

Music Therapist

Job Description

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:

This post is Line Managed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

CLIENT GROUP:

Carew Academy is a Good school for students aged 7 to 18 with Moderate Learning Needs and Autism; it is part of Orchard Hill College Academy Trust (OHCAT). It aims to work with students, families and the community to provide a caring and collaborative environment that engages, inspires and challenges, and to ensure everyone is valued and respected to achieve personal success.

JOB PURPOSE AND SCOPE:

- To provide specialist Music Therapy sessions for students attending Carew Academy. This includes assessing students and carrying out the sessions using psychotherapeutic reflective skills.
- To provide support and training to all teaching staff with regard to Music Therapy approaches.
- To work collaboratively with other therapists and teaching staff at Carew Academy with the aim of providing a holistic therapeutic approach to their work with students.

FUNCTIONAL LINKS:

The Music Therapist will be expected to work in collaboration with other therapists within the school and in the wider school community, and will need to maintain links with a variety of bodies. These will include:

1. Pupils/Students and their parents/carers and advocates
2. School staff
3. Other professionals working with students.
4. Community Services
5. A range of Care and Health Trusts from London and surrounding areas.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

Clinical

1. To provide Music Therapy sessions for individual students attending Carew Academy. After referral and assessment, to evaluate the work involving psychotherapeutic reflection and analysis.
2. To hold responsibility for own clinical judgements within the sessions and for clinical groupings with reference to the Senior Leadership Team at the School.

3. To work therapeutically with highly complex sensitive information in the clinical sessions in a highly emotive atmosphere with students with a range of needs including students with challenging needs and mental health needs.
4. To ensure theory and practice is ethically appropriate.
5. To adjust communication strategies with students to ensure understanding.
6. To provide verbal and written feedback to the Senior leadership team regarding the work.
7. To relay clinical information to colleagues. This involves communicating sensitive information in an appropriate way.
8. To provide specialist advice on students, using a psychodynamic perspective, via analysis and interpretation of students' communications.
9. To ensure confidentiality procedures are adhered to, including use of audio and video resources.
10. To maintain up to date records of sessions, write reports, attend clinical review and EHCP meetings where possible.
11. To liaise with the Senior Leadership Team and therapy staff at the School regarding waiting lists.
12. To maintain up to date records and data in order to provide information, and to adhere to and implement administration procedures, as required by the Senior Leadership Team.
13. To keep instrumental skills of a high professional standard involving high manual dexterity, speed and complex eye hand co-ordination. To manipulate objects and be involved in some delicate handling of students and to support students with challenging needs.
14. It is necessary for occasional to frequent, moderate physical effort to be used for short periods, involving manoeuvring therapy equipment e.g. keyboard, xylophones, piano.

Policy

15. To ensure compliance with the School's Vision, Core Principles, policies and procedures.
16. To comment on guidelines and protocols.
17. To have input into setting objectives in liaison with teachers
18. To assess clinical risks and take clinical responsibility for decisions regarding the sessions.

Resources

19. To run training workshops and talks for curriculum and therapy staff at the School, developing their understanding of Music Therapy.
20. To take part in Parents Evenings twice a year.
21. To provide advice and guidance to staff.
22. To be responsible for maintaining good working order of the instruments and equipment.
23. To support the administration systems within the School.
24. To provide suggestions regarding the purchase of equipment and instruments.

Support

25. To receive regular managerial supervision from the Senior Leadership Team.
26. To receive regular external clinical supervision in accordance with good practice guidelines.
27. To take part in clinical audits and clinical effectiveness measures.
28. To ensure up to date attendance on mandatory courses.
29. To keep up to date with current Music Therapy practice by taking advantage of other clinically based courses and conferences, to maintain a high level of clinical effectiveness in line with the CPD process.

Communications

30. To maintain good working relationships with all colleagues at the School.
31. To be aware of and comply with Carew Academy's Health and Safety Policy and Procedures and implement any policies that may be required to improve the safety of the work area, including the prompt recording and reporting of accidents and ensuring that equipment used is safe.
32. To ensure confidentiality at all times, only releasing confidential information obtained during the course of employment to those acting in an official capacity.
33. To comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act.
34. To comply with and promote the School's Equality and Diversity Policy.
35. To be aware of and comply with all other School policies and procedures.
36. To undertake such other duties of a similar nature from time to time as may be required by the Senior Leadership Team.

NOTES

This is not an exhaustive list of duties and responsibilities and the post holder may be required to undertake other duties that fall within the grade of the job, in discussion with the manager.

The content of the job description will be reviewed regularly in the light of changing service requirements and any such changes will be discussed with the post holder.

The post holder is expected to comply with all relevant Carew Academy policies, procedures and guidelines, including those relating to Equal Opportunities, Safeguarding Vulnerable Children, Health and Safety and Confidentiality of Information.

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Person Specification

The person specification shows the abilities and skills you will need to carry out the duties in the job description. Short listing is carried out on the basis of how well you meet the requirements of the person specification. Applicants must meet Priority 1 criteria upon appointment; priority 2 can be gained after appointment. **You should mention any experience you have had which shows how you could meet these requirements when you fill in your application form.** If you are selected for interview you may be asked also to undertake practical tests to cover the skills and abilities shown below.

QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE

Priority

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| 1. | Music Therapy qualification – Masters level equivalent | 1 |
| 2. | UK HCPC and appropriate registration from your professional body | 1 |
| 3. | Degree in music, psychology, sociology or relevant field | 1 |
| 4. | Mandatory training up to date | 1 |
| 5. | Experience with children who have Moderate Learning Difficulties and experience with children who are on the Autism Spectrum. | 2 |
| 6. | Experience of personal therapy | 1 |

ABILITIES, SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

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| 7. | Ability to demonstrate effective management of clinical caseload of children who have Moderate Learning Difficulties and experience with children who are on the Autism Spectrum | 2 |
| 8. | Ability to provide effective music therapy assessments and interventions relevant to children with learning difficulties | 1 |
| 9. | Skilled in carrying out both individual and group interventions | 1 |
| 10. | Ability to communicate effectively with children, carers and other professionals | 1 |
| 11. | Ability to operate effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary team | 1 |
| 12. | Ability to instruct and support teaching teams in a range of techniques to support children within the class environment and in the use of specialised equipment | 2 |

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| 13. | Ability to co-ordinate and implement programmes of staff development internally and externally | 2 |
| 14. | Ability to work closely with teaching staff in the identification of integrated learning and therapy-related individual objectives | 2 |
| 15. | Ability to assess and recommend appropriate specialist equipment | 2 |
| 16. | Knowledge of evaluating outcomes of intervention and ability to critically appraise own performance | 1 |
| 17. | Understanding of how to access other services and agencies | 2 |
| 18. | Ability to demonstrate a commitment to and responsibility for own CPD (continuous professional development) | 1 |
| 19. | Ability to work within and promote the School's Equality and Diversity Policy | 2 |