

## MEADOWS NURSING HOME

### JOB DESCRIPTION

#### COOK

**Job Title:** Cook  
**Responsible to:** Head Cook  
**Accountable to:** Registered Home Manager

#### JOB SUMMARY

*To assist with the catering delivery within the care home, and to act in such a way as to promote the health and wellbeing of Service users accommodated within Registered settings/Care Homes of the Company.*

*To be involved in the setting of standards of catering and hospitality in line with the Care Standards Act 2000 and its Regulations (Wales) 2002, and by leading the catering staff team.*

*To work within, and to, all policies & procedures of the company and the **Code of Practice of the Care Council for Wales**; also within the **National Minimum Standards and Regulations (Wales 2002)** of the **Care Standards Act 2000**.*

*To ensure your continued capability and competence to carry out your job role all staff are also expected to ensure their attendance at and compliance with the training programme of the company to ensure their suitability to perform their duties and support Service users.*

*All staff must maintain appropriate status, fit for employment within the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) system, throughout the period of employment.*

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

##### General

All staff have a responsibility to read and have a working knowledge of the policies and procedures of the company, as applicable to their job role; including the health and safety manual and retention and completion of their personal copy of the employee handbook.

All staff also have a responsibility to work within the **Code of Practice** for **Social Care Workers** of the **Care Council for Wales**, and ensure attendance and compliance with the training programme of the company to ensure their suitability to perform their duties and support Service users.

Policy folders are located within the Home Managers office. All members of staff must adhere to these policies & procedures at all times, failure to comply will result in disciplinary action. The Registered Home Manager will clarify any points as necessary and notify all staff of amendments as they become operational.

## **Role Specific**

### **General Management**

1. To assist the Head cook in all aspects of catering delivery within the care home.
2. To lead the catering team in the absence of the Head cook, and ensure continuity of the standards of food provision within the care home
3. To maintain confidentiality regarding all matters relating to Service users, their care and welfare, the day-to-day running of the establishment, and members of staff being honest, trustworthy, reliable and dependable Failure to comply will result in disciplinary.
4. To uphold public trust and confidence in the Care Home and the Company including: maintaining a high standard of appearance and behaviour and complying with the uniform and dress code policy of the company.
5. To work in such a way as to honour work commitments, agreements and arrangement to promote the health and wellbeing of Service users, and by declaring issues that might create conflict of interest or influence your judgement.
6. To always behave in such a way both inside and outside of the Care home, as to not question your suitability to work in a Social care setting.
7. To be prepared to work in any area of the home or other homes/settings operated by the company as required by the management that are within your capabilities and scope of practice

### **Human Resources:**

1. To assist the Head cook and where necessary deputise for them in the preparation of staff rotas, to ensure appropriate levels of staff to support Service users, are available at all times within the Catering Department.

2. To participate in bi-monthly supervision from the Head Cook and receive an annual appraisal form the Home manager, and where necessary advise the head cook of the catering teams performance etc as required.
3. To lead the team and shift, in an appropriate manner using your skills and knowledge in the absence of the Head cook.

**Communication:**

1. To assist in the completion of assessments for Service users nutritional needs, in conjunction with either the Registered Nurse- person in charge and/or Registered Home Manager and assisting in making appropriate referrals to Dietetic support and Speech & Language Therapist as necessary, when required and always when a Service user moves into the home or returns to the home following a hospital stay.
2. To report any changes in the intake of diet and fluids of Service users as observed in the course of your duties, or as reported to you by members of your team to the most senior person caring for that Service user.
3. To attend departmental staff meetings and to attend general staff & Service user meetings and contribute ideas and suggestions, appreciating the diversity and equality of Service users within your care.

**Safety & Risk assessment:**

1. To ensure that all appropriate risk assessments are completed and updated as necessary including all HACCP testing, Environmental Health and Food Standards Agency guidance.
2. To report all hazards, real or potential, keep accurate records and notify the Head cook and where necessary the Registered Home Manager without delay.
3. To report any situations where there may be a risk of violence or aggression, or where Service users may be at risk, to the Person in charge and/or Registered Home Manager without delay.
4. To be familiar with the fire policies, to know where the fire points are, to take part in fire training and fire drills and to undertake the duties of the Fire warden when nominated.
5. To use personal protective equipment, (e.g. gloves, aprons) as supplied by the company, where appropriate.
6. To report all accidents and to ensure that any accidents are recorded in the accident book and in the absence of the Head cook and as appropriate reported under RIDDOR.

### **Procurement and Resource Management:**

1. To be efficient in the use of all supplies and highlight deficiencies to the Head cook.
2. To ensure all orders for food stuffs and catering sundries are obtained from suppliers approved by the Registered Home Manager, Responsible Individual and/or Company Directors, and that whenever possible local suppliers are used for the provision of **fresh produce**, that there is an over arching theme of **home cooking** that **does not** include processed foods, high salt, high fat products, budget brands and value foods or that are not suitable for the age range of the Service users accommodated.

### **Training Self & others:**

1. To attend **all** mandatory training and any additional training as identified via supervision or deemed necessary by the company. Failure to attend identified or mandatory training will result in disciplinary action.
2. To assist catering assistants by means of supervision and knowledge sharing.

### **Clinical Governance, Audit & Quality:**

1. That food is prepared and served to the agreed Company standards, that Service users are empowered within their choice of foods
2. To assist in the research, resource and updating of catering and hospitality within the care home.
3. To assist in the promotion of systems audit of the quality of catering provision and delivery systems and in conjunction with the Head Cook and Registered Home Manager within the wider aspects of the home.
4. To prepare when requested reports for the Registered Home Manager and/or Responsible Individual, Company Directors regarding the overall performance of the Catering Department, and such quality indicators as: wastage, menu choices, complaints, weight gain/loss of Service users, compliance with Dietetic advice.

### **Confidentiality, Complaints & Concerns:**

1. To report any concerns or complaints raised by Service users, or their representatives, record concerns and attempt to rectify situations if you are able to do so, make an accurate record of the concern raised and inform the Head cook and Registered Home Manager at the earliest opportunity. (In the event of an anticipated delay in excess of 24 hours the concern/complaint must be reported to the Responsible Individual in the first instance).

### **Duties**

1. To involve the Service users within the review of menu choices and individual preferences whenever possible.
2. To maintain information about the Service users individual 'special' dates for example birthdays, anniversaries etc, and provide suitable celebratory food e.g. cakes, buffets etc.
3. That in conjunction with Service users and the Registered Home Manager that you produce a menu which is both varied and seasonal which is adhered to prevent undue repetition.
4. That the Menu display boards are changed daily, as are the table menu cards when in use; and that at each main mealtime there is a choice of foods.
5. That hot and cold drinks are available for Service users at all reasonable times, this will include reasonable provision for their visitors & guests.
6. That fresh fruit is available at all times in addition to meal times, and provided in a choice of formats e.g. prepared finger foods, smoothies/ fruit juices etc.
7. To ensure that you and catering staff under your direction maintain discreet observation at all times in order to safeguard the security, well-being and comfort of the Service users; including the summoning of help in an emergency situation and having an awareness as to the nominated First Aider and Fire Warden for the shift.
8. To assist in providing catering support to activities for Service users held within the home, including fund raising events such as fetes, barbecues etc. To engage Service users in conversation and remain pleasant and courteous in manner at all times
9. To ensure that you and catering assistants under your direction clean up spillages immediately and/or request help from the cleaning staff if circumstances do not allow you to proceed, e.g. bodily fluids, etc. To clear soiled laundry into appropriate bags and ensure that all waste is disposed of correctly.
8. To be aware of the whistleblowing procedure and be committed to informing the Head cook, Registered Nurse or Registered Home Manager where the observed practice of your colleagues may be unsafe or inappropriate.
9. To be committed to protecting Service Users from Abuse, neglect, harm, exploitation or discrimination and to receive regular updates & training with regard to the principles and procedures of the Protection of Vulnerable Adults (PoVA) and the 'In Safe Hands' guidance and South Wales Adult protection procedures.
10. This list is not exhaustive and on occasions you may be reasonably directed to undertake additional duties.

***Job Descriptions are always subject to review by the Registered Home Manager and any reasonable instruction not contained in the above description must be adhered to.***

**Employee**

Print Name .....

Date .....

Signature .....

**Line Manager**

Print Name .....

Date .....

Signature .....