

## Gold standard employer Outcomes First Group successfully achieves ranking in UK's Great Place to Work Wellbeing 2022 Awards



Gold standard employer Outcomes First Group (OFG), innovators in education and care and the UK's leading provider of children's services, is proud to announce that it has successfully achieved a place in the *Super Large Category* for the UK's *Best Work Places<sup>™</sup> for Wellbeing 2022*<sup>1</sup>. Sharon Platts, Chief People Officer of Outcomes First Group is delighted, "This is the fourth time we have been ranked in the Best Work Places<sup>™</sup> Awards. We have previously been ranked in the *UK's Best Workplaces for Women 2021 Awards* and in *Great Place to Work certified*<sup>™</sup> for two consecutive years - *Nov 2020 - Nov 2021* and *Nov 2019 - Nov 2020.*"

Employees were invited to take part in the Best Work Places<sup>1</sup> nationwide survey on their holistic experiences of wellbeing at work – and share their opinions about being part of the team at Outcomes First Group. The survey asked employees to comment on how their workplace supports their work-life balance, sense of fulfilment, job satisfaction, psychological safety and financial security. The results showed that:

- 85% felt My work has special meaning: this is not "just a job"
- 81% felt People care about each other here
- 81% felt I feel I make a difference here
- 80% felt I can be myself here



Quotes shared by OFG employees included:

- "My Head of Service is totally supportive and checks in regularly around my work-life balance."
- "I'm so lucky to have the direct team I line manage they all genuinely look out for each other and for me, as I do in return for them."
- "My Safeguarding Lead is always ensuring that I am getting enough support for my own wellbeing and work-life balance."
- "My Deputy Headteacher checks in on me every day just to have a quick catch up."

Commenting on the award, Sharon Platts, explained, "I'm absolutely thrilled that we have received this recognition. Over the last two years, we have invested heavily in providing support and enabling our leaders to place colleague wellbeing at the heart of our organisation. Whilst I'm obviously proud of our achievement, the wellbeing of everyone is always at the front of my mind and will continue to be a key focus for everyone across Outcomes First Group, not just by focussing on the big things, but the little things too. Often, checking in on someone's wellbeing is simply about asking how they are, letting them know we care and having the confidence to talk openly about it."

Outcomes First Group is passionate about employing dedicated caring individuals and is always looking for new people to join its exemplary team - in care, education, clinical professional support, social work and a whole range of support function roles - all of whom play a vital part in the success of the Group. To learn more about Outcomes First Group or to apply to join the team please visit <u>https://careers.outcomesfirstgroup.co.uk/</u>

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<sup>1</sup> Super Large Category - 1001+ employees

Notes to editors

## **About Outcomes First Group**

<u>Outcomes First Group (OFG)</u> is the UK's leading specialist provider of education, therapeutic care and fostering services. OFG is an organisation that believes in transforming lives for the better, embracing communities and working together to help vulnerable children, young people and adults to dream big and achieve more. The organisation employs more than 5,000 people, and is committed to maintaining and improving its reputation as a 'great place to work' by continuing to provide a supportive and inclusive working environment for all.

Within the Outcomes First Group family, there is a whole range of services from schools, residential services and wellbeing hubs through to digital learning and fostering services - all working together to support children, young people and adults, and to create an inclusive world, committed to equality and diversity for all.

Outcomes First Group's vision is simple yet powerful; to build incredible futures for vulnerable children, young people and adults in the UK by empowering them to be happy and make their way in the world.



The Group's specialist education, therapeutic care and fostering services are delivered by its nationwide teams. These services are delivered under the brands <u>National Fostering Group</u>, the largest independent fostering provider in the UK, <u>Acorn Education and Care</u>, and <u>Options Autism</u>.

## About Great Place to Work®

Great Place to Work® UK is a consultancy specialising in workplace culture, helping organisations to create exceptional, high performing workplaces where employees feel trusted and valued. It helps employers improve recruitment, retention and productivity by putting employees at the heart of the organisation, analysing what they think and feel and identifying the real issues that need to be addressed.

Part of a global organisation, it applies data and insights from approximately 10,000 organisations across the world to benchmark individual performance and advise employers on how to continuously improve employee engagement and wellbeing and so help build and sustain business performance. It runs the Best Workplaces<sup>™</sup> awards to enable the organisations it works with celebrate their achievements, build their employer brand and inspire others to take action.