**About Lead Scotland**

Lead Scotland is a charity supporting disabled people and carers by providing personalised learning, befriending, advice and information services. We have projects across Scotland and a national helpline and information service. Our local services are community and home based, one to one or in small groups so that people have the right support to learn and participate. We support people to build a bridge to reach their ambitions of personal development, learning, volunteering and work. At a national level, we provide information and advice on the full range of post-school learning and training opportunities, as well as influencing and informing policy.

**Lead Scotland Vision**

Our vision is of a fair society where disabled people and carers have an equal opportunity to learn, participate and achieve their potential.

**Lead Scotland Mission**

To influence change and provide personalised learning, befriending, advice, and information services.

**Strategic Goals for 2020 to 2023**

* Broaden our range of learning and befriending opportunities
* Enable more disabled people and carers to actively participate within communities
* Extend our local and national coverage
* Strengthen our financial sustainability

**Our values**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * Equality | * Integrity | * Openness | * Mutual respect | * Kindness |

**Context**

Lead Scotland operates in the context of a competitive marketplace for educational delivery services and support for disabled people and carers. The organisation is recognised as a leader in the delivery of non-formal and accredited learning and is active in developing new services and products to retain this position. As a charity and company limited by guarantee in the current financial climate, Lead Scotland must be responsive to opportunity, alive to the financial pressures of the external environment and ready to act quickly and decisively to changes as, or before, they occur. The Learning Coordinator supports the Regional Development Manager North in facilitating engagement with stakeholders to place Lead Scotland at the centre of person-centred education provision in Scotland. This involves working in harmony with funders’ requirements and in line with Lead Scotland’s values and responsibilities.

**About the Aberdeenshire Learning Coordinator Role**

Within the scope of responsibilities for this role, applicants should note the following key dimensions:

The role includes dealing with referrals from Opportunities for All Aberdeenshire and initial enquiries from potential learners, visiting eligible referrals, undertaking home visits, and registering learners for accredited learning options wherever possible. Our Learning Coordinators offer impartial educational guidance through working with each learner to co-create a Learner Action Plan. The learner is supported to be at the helm of their journey towards a positive destination which matches their ambitions. The learning journey includes signposting and support to access appropriate services; reviewing progress and networking to generate appropriate next steps such as further learning, volunteering and towards work. This will all be delivered within the framework of Employability Agreements and with an approach that sees the full potential for every young person.

Learning opportunities can be accessed through a variety of routes including college attendance, open learning courses, local learning opportunities, and community learning classes. Creative solutions and advocacy to overcome barriers are key factors. Confidence-building of learners, devising specific learning for specific learner outcomes, delivering one-to-one support and/or group work, benchmarking of informal/non-formal learning against SCQF, performance monitoring, and assistive technology consultations form part of the approach to this role. The following case study is one example of the approach we expect and encourage:

When “Jonathan” was referred to Lead Scotland, we encountered challenges with supporting him due to the impact of challenging family life circumstances and lack of a personal routine. Our Learning Coordinator describes the approach, “In the first instance, I got him registered on the electoral role so that he could open a bank account. Then he was able to get an interview with the DWP. In the meantime, I started one-to-one sessions on confidence building with specific focus on assertiveness skills that “Jonathan” said was really helpful to him. “Working with CLD partners I connected him to NC4 Core Skills Numeracy at a local community facility. He attended regularly and received bus vouchers from Opportunities for All for transport. I supported him to apply for a place on the car mechanics course at college and helped him to develop his interview skills before driving him to the interview.

“In the 5 months since “Jonathan” started his employability agreement on stage 1 of the employability programme he has discovered a new sense of confidence and has nearly completed NC 4 Core Skills in Numeracy. Travelling regularly to meet with his tutor for core skills has given “Jonathan” a routine that he didn’t have before. He says, ‘I actually want to get a job and don’t want to be sitting around the house’.

“With regards to learning more about himself he has learnt some assertiveness skills, self-confidence, and self-belief. He now knows what he wants and has the persistence to achieve his goals. “Jonathan” says the biggest change is in his motivation and confidence, ‘I feel more confident and can go out now and not worry about anxiety’”.

Closing date Monday 15th November 2021. Shortlisted applicants can expect a panel interview with questions based on the criteria for the post during week beginning 22nd November 2021