

Wellspring Academy Trust



Job Description HR3

Post Title: Therapeutic Counsellor

Salary: £28,489 - £30,253

Purpose of the post

- To provide high quality counselling to children, young people and staff who are experiencing a wide range of emotional and mental health problems.
- Having responsibility for the answering of a mental health and wellbeing helpline for the academies to access advice and support for themselves or the children and young people within the academy.
- To carry out health and wellbeing reviews at the academies in line with Public Health's Whole School Approach.
- The role is to work across mainstream and alternative provision academies who are part of Wellspring Academy Trust.
- To work closely with the schools to understand the needs of the children, young people and staff.
- To offer a counselling service to children, young people and school staff.
- Educate family members on what they can do to support their child or how to respond to certain behaviours.
- Contribute to the safeguarding and welfare and personal care of children and young people

Key Areas:

- Have an understanding of social, emotional and mental health difficulties.
- Experience of working in a school setting.
- Understand the impact mental health has on the parent's ability to parent their child.
- Work with the schools to sign post to other specialist services where appropriate, for example CAMHS.

- Build relationships with the children, young people and staff to engage them with the counselling offer.
- To provide recommendations to the school, parent/carers to support any self-help strategies suggested.
- Offer 1:1 and some small group sessions to children and young
- Develop an individual care plan for each client.
- To have a thorough knowledge of the Mental Health provision locally and nationally.
- To continually review and evaluate the service offer.

Responsibilities

- To be responsible for maintaining appropriate and confidential records.
- To provide regular updates such as numbers accessing the service, age range and types of problems.
- Referring clients to other sources with discussion and agreement with the parent counsellor.
- Working to agreed targets.
- Attending regular meetings as part of the mental health team.
- Accepting without bias the issues raised by clients.

Standard Duties in all Trust Job Description

- Show a commitment to diversity, equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices
- Show a commitment to ensuring that children and young people learn in a safe environment
- Participate in relevant and appropriate training and development as required.

Method of Working

The Wellspring Academy Trust expects all staff to work effectively and co-operatively as part of a team, delivering high quality support. This requires dealing with people politely and tactfully, and in accordance with Trust guidelines, policies and procedures. Wellspring Team members are expected to respect confidentiality and safeguarding practices at all times.

Public Relations

Considerable importance is attached to the public relations aspect of our work. Members of the Team must project a positive image of the Trust at all times and through all activity.

DBS Certificate

The Wellspring Academy Trust takes its duty to safeguard the young people with which it works seriously.

All Wellspring Team Members are required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Person Specification

		Essential / Desirable	How Identified
Section	Information		
Education and Training			
	Post graduate Diploma or Masters level in Counselling or Psychotherapy	E	A/I
	BACP accreditation, UKCP or BP	E	A/I
	Further therapeutic training or qualification in working with children and young people	D	A/I
Experience			
	Experience of working for a telephone counselling service	E	A/I
	Minimum of 2 years post qualification experience	E	A/I
	Minimum of 1 years' experience working with children and young people	E	A/I
General and Specialist Knowledge			
	An understanding of the developmental, emotional, social and education issues of children and young people	E	A/I
	Knowledge of a wide range of evidence-based therapeutic interventions	E	A/I
	Experience of providing a wide range of evidence-based therapeutic interventions to children, young people and adults	E	A/I
	Minimum of 100 post qualification, clinically supervised counselling hours	E	A/I
	Knowledge of local CAMHS and mental health services	E	A/I

	Knowledge of the children's act and legislation pertaining to children	E	A/I
Skills and Abilities			
	A non-judgmental outlook and a willingness to work with all kinds of people	E	A/I
	Excellent observation and listening skills	E	A/I
	Patience, tolerance and sensitivity	E	A/I
	An understanding of your own attitudes and responses	E	A/I
	A belief that all clients are able to make positive changes	E	A/I
	An appreciation of confidentiality issues	E	A/I
	Challenging any inconsistencies in what clients say or do	E	A/I
	Enthusiasm and tolerance	E	A/I
Additional Requirements			
	Good oral and written communication skills	E	A/I
	Ability to work effectively as a team member	E	A/I
	A willingness to develop practice to provide personalised innovative strategies to engage children and young people	E	A/I
	Full clean driving licence and own transport	E	A/I

	Operate with the highest standards of personal/professional conduct and integrity	E	A/I
	Willing to work flexibly in accordance with policies and procedures to meet the operational needs of the Trust	E	A/I
	Willing to undertake training and continuous professional development in connection with the post	E	A/I
	Work in accordance with the Trust's values and behaviours	E	A/I
	Able to undertake any travel in connection with the post	E	A/I
	Able to demonstrate sound understanding of equality/diversity in the workplace and services provided especially in the access to delivery of the education of pupils and of own non-discriminatory practice and attitude	E	A/I
	Satisfactory DBS disclosure to work in an environment dealing with young people	E	A/I
	Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children, young people and vulnerable adults	E	A/I
	A commitment to safeguarding and promoting welfare for all	E	A/I