

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION FOR A BEFRIENDER**

### **ESSENTIAL**

To be caring and empathetic;

To be a good listener;

To have good communication skills;

To respect confidentiality;

To be reliable;

To be non-judgmental;

To have a mature attitude to life;

To be able to work within boundaries and in accordance with the charity's policies and procedures;

To acknowledge the need to empower families;

To be free to befriend for a minimum of 6 hours a month;

To be able to volunteer for a minimum period of 1 year;

To be available to attend training, support and development sessions;

### **DESIRABLE**

To have some previous experience of helping people who are facing problems;

To have written skills to help families with form filling and letter writing;

To have some experience of researching information;

To have a good oral communication skills for advocating on behalf of families;

To be willing to develop an understanding of court and prison systems and of state benefits;