

Job Profile comprising Job Description and Person Specification

Job Description

Job Title: ASD Assistant Psychologist	Grade: PO4 (£41,435 - £50,209)
Section: Special Educational Needs	Directorate: Childrens Services
Responsible to: Educational Psychologist Head of Service	Responsible for: N/A
Post Number/s: RWAAS07	Date:

Working for the Richmond/ Wandsworth Shared Staffing Arrangement

This is a role working specifically for Wandsworth Children's services although the post holder will be employed under the terms and conditions of the Shared Service Agreement or teacher terms and conditions (dependent on background).

The overall purpose is to provide the highest quality support to children with Social Communication / Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) their families and education settings.

In order to succeed in this post, a high level of knowledge, skill and experience are required, along with the ability to work collaboratively in a multi professional team.

Job Purpose:

To work collaboratively within a multi-agency advisory team to be responsible for organising and delivering specialist assessment of needs and intervention to children with a diagnosis of autism or social communication difficulties who have mental health difficulties.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

1. To directly provide psychological assessment, therapy, consultation and treatment, taking responsibility for managing own caseload such as considering capacity and throughput.
2. To deliver a programme of targeted psychological therapy sessions for individuals and groups based upon specialist knowledge of a range of therapeutic interventions to children who have a diagnosis of autism and/or social communication difficulties (SCDs) and social emotional and mental health difficulties.
3. To implement a range of evidence-based interventions, adjusting and refining therapeutic formulations drawing upon the links between research in the relevant areas of psychological science and practical applications of these therapies.
4. To plan and deliver parenting groups to support parents with understanding and meeting the needs of children and young people with a diagnosis of autism or social communication difficulties who have mental health difficulties.
5. To develop good channels of communication with teachers, parents/carers, external professionals and the learners themselves and to develop individual aims for each learner's therapy.
6. To maintain the highest standards of clinical record keeping and report writing in accordance with professional codes of practice of the British Psychological Society.
7. To regularly review progress of therapy and to make clinical decisions as appropriate.
8. To provide on-going education and training to the wider service to ensure professional colleagues remain aware of and understand the impact of therapy interventions.
9. To receive regular professional supervision from an Educational Psychologist in accordance with professional practice guidelines.
10. To attend and contribute to appropriate multi-disciplinary meetings for example EHCP reviews.
11. To assist in the design and implementation of service development projects within the service as required.

Generic Duties and Responsibilities

- To contribute to the continuous improvement of the Wandsworth's Childrens Services.
- To comply with relevant Codes of Practice, including the Code of Conduct, and policies concerning data protection and health and safety.
- To adhere to security controls and requirements as mandated by the SSA's policies, procedures and local risk assessments to maintain confidentiality, integrity, availability and legal compliance of information and systems
- To promote equality, diversity, and inclusion, maintaining an awareness of the equality and diversity protocol/policy and work to create and maintain a safe, supportive and welcoming environment where all people are treated with dignity and their identity and culture are valued and respected.
- To understand the Council's duties and responsibilities for safeguarding children, young people and adults as they apply to your role within the council.
- The Shared Staffing Arrangement will keep its structures under continual review and as a result the post holder should expect to carry out any other reasonable duties within the overall function, commensurate with the level of the post.

Additional Information

N/A

Person Specification

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Post Number/s: RWAAS07	Last Review Date: July 2023

Our Values and Behaviours

The values and behaviours we seek from our staff draw on the high standards of the two boroughs, and we prize these qualities in particular:

Being open. This means we share our views openly, honestly and in a thoughtful way. We encourage new ideas and ways of doing things. We appreciate and listen to feedback from each other.

Being supportive. This means we drive the success of the organisation by making sure that our colleagues are successful. We encourage others and take account of the challenges they face. We help each other to do our jobs.

Being positive. Being positive and helpful means we keep our goals in mind and look for ways to achieve them. We listen constructively and help others see opportunities and the way forward. We have a 'can do' attitude and are continuously looking for ways to help each other improve.

Person Specification Requirements	Essential	Desirable	Assessed by A/I/T/C (see below for explanation)
Knowledge			
1. An understanding of the needs and difficulties of young people with Autism and mental health problems or other disabilities	X		I/A
2. Knowledge of evidence-based therapeutic interventions relevant to the needs of the service	X		I/A
3. Knowledge of current legislation and procedures relating to the Children Act, SEN code of practice, inspection framework, H&S and Child Protection	X		I/A

4. Knowledge of equalities legislation and practices and a commitment to carry out duties with regard to the principles of equality	X		I/A
Experience			
5. Significant previous experience of working therapeutically with children and young people with Autism, mental health problems and/or other disabilities	X		I/A
6. Experience of planning and leading the delivery of small group therapy activities for children and one to one sessions	X		I/A
7. Experience of running support groups for parents to share strategies about supporting their children with Autism/ Social Communication Difficulties and Mental Health	X		I/A
8. Experience of working in a multi-disciplinary team	X		I/A
Skills			
9. High level communication skills (written and verbal)	X		I/T
10. Ability to interpret research and apply to practice	X		I
11. Ability to establish recording systems and to provide necessary reports on activity and performance	X		I/A
12. Ability to supervise, teach and develop the skills of junior staff	X		I/A
13. Ability to communicate sensitive information to patients, carers and colleagues in a way that addresses service user's particular needs	X		I
14. An ability to establish and sustain engagement with people who have severe and long-term mental health problems including those with challenging behaviours	X		T
15. Ability to work independently, reliably and consistently	X		I
Qualifications and training			
16. Educated to graduate level with a relevant post graduate qualification	X		A
17. Additional specialist training specific to ASD and mental health	X		A

A – Application form / CV

I – Interview

T – Test

C - Certificate