

The Edith Borthwick School



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Applicant Brochure - Occupational Therapist

Position Details



We are looking for an enthusiastic, flexible and motivated Occupational Therapist to join us at The Edith Borthwick School. You will be an integral part of our therapy team - always putting children and young people at the centre of our school community.

You will provide a high quality standard of occupational therapy assessment, management, treatment and advice for a caseload of children aged 3 to 19 with severe and complex needs, including autistic spectrum conditions and profound and multiple learning difficulties.

Your main duties will include:

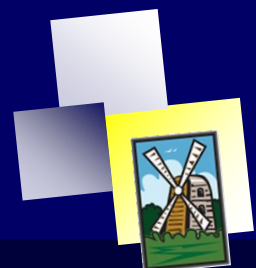
- Recognizing and assessing sensory processing difficulties across all parts of the school
- Devising effective and creative therapeutic plans
- Addressing students regulation needs to support them to access education
- Supporting teaching staff with providing sensory strategies to address needs
- Supporting children and young people's independence and ability to participate in activities of daily living
- Promoting our 'Universal Offer'
- Adapting school environments to meet the sensory and regulation needs of individuals and groups
- Training school staff, parents and the wider school community in sensory-based difficulties, self-regulation and additional occupational therapy areas of expertise
- Promoting positive strategies to address behavior
- Attending meetings as required

Our Learners:

We have the pleasure of working with 245 young people 3-19 with a variety of learning difficulties ranging from those with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD), to severe learning disabilities (SLD). Lots of our learners have communication and sensory difficulties, meaning that we need to support them in exemplary fashion. They are wonderfully unique and we learn from them everyday.

Our Vision:

To enable everyone to reach and go beyond their potential.



Position Details



- Managing sensory/OT budget
- Timetabling sensory areas dependent on pupil needs
- Managing own case load

Qualifications and Experience

- A recognised Occupational Therapy degree/qualification
- Registered and recognised by the Health Care Professionals Council
- Membership of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists
- Experience of working as an Occupational Therapist with children and/or in education
- Postgraduate training in Sensory Integration Therapy, up to level 3 (or equivalent) or a commitment to work towards this level
- Knowledge of special educational needs and Autism Spectrum Conditions
- Full driving licence is desirable but not essential
- The grade is equivalent to a NHS Band 5-6 (LGP Grade 7-9).
- Generous pension scheme

Visits to the school are recommended if you would like to visit please contact Claire Baker by emailing claireb@Edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk

Closing Date: 2nd September 2022

Position to commence end of September 2022.

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Job Description

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Responsible for the high quality, pupil-centre based provision of a range of comprehensive specialist Occupation Therapy intervention packages to pupils with SLCN.
- Responsible for providing OT assessment, treatment, management and advice using specialist clinical skills and knowledge for pupils with a wide range of developmental difficulties and/or disabilities.
- Responsible for promoting collaborative working practices with all staff in order to ensure OT is integrated into curriculum planning and delivery, the extended curriculum as the pupils' home life.
- To develop and deliver training to staff, parents and other stakeholders.
- To attend and contribute to annual review where appropriate
- To write high quality reports for reviews and referrals including SMART targets.
- To support the Senior Management Team in admissions and transition work.
- To ensure that professional standards are maintained as per HCPC standards, including timely note keeping.
- To work with colleagues to create a shared culture and positive environment ensuring all pupils fulfil their potential and are safe and happy at school.



Job Description



- To ensure creativity, innovation and use of appropriate new technologies and strategies to achieve excellence.
- To create and maintain good working relationships with professional colleagues within the school and from external agencies to ensure effective collaboration takes place.
- To review regularly own practice and achievements, set personal targets and take responsibility for own personal development. Take account of feedback from others.
- To promote the protection and safeguarding of all pupils and to raise any concerns in accordance with school policies/procedures.
- To take reasonable care for his/her own health and safety and any other person(s) who may be affected by his/her acts or omissions at work, in accordance with the Health and Safety legislation.
- Be competent and able in safe manual handling of children and young people in the context of Occupational Therapy.

Clinical Duties and Responsibilities:

- To carry out comprehensive and specialist Occupational Therapy assessment of pupils with a range of complex special needs.
- Using clinical reasoning skills, to analyse and interpret complex assessment findings, from both standardised and non-standardised assessments in order to ascertain progress potential and formulate uni-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary therapy goals.
- To develop and deliver individual, group and whole class evidence – based intervention programmes for pupils with a range of clinical , social and learning needs.
- To formulate treatment plans, set SMART goals and use effective outcomes measures.
- To create and review sensory diets for specified students.
- To recommend and organise the purchase of specialist equipment in line with our procedures.



Job Description



- To integrate specialist OT skills as fully as possible into the classroom and across the timetable of school activities. Liaise with teachers, SALT and associate staff on the planning and delivery of therapy activities.
- To provide training to parents/carers in order to ensure therapeutic aims are being generalised to the home environment.
- To develop specialist skills in a specific clinical area relevant to the caseload at The Edith Borthwick School
- To delegate work to and provide guidance/training to staff as appropriate.

Professional/Organisational:

- To maintain clinical records in accordance with HCPC and The Edith Borthwick standards
- To carry out all necessary clinical administration efficiently and in a timely manner in line with school wide policy and procedures.
- To gather and update activity data accurately and regularly, ensuring the provision of such information promptly as requested by the SLG.
- To attend professional meeting as requested by the SLG for the benefit of the schools provision.
- To work with the SLG to ensure that families and pupils are involved in decision making and care planning wherever possible.
- To independently manage own caseload and make appropriate recommendations.
- To timetable pupil access to specific rooms or interventions in school



Job Description



- To advise on home and school environmental alterations, such as ear defenders/move n sit cushion/ writing slope.
- To be aware of and adhere to national, local and school professional protocol/policies and code of conduct. To be accountable for own professional development, accessing appraisal and regular supervision as well as participate in the school management process.
- To attend mandatory training on an annual basis (safeguarding etc)
- To deliver all OT services in line with standards set by the regulatory body (Health professions Council), the Professional body (British Association of Occupational Therapists), the Government and Edith Borthwick policies in order to meet the requirements of professional registration.

Communication:

- To develop excellent verbal and written communication skills through supervision and reflective practice.
- To participate in multi-disciplinary/school wide team building and policy development
- To establish and maintain effective working relations with all school staff in order to support collaborative working practices
- To communicate information on pupil progress to parents/carers and a range of professionals in a concise and professional manner
- To share information with all members of the multidisciplinary team, referrers and external agencies as appropriate observing data protection and confidentiality guidelines.



Person Specification



Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- Recognised Occupational Therapy Degree Qualification or equivalent (eg Dip COT; PG Dip COT; BSc OT)
- Registration with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Post graduate qualification in Sensory Integration level 3 (or equivalent) or above or a commitment to work towards this
- General knowledge of child development and disorders, and their likely impact on a child functional abilities, independence and safety
- Basic knowledge of neurodevelopmental treatment approaches

Desirable:

- Registration or a willingness to register as a member of the British Association of Occupational Therapists (BAOT)
- Experience of working in a school setting and with a multidisciplinary team
- Experience of managing own caseload of children/young people with a range of special educational needs
- In-depth knowledge of audit/research methodologies relevant to the field
- Ability to use safely a range of specialised Sensory Integration Equipment and to be responsible for its upkeep
- Working knowledge of local and national procedures and legal frameworks relevant to the field of specialism and the ability to apply this knowledge to clinical practice



Person Specification



Personal qualities and skills

Essential

- Willingness to undertake post qualification training in areas relevant to the role
- Ability to recognise own professional boundaries through interpretation of clinical/professional policies (HCPC, The Edith Borthwick School and Government)
- A commitment and enthusiasm to building a collaborative and creative learning environment
- Physical abilities to carry out assessment and treatment with pupils with complex needs. Fit to be able to carry out physical nature of duties including ability to move and lift specialised Sensory Integration equipment safely
- Ability to manage and prioritise own workload with support
- Ability to review and make service improvements in collaboration with therapy team
- Ability to adapt practice to meet the needs of pupil, including due regard for cultural and linguistic differences
- Capable of maintaining good relationships with all those associated with the school
- The ability to work collaboratively with colleagues as part of a multi-disciplinary team

Desirable

- Excellent analytical and reflection skills. Able to reflect on practice with peers and mentors, identify own aptitudes and demonstrates good practice to others
- An effective, engaging and confident communicator with the ability to demonstrate empathy with pupils, carers and colleagues to ensure that effective communication is achieved, particularly where barriers to understanding exist
- Good presentation skills, including the use of ICT for presentation, communication and also to support data collection and analysis

