

Counsellor/ Play Therapist/ Creative Arts Therapist

Job Description

LOCATION OF ROLE:	Allocated School (see advert for details)
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Service Manager
PURPOSE OF JOB:	To provide therapeutic support to children/young people exhibiting emotional and/or behavioural problems or who are at risk of developing such problems.
ORGANISATIONAL INFO:	ConnectEd is the delivery arm of the mental health services provided by the Catholic Children's Society (CCS). We work in over 80 schools (both Catholic and non-Catholic) providing professional therapeutic services for pupils with mental health needs.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. To provide individual counselling/ play/ creative arts therapy sessions, supporting pupils where there are concerns about their emotional wellbeing. Group interventions may also be delivered, depending on the needs of the school.
2. To manage your own case load, taking referrals from the school. To assist in assessing pupil needs and advise staff on strategies to support pupils experiencing difficulties.
3. To demonstrate a range of therapeutic skills/techniques in order to work creatively and effectively with children/young people.
4. Where the role is working with primary school children, to undertake consultations with parents including review meetings.
5. To develop effective working relationships with teachers and support staff as well as parents/carers and other professionals. This may include attending relevant staff meetings and consultations as necessary.
6. To undertake clinical supervision in accordance with BACP guidelines and participate in regular line management meetings.
7. To attend continuing professional development training as required.
8. To maintain an up-to-date knowledge of child protection issues and put this into practice, attending training as required.
9. To keep accurate client records and provide statistical/ monitoring information.

10. Write reports as required, including an annual report on the work done in the school.
11. To liaise with and support referrals to other relevant bodies, such as local authority, health visitors, social care, CAMHS, and other agencies when appropriate.
12. To attend case conferences / planning/strategy/pastoral support meetings when appropriate and provide written reports as required.
13. To maintain an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding legislation and guidance and put this into practice.
14. Maintain confidentiality whilst promoting the safety and welfare of the child, working within professional ethical frameworks and CCS's policy.
15. To maintain registration and membership of BACP, BAPT, BADth or equivalent and to work within the ethical guidelines of the relevant professional body.
16. To respect the Catholic ethos that underpins the work of CCS (please note there is no religious aspect to this therapeutic service and no requirement that the post-holder is Catholic).
17. Such other analogous duties as may be required from time to time.

Person Specification

Recognised Counselling, Play Therapy or Creative Arts Therapy qualification.	Essential
Membership of an appropriate professional body (BACP, BAPT, BADth, BAMT, BAAT etc.)	Essential
Where applicable to your qualification/training, HCPC registered or professionally accredited (or actively working towards accreditation).	Essential
Experience of completing a minimum of 100 clinical hours	Essential
Experience of working with primary and/or secondary aged young people, whichever is relevant to the post being applied for	Essential
If applying to work in a special school or alternative provision, experience of working in similar settings and/or working effectively with young people with complex needs.	Essential
If applying for a post in a primary school, an ability to work in a creative and engaging manner suitable for young children.	Essential
A good understanding of educational settings.	Essential
If applying to work in a primary school, a willingness to deliver both individual and group work.	Essential
Ability to liaise as appropriate with a range of professionals and agencies as well as pupils and parents.	Essential
Ability to write concise and accurate case reports, handling sensitive information ethically at all times.	Essential
Working knowledge of relevant safeguarding legislation/guidance and child protection procedures.	Essential
Experience of working with children who have experienced trauma.	Essential
Experience of working independently and as a team member, including working as part of a multidisciplinary team.	Desirable