

Working for **Bedford Borough Council**



Ryan Gale

Advanced Practitioner Family Support Team

“At Bedford, because it’s small, you get to know colleagues really well and build up positive working relationships with other agencies. The atmosphere is good and morale is high. People have a common approach to practice and share the same values. There is a clear career progression scheme with supportive management who want you to progress. I started here as a student and have progressed through to an Advanced Practitioner.

My manager is approachable and always makes time to listen. She gives new and challenging cases but ensures that I don’t become overwhelmed. She supports me with any particularly challenging issues by taking the time out to explore what the issues are but also offers to support at meetings or visits to consider different perspectives where needed.

I have access to lots of training opportunities and we also have regular in house training from our Principal Social Worker which is easily accessible.

Senior leaders are visible and always accessible, they take time to come and talk to you about cases and just how you are getting on in general. They make you feel valued in meetings and take the time to listen to your views and acknowledge the hard work and efforts with families. They highlight the positive work you do but also provide constructive feedback on areas for improvement.

There is a real family feel at Bedford and there are lots of colleagues who have been working here for a long time and love what they do.”

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