**Job title: Social Worker**

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| **Job title: Social Worker** | Social workers help to protect vulnerable children and adults from harm or abuse, and support people to live independently. |
| **Entry requirements:** | You can do a degree or postgraduate qualification in social work approved by the Health and Care Professions Council.  You could do a 2-year postgraduate degree in social work, if you have a degree in another subject.  You may be eligible for social work funding. Entry requirements You'll usually need:   * 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   You can complete a social worker degree apprenticeship.  **Entry requirements**  You'll usually need:   * 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C) and college qualifications like A levels for a degree apprenticeship |
| **Skills required:** | You'll need:   * 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. |
| **What you'll do:** | In this role you could be:   * 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 |
| **What you’ll earn:** | * Starter: £24,000 * Experienced: £40,000   *These figures are a guide.* |
| **Working hours, patterns and environment:** | * 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 |
| **Career path and progression:** | * During your first year in work your employer may offer the Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE). This includes extra support like:  1. regular supervision 2. a training and development plan 3. 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. |