

Career of the Fortnight



Social Worker - help to protect vulnerable children and adults from harm or abuse, and support people to live independently.



<p>Entry requirements:</p> <p>You can do a degree or postgraduate qualification in social work approved by the Health and Care Professions Council.</p> <p>You could do a 2-year postgraduate degree in social work, if you have a degree in another subject.</p> <p>You may be eligible for social work funding.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>You will usually need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 GCSEs at grade 9 to 4 (A* to C) or above and 2 to 3 A levels• a degree in any subject for a postgraduate course <p>You can complete a social worker degree apprenticeship.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>You will usually need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and college qualifications like A levels for a degree apprenticeship	<p>Skills required:</p> <p>You will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• counselling skills including active listening and a non-judgemental approach• sensitivity and understanding• patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations• to be flexible and open to change• the ability to work well with others• knowledge of psychology• the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure• active listening skills• being able to use a computer terminal or hand-held device may be beneficial for this job.
<p>What you will do:</p> <p>In this role you could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• offering information and counselling• putting together support plans• keeping records and writing reports• working with other professionals• supervising team members• attending court• discussing your cases through regular supervision	<p>What you will earn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Starter: £24,000• Experienced: £40,000 <p><i>These figures are a guide.</i></p>
<p>Working hours, patterns and environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You could work in an office, in an NHS or private hospital, at an adult care home, at a children's care home or in the community.• Your working environment may be emotionally demanding.• 37 to 40 hours a week• Evenings, weekends, bank holidays on a rota	<p>Career path and progression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• During your first year in work your employer may offer the Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE). This includes extra support like:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. regular supervision2. a training and development plan3. time to meet your training and development needs• You'll need to pass your ASYE in the first 12 months of being employed so that you can get your fitness to practice certificate.• When you've completed your ASYE, you'll be given a training pathway to keep your skills current and to help you progress. Each local authority will have a career pathway, with some offering the chance to study for an MA in Advanced Professional Practice.• With experience, you'll usually find opportunities to progress into management, research or study for a PhD. You could also become a practice educator and train and mentor students from your partner university.