

## Portage Practitioner – Early Years.

**Location:** West/North Kent.

Fulltime, 37 hours per week all year round. Applications for 28 hours a week considered for the right candidate. Start date- Autumn term 2026.

### **Are you passionate about supporting young children with Special Educational Needs?**

Do you want a rewarding role that makes a real difference to the lives of children aged 0–4 and their families across Kent?

The **Kent Portage Service** is a county-wide educational service supporting children with SEND in their homes, community and early years provisions.

We are a diverse and experienced team delivering a blended model of educational support and transition through face-to-face, group and virtual sessions.

### **As part of the role, you will:**

- Deliver home-based and group learning sessions to children with SEND and their families in a variety of locations.
- Support transitions into Early Years provisions.
- Work flexibly across home, office, community, and virtual environments.
- Assess a child's development using appropriate tools, then develop targets and strategies to meet their individual educational needs.
- Plan, deliver, and evaluate interventions tailored to each child's developmental needs.
- Support parents and professionals to implement recommendations and review progress.
- Liaise with a range of professionals, working collaboratively to support the educational development of individual children.
- Offer advice and guidance in line with the Kent Local Offer.
- Organise and chair meetings with professionals and families as needed.
- Write reports and complete relevant documentation to a high standard for sharing with families and professionals.
- Work in West/North Kent, but may be required to travel and work in a wider area on occasion.

### **About You**

We're looking for someone who:

- Is educated to an NVQ Level 3 in Childcare (or equivalent)
- Holds GCSEs (Grade 4–9) in English.
- Has a strong understanding of child development and experience working with very young children with SEND.
- Can adapt play-based learning to meet individual developmental levels.
- Is self-motivated, organised, and able to prioritise effectively.
- Has a working knowledge of Microsoft applications including Outlook, Word and Excel.

In your application, please explain how your skills and experience match the criteria listed in the person specification attached to the job description. The interview will include a 10-minute presentation. The title will be shared if you are shortlisted, as part of the interview process.

## What We Offer

- A comprehensive induction programme.
- Ongoing CPD opportunities, including:
  - Accredited Portage 3-Day Training Workshop.
- A flexible hybrid working model.
- An option to enrol in the **Local Government Pension Scheme** with KCC contributions.
- Staff discounts via **Kent Rewards**.
- Access to a range of staff groups providing support and development opportunities to staff across a diverse workforce.

This position is considered by KCC to be a customer facing position. The Council therefore has a statutory duty under Part 7 of the Immigration Act 2016 to ensure that post holders have a command of spoken English/Welsh sufficient for the effective performance of the job requirements. The appropriate standards are set out in the job description/person specification.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure application with the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The role is subject to a full UK driving licence - The council is committed to making reasonable adjustments. So, whilst this job requires A jobholder to drive, your application will still be considered if you are unable to drive due to a disability.

## About the Company

KCC is committed to building a workforce that reflects the diversity of the county's working residents, encouraging applications from people of all ages, abilities, genders, sexual orientations, ethnic backgrounds, faiths, and those with caring responsibilities. We aspire to create an inclusive workplace where everyone can be themselves at work.

If you're interested, please apply as soon as possible, by sending your cv to:

**Amanda Wesson-Portage County Manager**

📞 03000 413 718 [amanda.wesson@kent.gov.uk](mailto:amanda.wesson@kent.gov.uk)

Interviews will be held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026.