



## Policy Specialist (Children & Young People)

### About the Team and the Role

As part of the Policy and Public Affairs team, you will deliver policy change and enhance the rights of children and young people with a learning disability. At a key time to influence Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) education reform, you will be responsible for developing evidence-based policy work and influencing decision-makers.

You will:

- Translate complex work into clear and persuasive policy briefings, consultation responses, and reports.
- Work within wider coalitions of charities and sector partners, e.g. the Disabled Children's Partnership, to build collaborative relationships and ensure the priorities of our community are addressed in legislation and practice.
- Develop and expand Mencap's 'Policy Shaper' work, ensuring our work reflects the needs and experiences of children and young people with a learning disability and their families.
- Support our information and advice team, briefing them on important developments, inputting into relevant casework, and supporting the creation of public information resources.
- Represent Mencap at meetings and events with MPs, civil servants, and sector partners.
- Analyse relevant research and identify trends from Policy Shapers and Network Partners to develop evidence-based policy recommendations.

## What you will bring to the role (Essentials)

- Experience of working on public policy issues.
- Strong communication skills: experience tailoring your messaging to a variety of different audiences and representing an organisation.
- Experience building positive relationships and working collaboratively to achieve outcomes; able to positively challenge, negotiate and compromise.
- Able to work on your own initiative while contributing to team priorities and sustain enthusiasm under pressure.
- Experience analysing evidence to develop recommendations.
- Knowledge the issues facing children and young people with a learning disability and/or the SEND system, as well as the wider parliamentary system.
- Passion about making the world a better place for people with a learning disability.

**Please note:** This job description is not intended to be exhaustive. Duties and responsibilities may evolve over time to reflect the needs of the organisation and the role.



**“This isn’t just a job - it’s a chance to help change the lives of people with a learning disability and their families. If you’re passionate about making a difference, join Mencap in building a more inclusive future.”**

## Mencap and our Commitment to Safeguarding



We are **passionate** about making the world a better place



We are **positive** in our work and with each other



We are **brave** we challenge and try new things



We are **kind** to everyone



We are **inclusive** of everyone

*Mencap is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.*

*Successful applicants will be subject to appropriate pre-employment checks, including references and, where applicable, an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.*



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