

Emma Gallagher

Social Worker

Sheffield, United Kingdom · emma.gallagher@gmail.com · +44 7765 209 431 · linkedin.com/in/emmagallagher-sw

Qualified social worker with five years of post-qualification experience in children's services. Currently carrying a caseload of 18 children across child protection, child in need, and looked after children plans. Previously worked in adult mental health. Comfortable in court and experienced in writing reports under tight deadlines.

Experience

Sep 2022 – Present

Social Worker – Children's Safeguarding, Sheffield City Council, Sheffield

Statutory social work in a front-line safeguarding team covering the south of the city.

- Carry a caseload of **18 children** across CP, CIN, and LAC plans
- Completed **24 Section 47 investigations** and 15 initial child protection conferences in the past 12 months
- Prepared evidence and appeared in **6 care proceedings** at Sheffield Family Court – all resulted in the outcome recommended
- Mentor **2 ASYE social workers** through their assessed and supported year in employment

Mar 2021 – Aug 2022

Social Worker – Adult Mental Health, Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust, Sheffield

Community mental health team providing support to adults with severe and enduring mental illness.

- Managed a caseload of **22 service users** with diagnoses including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and personality disorder
- Completed **8 Mental Health Act assessments** as part of a multi-disciplinary team alongside psychiatrists and AMHPs
- Coordinated discharge planning for **14 inpatients** from the Longley Centre, arranging supported housing and community support

Jan 2020 – Feb 2021

Newly Qualified Social Worker (ASYE), Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, Rotherham

Assessed and Supported Year in Employment in the referral and assessment team.

- Completed **45 initial assessments** during the ASYE year, covering referrals from schools, health visitors, and police
- Managed **12 CIN plans** including chairing review meetings with families and partner agencies
- Successfully completed the ASYE portfolio and assessment within **12 months**

Education

Sep 2018 – Jun 2020

MA in Social Work, University of Sheffield, Sheffield

Included two 70-day practice placements – one in a children's assessment team (Barnsley Council) and one in an adult learning disability team (Sheffield). Dissertation on the impact of poverty on child protection referral rates in South Yorkshire.

Sep 2015 – Jun 2018

BA (Hons) in Sociology, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield

Upper Second Class Honours. Final year modules in social policy, inequality, and the welfare state.

Skills

Child Protection (Section 47, ICPC, RCPC), Care Proceedings & Court Work, Safeguarding Risk Assessment, Mental Health Act Assessments, Multi-Agency Working (MASH, MARAC), Report Writing (Court & Conference), Signs of Safety Framework, Motivational Interviewing, Case Recording (LCS/Mosaic), ASYE Mentoring & Supervision

Certifications

Jan 2020 – Nov 2026

Social Work England Registration, Social Work England

Jun 2024

Practice Educator Stage 1, University of Sheffield

Sep 2022

Safeguarding Children Level 3, Sheffield Safeguarding Children Partnership

Languages

English (native)

Projects

Jun 2023 – Mar 2024

Signs of Safety Pilot – Sheffield City Council

Part of a pilot group introducing the Signs of Safety framework to the south locality team.

- Implemented the framework across **all 18 cases** on my caseload, replacing the previous assessment model
- Developed **safety mapping tools** that were shared across the wider service
- Families reported feeling **more involved in planning** – feedback scores improved from 3.1 to 4.2 out of 5

Sep 2021 – Mar 2022

Discharge Pathway Improvement – Sheffield Health & Social Care

Worked with the inpatient ward and housing team to improve discharge planning for mental health patients.

- Reduced average length of stay for **delayed discharges from 34 days to 19 days**
- Created a joint assessment checklist used by both the ward and community team
- Pathway adopted for **all 3 adult mental health wards** at the Longley Centre

References

Karen Hartley, Team Manager – Children's Safeguarding, Sheffield City Council, karen.hartley@sheffield.gov.uk, +44 7700 900 567

Dr. Michael Adewale, Consultant Psychiatrist, Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust, michael.adewale@shsc.nhs.uk, +44 7700 900 678

Extra Curricular Activity

Jan 2023

Trustee – Sheffield Young Carers

Board trustee for a local charity supporting young carers aged 8–18. The charity works with around 200 young carers across the city. Attend quarterly board meetings and chair the safeguarding sub-committee.

Jun 2021

Parkrun Volunteer – Graves Park, Sheffield

Regular volunteer marshal and occasional tail walker at the weekly 5K event. Average attendance of 250 runners per week.