

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Designation/ Service	Therapist MDT
Salary Point and scale	£27,300 - £30,000 (FTE)
Responsible to	Director of MDT
Location	Bowscar, Penrith
Job Purpose and Direction: This position will be under the leadership of the Director of MDT. As the Therapeutic Lead, you'll offer psychoanalytic support and assessment to children and young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties, including: Depression, anxiety, development delay, phobias, aggression, gender dysphoria, consequences of child abuse, self-harming, learning difficulties and disabilities, eating disorders, behavioural concerns, psychosomatic disorders. You'll need substantial experience of working with children and adolescents in a social care, health or education setting to work as a child psychotherapist. You'll use a multidisciplinary approach to work within the context of the child's life, for example with their family, or our resident care provision and schools. Your relationship with the child is central to assessment and support. You will have a working knowledge of 'Trauma and attachment theories' with the ability to draw on your knowledge and understanding to support the practice of our teams and yourself. You will typically work with children individually, but at times this may also include working with children in a group with other children, or with parents or other family members. You may also be required to see parents or carers without the child being present. Child and adolescent psychotherapy is a core profession within the portfolio of services that AWW offers.	

Duties & Responsibilities

Reporting to the Director of MDT, work in collaboration with the care and education teams, supporting and providing guidance where appropriate:

As a child and adolescent psychotherapist, you'll need to:

- ✓ Carefully observe children and young people and respond to what they might be communicating through their behaviour and play, logging these interactions in AWW assessment and Outcomes frameworks. But more importantly supporting our care teams to understand these presentations, in an attempt to better inform our service delivery
- ✓ Work with our care teams to assist them with responding and holding containment for children

- ✓ Provide assessment and support to children and adolescents as individuals or in a group. Through standardised psychometrics and internal AWW assessment methodology
- ✓ Tailor your approach to the individual child and work in an age-appropriate way. You might use play or drawing techniques with children who present as younger children, but talk about feelings with older teenagers
- ✓ Provide short-term and long-term interventions with children, young people and/or parents, from a few sessions to regular appointments over several years. As identified in individual therapeutic assessment plans and placement agreements
- ✓ Work alongside other professionals in planning how best to help a child and the child's family, for example in schools, hospitals, children's services and child protection agencies
- ✓ Work as part of AWW's multidisciplinary team made up of consultant psychologists, social workers, special educational needs coordinators (SENCOs), family therapists and departmental administrator's
- ✓ Offer training, consultation and supervision to our care and education teams who work with our children. At time work with families in the community to help and support a transition back into a family home, or ultimately support a permanency plan
- ✓ At times supervise other members of the AWW MDT including potential trainee child psychotherapists and other therapists, or social workers who are going through their registration with HCPC
- ✓ Plan service delivery in conjunction with our service managers and education leads
- ✓ Be instrumental in communicating your work through our standard assessment placement 'discharge summaries' to support the concept of permanence post children leaving our service
- ✓ Keep up to date with developments in theory and research and undertake continuing professional development (CPD)

Area	Criteria	How Assessed*
Experience	Previous experience in child care settings and/or pre- qualifying work experience in children's residential services.	A,I
	Experience of group work and/or delivery of individualised therapeutic interventions	A,I
	Demonstrable experience in working with and on behalf of children, respecting and maintaining their individuality and promoting their positive development.	A,I
	Experience of undertaking and delivering assessments, both direct with children and families.	A, I
	Collation of data and drawing insights and conclusions from trend analysis.	A, I
Knowledge	People management and collaboration	A, I

	Knowledge and interest in varied modalities of therapy and work from an integrative response to therapy	A, I
	Ability to work with young people who are affected by difficulties such as depression, phobias, stress, anxiety, emotional and relationship problems, physical or psychosomatic disorders and behavioural problems.	A, I
	Work from a clear attachment and trauma perspective and have previous experience within these areas	A, I
	Awareness of factors impacting on, and issues facing, vulnerable children and young people and families.	A, I
	Knowledge and understanding of the growth and development of children, in line with theories and concept of Attachment and neurological impact and need for the developing child	A, I
Education/ Training / Qualifications	UKCP/BACP or equivalent in line with qualifications (Level 4 or above counselling)	A, D
	Continuous professional development that reflects a commitment to personal and professional growth.	A, I
Skills & Abilities	Ability to work with others with a mature outlook and work with under tight timescales whilst maintaining core values and behaviours.	A, I
	Ability to produce complex reports and management information – to be used for internal and external purposes.	A, I
	Ability to work directly with children in a residential setting	A, I
	Skilled and capable of understanding the independent needs of each child and adapting styles and approaches appropriately.	A, I
	Ability to work with a degree of autonomy in a flexible and creative manner, whilst maintaining adherence to policy and procedure at all times.	A, I
	Commitment to outstanding and aspirational results for children and young people in the looked after system.	A, I
	Patience and flexibility to approach systems and needs in a way that benefits all stakeholders and maintains the focus of professional social care	A, I
	Open mind for problem-solving, with an analytical ability to develop both self and the services/organisation.	A, I
Other work-related requirements	Ability to support the core values of A Wilderness Way.	A
	Willingness to undergo a satisfactory enhanced DBS check and to register with the DBS Update Service OR hold a satisfactory enhanced DBS check for the correct workforce <u>plus</u> existing registration for the Update Service	D
	Ability to understand the needs of people from diverse cultural, social and racial backgrounds.	A, I
	Full driving licence (preferably without endorsements)	A, D

General Statements

The above duties and responsibilities do not include or define all tasks that may be required by the post holder. The duties and responsibilities may vary without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed.

Equal Opportunities

A Wilderness Way supports Equal Opportunities in Employment and opposes all forms of unlawful discrimination on grounds such as colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, sex, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief and age. You are expected to comply at all times to the Company's EO Policy and Guide to Equality document.