The duties and responsibilities of a Social Worker include:

(a) Serve as link between the school and home through social work intervention with habitually absent students, their families and school staff. School visits and home visits are carried out as and where necessary;

(b) Provide practical assistance to families of habitually absent students including teaching them home management, parenting and interpersonal for the benefit of the education of the children;

(c) Support and guide students on personal matters, including stigmatisation, scapegoating, labelling, self-fulfilling prophecies, bullying, substance abuse, challenging behaviour and relationship difficulties;

(d) Work with families concerning home situations that relate to school attitudes and performance;

(e) Empower students, parents and school staff to access available opportunities and resources to fully develop each student’s learning potential;

(f) Act as liaison with students, parents, school staff and community resources;

(g) Making the necessary referrals according to established procedures and policies;

(h) Work within a multidisciplinary team in the respective College;

(i) Remain conversant with current social work issues and practices both nationally and internationally;

(j) Organize and participate in case conferences and inter-agency liaison meetings;

(k) Provide the necessary support to students, parents or guardians and other family members, School Management Teams and teaching Staff and act as a mediator between the school and family;

(l) Serve as an advocate for students by ensuring equity regarding service provision as well as demonstrate awareness of cultural differences and individual needs of students particularly those coming from vulnerable groups;

(m) Prepare and present social reports for, and participating in, Regional Tribunal Sittings, and the Juvenile Court, Malta and Gozo;

(n) Provide consultation on relative matters to College Principal, School Management Teams, teachers and other professionals within DES;

(o) Undertaking research in areas relevant to one’s professional role as directed by Principal Social Workers and the Directorate for Educational Services;

(p) Being accountable to the Principal Social Worker, the Assistant Director Education Psycho-Social and Director National School Support Services;

(q) Assess and vet applications for school exemptions in Colleges.