services, service providers and supporting children.
- May 1999 – Jan 2003 **Training, Recruitment and Quality Manager, initially Development Officer**
Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, Wolverhampton City Council (seconded to Sandwell Oct 2002).
- Feb – May 1999 **Lecturer, Early Years and Childcare**, Halesowen College
- Teacher on the BTec childcare course and on a community outreach programme.
- Jul 1990 – Jan 1999 **Lecturer/Assessor, Early Years and Childcare Courses (1994-1997), Manager, Childcare Support Services (1990-1997), Manager, Family Learning Projects (1997-1999)**
Bilston Community College, Wolverhampton
- Taught childcare courses, trained NVQ Assessors for childcare, play work and care. Developed and taught family learning programmes.
- Sep 1987 – Jul 1990 **Basic Skills Tutor**, Sandwell MBC
- Managed and taught on adult and family learning programmes covering subjects such as parenting, childcare and GCSE Maths and English.
- Jan 1986 – Jun 1990 **Support Worker**
Regent Special School for children with severe learning difficulties.
- Supported children aged 2-19 but specifically 16-19 year olds with basic and life skills.
- 1969 - 1985 **Practical experience in childcare**
Qualified NNEB Nursery Nursing with experience in Birmingham day nurseries, Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Dudley Road Hospital. During this period also brought up my three children and worked as a childminder and playgroup supervisor.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

- 2006 – 2013
(p/time) **Doctorate in Education: Learning and Learning Contexts**
University of Birmingham, School of Education
- Research Project: “Improving the quality of the learning experience.” The research looks at what interventions are needed to improve the quality of provision of early years learning, considering both the regulatory framework and social context.
- 2001 – 2002 **BA Education (in-service degree)**, University of Worcester, **First Class**
- 2001 **Ofsted Certificate of Registration** as Nursery Inspector
- 2001 **Diploma in Performance Coaching** (NCFE)
- 1995 **Teaching Certificate in Further and Adult Education** (C&G) and **BTEC Assessors awards**
- 1994 **NNEB Post Qualifying Diploma – Early Childhood Studies**
- Other courses:** Child Abuse & Neglect (Open University), Sociology/Psychology – Child Development SEG/MEG)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Publications:** Articles published in the leading journal for the sector “Nursery World”.
- **Professional memberships:** Association of Professionals in Education and Children’s Trusts (ASPECT), European Early Childhood Education Research Association (EECERA) and Training, Advancement and Co-operation in the Teaching of Young Children (TACTYC)
- **Project Manager and UK Co-Director – Society for Gender and Child Advancement (NGO, Nigeria)**
2009- present: on a voluntary basis worked on projects to improve literacy including the development and delivery of a training programme for teachers and quality assurance of schools.

Referee details have been excluded here as space is tight. This is fine for non-academic CVs (unless specifically asked for at the application stage). Details can usually be provided once you have been selected for interview.