



Department:	Therapeutic Services Team
Role:	Schools based therapist (Creative Arts interest – drama, play, art, music)
Accountable to:	Therapeutic Service Manager
Responsible to:	Head of School
Hourly/Daily rate:	Subject to skills and experience

Purpose of the role:

To develop highly effective and innovative individual and group interventions in line with the therapy services operational policy and according to the needs of the setting.

Through close consultation with the Therapeutic Service Manager, the therapist will take the lead in embedding therapy within the systems operating in the individual schools.

To plan, coordinate and implement highly specialised, collaborative, goal orientated, evidence based therapy assessment and intervention to young people complex Social, Emotional, Behavioural and Mental Health Needs.

Outline of main duties and responsibilities:

- Responsible, in close consultation with the Therapeutic Service Manager for planning and delivering a range of highly specialised goal orientated therapeutic interventions which contribute to the overall multi-disciplinary provision for children and young people presenting with a wide range of complex emotional; social; developmental; behavioural and mental health needs.
- To demonstrate exemplary communication skills and to maintain a high degree of professionalism at all times including when working in highly emotive and/or challenging situations.
- To ensure that any safeguarding concerns arising through the provision of therapy are reported in a timely way in line with school policy.
- To support the staff team in identifying and making appropriate therapeutic referrals in line with the therapy operational policy identifying external resources when needs cannot be appropriately met in school.
- To represent therapy services at school meetings, providing feedback about therapeutic interventions as appropriate and identifying potential referrals.
- To work closely with school staff to foster and sustain excellent relationships with external agencies who are also supporting children and young people at the provision, ensuring that support for young people is co-ordinated effectively to avoid duplication of interventions.
- To co-ordinate and deliver training around Mental Health and Therapy for school staff and young people as appropriate.
- To support the Therapeutic Service Manager by coordinating the evaluation of interventions in a timely way through the gathering of all outputs and outcomes data generated through the delivery of therapy within the school.

- To work collaboratively with children and young people and the staff team to shape the development of the therapy provision within the school through regular consultation.
- To attend therapy team meetings for therapists across the Trust.
- To draw on a wide range of psychodynamic and developmental theories to underpin clinical practice and to actively seek out opportunities for CPD to ensure practice remains informed by the most up to date research and development in relevant fields.
- To work collaboratively with children and young people to set clear goals for intervention and to review these regularly in consultation with the multi-disciplinary team within the school; with external agencies and with families as appropriate.
- To manage difficult and demanding clinical situations arising from working with children and young people with challenging SEMH needs, including exploring complex, sensitive and disturbing personal issues in both group and 1:1 contexts as appropriate.
- To provide accurate and sensitive written and verbal feedback to other members of the Multi-disciplinary team as requested while maintaining appropriate confidentiality.
- To keep accurate and up to date registers and clinical records in line with the school's Operational Policy for therapeutic services and to ensure that all records are stored securely and in line with record keeping governance.
- To provide therapeutic reports that are suitable for young people, their families and other professionals as appropriate.
- To work flexibly and innovatively according to the demands of the service in order to respond to the needs of individual young people.
- To promote and apply equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory interventions that respect the clients' customs, values and spiritual beliefs at all times.
- To attend case conferences, handovers, CP or CIN meetings, annual reviews and other clinical meetings, when possible, taking responsibility for communicating with professionals within the wider MDT and clients' families and carers, within the boundaries of confidentiality.
- To attend regular line management provided by the Therapeutic Service Manager and to complete performance management targets in line with school policy.
- To be familiar with and to adhere to all local policies including safeguarding, risk assessment and health and safety.
- To abide by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) (or relevant registering body) Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.
- To hold overall responsibility for the maintenance of the therapeutic space and any equipment used within therapy practice ensuring hygienic practice and completing purchase orders when equipment needs mending or restocking in line with available budget.
- To model excellent personal time-management, consistency and reliability.
- To ensure all practice is in line with equal opportunities and is sensitive to the diverse ethnic and cultural beliefs of the young people who access the service.
- To abide by all Trust policies relating to staff conduct and to follow appropriate complaints procedures approaching the Therapeutic Service Manager in the first instance.