

International Network for School Social Work
The Status of School Social Work
Results of 2006 survey

The following are the results of the questionnaire that I sent to 30 countries in 2006. I conducted the last survey in 2003 before the second International School Social Work Conference. Please distribute the results to your members and any others who need the information.

School social work continues to grow around the world. Contacts between school social workers in different countries are also expanding through the International Network for School Social Work (<http://internationalnetwork-schoolsocialwork.htmlplanet.com>) and the three international conferences that have taken place so far, the first in Chicago in 1999, the second in Stockholm in 2003 and the third in September 2006 in Pusan, Korea.

This document contains contact information for national school social work associations and data about the status of school social work. I am sending it to you so that you can make this information available to school social workers in your country. I hope you will distribute it to your professional associations and encourage them to use it. The data it contains can be useful in social work education, to encourage increased international contacts and for promoting school social work in your own country.

Countries included are: Australia, Canada, Finland, Ghana, India, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, New Zealand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Marion Huxtable, mhuxtable@olympus.net

December, 2006

AUSTRALIA

Name and address of person providing this information:

Chris BARRETT
18 Swan Parade
St Leonards VIC 3223
Australia

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Web site address: www.aasw.asn.au

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Linda Johannsen
401 Macarthur ST
Soldiers Hill
Ballarat VIC 3350
Australia

johannsen.linda.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

John Frederick
120 Georges Rd
Shepparton VIC 3630
Australia

frederick.john.w@edumail.vic.gov.au

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? yes
Emotional problems? yes
Behavioral problems? yes
Material needs, such as food and clothing? yes
Motivational problems? yes
Special education for the handicapped? yes
Child protection? yes

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? Yes
Groupwork? yes
Casework? yes
Preventive activities? yes
Home visits? yes
Counseling? yes
Consultation with teachers? yes

Are school social workers employed by:

- School or school system? Yes. Individual schools and school systems, government and private agencies
- Other agency? (Give agency names) Yes. Various eg Oz Child

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Four year BSW or 2 year post-graduate BSW and eligibility for membership of the AASW.

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School social worker or social worker

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:
150

When did school social work start in your country?

Uncertain – 1947 in the government system in the state of Victoria. Other states also developed professional social work services in the post-war years. The Diploma of Social Studies was first offered at the University of Melbourne in the early 1940s.

CANADA

Name and address of person providing this information:

Sarah Vanderkooy, MSW, RSW
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
100 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON
L8P 1H6
Ph: 905.527.5092 x2296

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Ontario Association of Social Workers – School Social Work Committee.
Web site address: www.oasw.org

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Christine Bibby M.S.W., R.S.W.
School Social Worker
Grand Erie District School Board
Phone: (519) 754-1606 ext. 229
Email: bibbych@fc.gedsb.net

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? Yes
Emotional problems? Yes
Behavioral problems? Yes
Material needs, such as food and clothing? Yes
Motivational problems? At times
Special education for the handicapped? Yes
Child protection? Yes, as needed

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? At times
Groupwork? At times
Casework? Yes
Preventive activities? Yes
Home visits? Yes
Counseling? Yes
Consultation with teachers? Yes

School social workers employed by:

School System

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

BSW or MSW

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School Social Worker

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

As reported in the book chapter (School Social Work Worldwide) on Canada, there are 750 school social workers in seven provinces, including about 450 in Ontario.

When did school social work start in your country?

As reported in the book chapter (School Social Work Worldwide) on Canada, school social work started with truancy officers (attendance counsellors) before 1900 but school social work was not identified until the 1940's or so.

FINLAND

Name and address of person providing this information:

Hanna Gråsten-Salonen

email: hanna.grasten-salonen@koulut.tampere.fi

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Koulukuraattorit – Skolkuratorer ry, School Social Work Association of Finland

Web site address:

www.talentia.fi/koulukuraattorit

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Hanna Gråsten-Salonen

email: hanna.grasten-salonen@koulut.tampere.fi

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? Yes

Emotional problems? Yes

Behavioral problems? Yes

Material needs, such as food and clothing? No

Motivational problems? Yes

Special education for the handicapped? Yes

Child protection? School social workers who are employed by social services

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? Yes

Groupwork? Yes

Casework? Yes

Preventive activities? Yes

Home visits? Yes

Counseling? Yes

Consultation with teachers? Yes

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system? Mostly school system

Other agency? Social services

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Master's Degree in Social Work

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School social worker and *koulukuraattori* in Finnish

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

400

When did school social work start in your country?

1966

GHANA

Name and address of person providing this information:

1. Foli Bright
Ghana Education Service (GES)
P O Box M 148, Accra
(School Social Work Dept.)
2. Sofo Abdullai Sulemana
Ghana Education Service
P O Box M 148, Accra
(Special Education Dept)
3. Agatha Asubonteng-Manu
Ghana Education Service
P O Box M 148, Accra
(Guidance and Counselling Dept.)

Name of professional school social work association in Ghana:

“School Social Work Association of Ghana (SSWAG).”

Web site address: In the process of developing one.

Name and address of President of your professional School Social Work Association.

Esther B A Mahama
P O Box CT 4194
Cantonments, Accra-Ghana

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems?	-	Yes
Emotional problems?	-	Yes
Behavioural problems	-	Yes
Material needs, such as food and clothing	-	Yes
Motivational problems	-	Yes
Special education for the handicapped	-	Yes
Child protection	-	Yes

Do school social workers do the following?

Evaluation	-	Yes
Group work	-	Yes
Case work	-	Yes
Preventive activities	-	Yes
Home visits	-	Yes
Consultation with teachers	-	Yes

Are school social workers employed by school or school system?

- (i) School social workers are employed by the school system
- (ii) Some are employed by other agencies and NGOs working with children and youth.

They include:

1. Action Aid (Ghana)
2. United National Fund for population activities (UNFPA) through “African Youth Alliance Programme”
3. Plan International (Ghana)
4. Voluntary Services Oversea (VSO) – Their activities are concentrated on two Regions of Ghana: Western and Ashanti Regions

These are a few examples. (In future, we will systematically compile a list of agencies working with school children).

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

School Social Workers in Ghana are professional teachers who received further professional training at the school of Social Work, University of Ghana, Legon at the diploma, first degree and master's degree levels. Currently, most diploma holders of social work qualification are getting back to school to update their qualifications to the first degree level.

They carry the title "School and Staff Welfare Officers or simply Welfare Officers."

- (i) Certified/Diploma in Special Education/B.Ed Special Education.
- (ii) B.Ed Guidance and Counselling

Unlike the two stated above, Guidance and counselling officers are being posted to secondary schools in the country.

Professional title used for school social workers.

There are three professional groups whose work is inter-related: "the Welfare Officers", "the peripatetic officers" and "Guidance and Counselling Officers." Currently, there has been a concerted effort to replace the title "Welfare Officer" with "School Social Worker", but unfortunately the title Welfare Officer is so deeply imbedded in the minds of teachers, education personnel and parents that the change is hard to be made.

These two departments within the GES receive much more financial support from the system than the other school social work departments.

- (i) Welfare Officers
- (ii) Special educators/peripatetic officers
- (iii) Guidance and Counselling officers

In our local language, "Oman ejuma yefo" (nearest) i.e. community/national voluntary worker.

Approximate number of school social workers in Ghana:

320

School social work started in Ghana

- (i) After World War II
- (ii) Within the Ghana Education Service, formal School Social Work that is welfare services started in 1967.

INDIA

Name and address of person providing this information:

Dr.M.Ubaidullah,Chairman,
Department Of Social Work & Population Studies,
Sri Venkateswara University,
Tirupathi-517502,
Andra Pradesh,
India

Name of professional school social work association in your country: None

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association: Not Applicable

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? Yes
Emotional problems? Yes
Behavioral problems? Yes
Material needs, such as food and clothing? Yes
Motivational problems? Yes
Special education for the handicapped? Yes
Child protection?Yes

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations?Yes
Groupwork?Yes
Casework?Yes
Preventive activities?Yes
Home visits?Yes
Counseling?Yes
Consultation with teachers?Yes

School social workers employed by:

School System

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Master Of Social Work (MSW). (Note: Postgraduate social work students are placed in schools to practice casework and groupwork).

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School Social Worker|Special Education Teacher. Both the central and State governments have opened schools for physically challenged people in the last fifteen years in response to the international mandate. A substantial amount is being spent by both governments for this section of society and a large number of social workers are employed in these schools.

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

More than 20,000 (estimation).

When did school social work start in your country?

1970

JAPAN

Name and address of person providing this information:

Eizaburo Yamashita: 5036-37-1-107 Yamaguchi, Tokorozawa, Saitama 359-1145

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Web site address:

School Social Work Association of Japan: <http://sswaj.org/>

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Eizaburo Yamashita

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems?	Yes.
Emotional problems?	Yes.
Behavioral problems?	Yes.
Material needs, such as food and clothing?	No.
Motivational problems?	No.
Special education for the handicapped?	No.
Child protection?	No.

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations?	No.
Groupwork?	No.
Casework?	Yes.
Preventive activities?	Yes.
Home visits?	Partly yes.
Counseling?	Yes.
Consultation with teachers?	Yes.

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system? Yes.

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Not clarified yet.

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School social worker.

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

Thirty.

When did school social work start in your country?

1986.

KOREA

Name and address of person providing this information:

Sunwha Moon, Ed.D/ swmoon@pusan.ac.kr

Dept. Social Welfare, Pusan National University, Jangjeon-Dong, Keumjung-ku, Busan 609-735, S-Korea

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

1. The Korean Society of School Social Work (KSSSW)
2. Korean Association of School Social Workers (KASSW)

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

1. Moon, Sunwha
2. Ms. Kyung-Hyun Park. khjoyjoy@hanmail.net

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? -Yes

Emotional problems? - Yes

Behavioral problems? - Yes

Material needs, such as food and clothing? - Yes

Motivational problems? - Yes

Special education for the handicapped? - Yes

Child protection? - Yes

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? - Yes

Groupwork? -Yes

Casework? - Yes

Preventive activities? - Yes

Home visits? - Yes

Counseling? - Yes

Consultation with teachers? - Yes

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system? Yes Other agency? Yes

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

B.A. degree or above in social welfare

M.A. degree(in social welfare) with training experience offered by both KSSSW and KASSWP preferred.

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

“School social worker” in English, and “school social welfare worker and/or community educational welfare officer” in Korean

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

230 persons

When did school social work start in your country?

In 1993

MONGOLIA

Name and address of person providing this information:

Ts. Erdenetsetseg, officer of School Social Work Association of Mongolia,
erdenetsetseg_sw@yahoo.com, Phone: 976 -99142784

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

School Social Work Association of Mongolia. No web site as yet.

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

B. Munkhjargal, president of the association, monkhjargal2005@yahoo.com, Phone: 976 -99188586,
Ulaanbaatar Sky post, P.O.Box – 66, Mongolia

Do school social workers work on:

In our country, school social workers have been operating in the following direction:

School system: promote child rights in school, especially, attendance problems in order to provide the right to education and to meet their specific needs, for example, clothing, class' tools /textbooks, notebooks, pens.

Children: listen, support, advise for children's emotional problems and cooperate with teachers and parents for their behavioral, motivational problems.

Children with disabilities have some barriers and difficulties in school enrollment, especially in rural areas. The contributing problems are related to the educational system, the lack of professional teachers, the location of schools, inflexible teaching methods etc. School social workers have responsibilities in each of these issues.

Lately, specialists consider that social workers in other branch especially, school social workers have to pay attention in child protection

Families: support mutual understanding

Community, non governmental organizations: coordinating, brokering, reporting and collaborating with the organizations

The School social worker is professional committed to helping children overcome life and learning difficulties and to providing a good environment for children to learn and prosper.

Generally, school social workers usually work on the following issues for the children in the school:

Child abuse and neglect

Minority children

Juvenile delinquency

Child participation

Behavior and health problems

Child labor

School dropout

Mentally, physically and learning disability children

Services of the school social workers for above problems:

Prevention

Change

Development

Advocacy

Rehabilitation

Counseling

School social workers use the following resources to solve these problems:

Internal resources: child, teacher, school administration, student led organizations

External resources: parents, community, non-governmental, international organizations and interdisciplinary team

Are school social workers employed by schools or other agencies:

School social workers are employed in the secondary school as well as social workers work in khoroo /unit of administration/, district, prison, court, and other charity, non governmental, international organizations.

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Employment as a school social worker requires qualifications of social work, psychologist, teacher or other social science.

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School social work is used in our country. “Сургуулийн нийгмийн ажилтан” in Mongolian

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

According to the statistic data of the academic year 2005-2006 (published by Ministry of Science and Technology, Culture, Education) **524** school social workers are working in the secondary school.

When did school social work start in your country?

The School Social work program was introduced by Save the Children UK. The first social workers were placed in Ulaanbaatar secondary schools in 1997. In 2000 the program was expanded to other provinces. By 2001, every secondary school in Mongolia had an operating social work program. In 2002, the Ministry of Enlightenment and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare issued a joint decree on the job description of a school social worker.

The School Social Work Association of Mongolia was established on April 26, 2001. It currently has 9 board members and 3 treasury officials. The structure of the association includes training, information, ethics and international affairs units. Currently there are 400 members of the association. The main activities are to organize trainings for school social workers, to conduct surveys, to develop handouts, magazines (journals, newsletters) and teaching materials, to evaluate and assess school social work needs and current situation, to develop, act and document recommendations together with national state and non-governmental organizations.

NEW ZEALAND

Name and address of person providing this information:

Veronica Bennett
Child, Youth and Family
PO Box 2620
Wellington

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Web site address: www.cyf.govt.nz is the agency website which has information on SWiS, an independent website is planned for 2007

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Currently being formed

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? – Yes with other education professionals such as truancy
Emotional problems? – Yes, behavioral and emotional issues account for the majority of referrals
Behavioral problems? – Yes as explained above
Material needs, such as food and clothing? - Yes
Motivational problems? – Yes
Special education for the handicapped? - No
Child protection? – Only from a recognition and reporting level to statutory agency, do not provide monitoring level.

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? – Yes for preventative programmes, and on the success of their interventions
Groupwork? - Yes again in preventative programme work
Casework? – Yes
Preventive activities? – Yes through preventative programmes and community development work
Home visits? – Yes as a part of embedding change required at school and home
Counseling? – Yes as part of individual casework
Consultation with teachers? – Yes as part of relationships building, collaboration and networking

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system? No
Other agency? A range of non government social services organizations throughout New Zealand

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Preferably a level 6 or B – Diploma or degree in social work, although there is currently no mandatory qualification required. However, with the introduction for Registration in 2004, this requirement will come into effect within the next few years.

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

Social workers or Social worker in Schools

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country: 150

When did school social work start in your country? 1994

SINGAPORE

Name and address of person providing this information:

Wu Mei Ling

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Singapore Association of Social Workers – School Social Work Chapter

Web site address:

www.sasw.org.sg

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Wu Mei Ling, Chairperson, wu_meiling@students.org.sg

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? Yes

Emotional problems? Yes

Behavioral problems? Yes

Material needs, such as food and clothing? Yes but not prevalent

Motivational problems? Yes

Special education for the handicapped? Yes but limited to social workers working in special schools and they are not officially known as school social workers

Child protection? Yes, jointly with Child Protection Officers from Ministry of Community, Development, Youth and Sports.

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? Yes

Groupwork? Yes

Casework? Yes

Preventive activities? Yes

Home visits? Yes

Counseling? Yes

Consultation with teachers? Yes

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system?

Other agency? (Give agency names)

By various Voluntary Welfare Organizations

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Bachelor of Arts (Social Work)

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School Social Worker / School Social Work practitioner

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

Information unavailable but we have about 100 Voluntary Welfare Organizations providing school social work services in various schools

When did school social work start in your country?

1965

SRI LANKA

Name and address of person providing this information:

Sanjeeva de Mel

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

SERVE

Web site address: www.servelk.org

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? **yes**

Emotional problems? **yes**

Behavioral problems? **yes**

Material needs, such as food and clothing? **Yes**

Motivational problems? **yes**

Special education for the handicapped? **No (but we work with deaf and blind children)**

Child protection? **yes**

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? **yes**

Groupwork? **yes**

Casework? **yes**

Preventive activities? **yes**

Home visits? **yes**

Counseling? **yes**

Consultation with teachers? **yes**

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system? **Yes in three private schools initiated by SERVE, and now carrying out activities independently**

Other agency? (Give agency names) **yes - SERVE**

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

2 year Diploma from the National Institute of Social Development (Sri Lanka)

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School Social Worker

In Sinhala – Pasal Samaja Wedakaru

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

17 working in 24 schools

When did school social work start in your country?

1997

SWEDEN

Name and address of person providing this information:

Eva-Mari Thomas
Trollbodaskolan
Pilörtsgränd 5
S-165 76 Hässelby
evamari@mac.com

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Sveriges Skolkuratorers Förening
(School Social Work Association of Sweden)

Web site address:

www.skolkurator.nu

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Catarina Göransson Malmgren
Klippans gymnasieskola,
S-264 80 Klippan
Sweden
ordf@skolkurator.nu

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems?	yes
Emotional problems?	yes
Behavioral problems?	yes
Material needs, such as food and clothing?	no
Motivational problems?	yes
Special education for the handicapped?	yes
Child protection?	no

We are, like physicians and teachers, mandatory reporters. We do not have investigative duties nor do we do any type of treatment plans in protective matters. We try, however, to work as closely as we can with Child protective agencies.

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations?	yes
Groupwork?	yes
Casework?	no
Preventive activities?	yes
Home visits?	occasionally
Counseling?	yes
Consultation with teachers?	yes

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system?

Other agency? (Give agency names) start new page

School social workers are most often employed directly by schools or by the county. In some cases they can be employed by the Department of Social Services.

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Bachelor's degree in Social Work. Some previous work in family and child protection is often desired but not a requirement.

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School Social Worker

Skolkurator

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

1500-2000

When did school social work start in your country?

In the early 1950's.

TAIWAN (REPUBLIC OF CHINA)

Name and address of person providing this information:

Yun-Ju Huang (huang.yunju@gmail.com)

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

None

Web site address: None

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

None

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? Yes. Following up dropout and truancy students is important work for us.

Emotional problems? Yes. It depends on their problem level.

Behavioral problems? Yes. It depends on their problem level.

Material needs, such as food and clothing? Yes, it is our important work.

Motivational problems? It depends on their problem level.

Special education for the handicapped?

We help them to have suitable education and environment in the school system.

We have special education teachers for students that they can't learn with common students, including mentally, learning, emotionally handicapped students.

If they don't have learning problem, they can learn with others and we work with them to have suitable environment in school.

Child protection? Yes

The student assistance team includes special education teachers, counseling and guidance teachers and class tutors. Only a few schools have school social workers. At these schools, we plan for the school social worker to handle tertiary prevention through targeted interventions, while the guidance and counseling staff handle secondary prevention using adult mentors, problem solving education, emotional control support etc.

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? Yes

Groupwork? Yes.

Casework? Yes.

Preventive activities? Yes.

Home visits? Yes.

Counseling? Yes.

Consultation with teachers? Yes.

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system?

Other agency? (Give agency names)

School social workers who work in school are employed by city's or county's department of education.

Some social workers who provide alternative education program are employed by NPO foundations or agencies.(ex, Good Shepherd Sisters Taiwan <http://www.goodshepherd.org.tw/english/>)

Some social workers who are authorized by government to follow up dropout students are employed by NPO foundations or agencies.(ex, CCF (Children Fund for Children and Families) <http://www.ccf.org.tw/english/index.htm>)

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

They must graduate from BSW and pass the interview.

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School social worker. 學校社會工作者 in Chinese.

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

There are 58 school social workers employed by city or county departments of education.

When did school social work start in your country?

The system of school social work originated from the public sector since 1997.

The NPO social welfare system provide service for at-risk students (or dropout students) since 1977 by CCF (Children Fund for Children and Families).

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE)

Name and address of person providing this information:

Dr.Mohamed Ibrahim El Walily, elwalily3@yahoo.com

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

Web site address:

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? Yes

Emotional problems? No

Behavioral problems? Yes

Material needs, such as food and clothing? No

Motivational problems? Yes

Special education for the handicapped? No

Child protection? Yes

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? Yes

Groupwork? Yes

Casework? Yes

Preventive activities? Yes

Home visits? Yes

Counseling? Yes

Consultation with teachers? Yes

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system? No

Other agency? Yes, Ministry of Education

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

Bachelor of social work

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

School social worker = (In Arabic) اختصاصي اجتماعي

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

Total = 813 (Male 355 + Female 458)

When did school social work start in your country?

1972

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Name and address of person providing this information:

Joe Wilson
Head of Education Access Services
Upperhead Row
Huddersfield
West Yorkshire
HD8 9SH
England
joe.wilson@kirklees.gov.uk

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

National Association of Social Workers in Education

Web site address:

www.naswe.org.uk

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

Stephen Mason
President, NASWE
Education Welfare
Cumbria County Council
5 Portland Square
Carlisle
CA1 1PU
stephen.mason@cumbriacc.gov.uk

Jacqui Newvell
General Secretary, NASWE
Pupil Inclusion Unit
National Children's Bureau
8 Wakley Street
London
EC1V 7QE
jnewvell@ncb.org.uk

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems?	Y
Emotional problems?	Y
Behavioral problems?	Y
Material needs, such as food and clothing?	Y – in some areas
Motivational problems?	Y
Special education for the handicapped?	Y
Child protection?	Y – in some areas

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations?	Y
Groupwork?	Y – in some areas
Casework?	Y
Preventive activities?	Y
Home visits?	Y
Counseling?	Y
Consultation with teachers?	Y

School social workers employed by:

Usually the school system – This is currently changing in parts of the UK, with a move towards an integrated children’s service

Some voluntary organizations employ social workers for schools but this is not common.

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker?

This varies across the country. Local Authorities determine what qualifications are required. In most, the standard is the Diploma in Social Work or a first degree in social work. Some have no qualified SWs but require a degree in a related discipline or other equivalent such as a teaching or youth work or counselling award.

The qualifications will be affected by the new Learning and Development Support Services for Children and Families (LDSS) National Vocational Qualification level 4 (NVQ4), which directly relates to National Occupational standards for Education Welfare Officers, Personal Advisors and Learning Mentors, as recognised by the Department for Education and Skills (DFES). NASWE is about to undertake to scope the current qualifications available for Education Welfare Officers and what the needs are, to establish a training and development framework from entry to Post Qualifying awards.

What is the professional title used for school social workers

Education Social Worker or Education Welfare Officer.

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

Approximately 3,000 ESWs/EWOs. There are also many other staff with similar jobs, such as Personal Advisers, School Counsellors, Learning Mentors etc.

When did school social work start in your country?

We think 1871, although there is some evidence for earlier estimates

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Name and address of person providing this information:

Marion Huxtable, mhuxtable@olympus.net

Name of professional school social work association in your country:

School Social Work Association of America (www.sswaa.org)

National Association of Social Work (<http://www.socialworkers.org/> has a School Social Work section)

Name and address of President of your professional school social work association:

President of SSWAA is Judie Shine, judie.shine@sswaa.org. Director is Randy Fisher, sswaa@aol.com

President of NASW is Elvira Craig de Silva (<http://www.naswdc.org/>)

Do school social workers work on:

Attendance problems? Yes

Emotional problems? Yes

Behavioral problems? Yes

Material needs, such as food and clothing? Yes

Motivational problems? Yes

Special education for the handicapped? Yes

(Note: Role of school social workers varies according to the state and school district).

Do school social workers do the following:

Evaluations? Yes

Groupwork? Yes

Casework? Yes

Preventive activities? Yes

Home visits? Yes

Consultation with teachers? Yes

(Note: Role of school social workers varies according to the state and school district).

Are school social workers employed by:

School or school system? Usually

Other agency? Sometimes

What are the qualifications required for employment as a school social worker? Usually MSW

What is the professional title used for school social workers?

Usually "school social worker", but a variety of other titles are used when school social workers work in special programs.

Approximate number of school social workers employed in your country:

Estimate is over 20,000

When did school social work start in your country? 1906