THE MERCIAN TRUST

Occupational Therapist

NJC Scale Range 17 – 27 (£24,491 - £31,346) plus LGPS Pension

Salary negotiable depending upon experience

Full Time / Part Time - Fixed term for 24 months

With possibility of the post being extended dependent on future funding

The Mercian Trust
Registered address: Mercian House, Queen Mary's Grammar School, Sutton Road, Walsall. WS1 2PG
Telephone: 01922 211388. Email: info@the.merciantrust.org. Web: www.themerciantrust.org
Registered in England and Wales No: 07611347

Job Advert: Occupational Therapist

Post	Occupational Therapist
Responsible to	Director for Social Mobility
Contract and Salary	NJC Scale Range 17 – 27 (£24,491 - £31,346) plus LGPS Pension Salary negotiable depending upon experience Full Time / Part Time – **Fixed Term for 24 months** from commencement of post, with possibility of the post being extended dependent on future funding.
Job Purpose	• To provide an effective and efficient Occupational therapy service to a group of Trust schools, working collaboratively with multi-agency partners to support children and young people to achieve positive outcomes. • To contribute and work collaboratively with the Trust's wellbeing provision leads to meet the needs of vulnerable children and young people, in particular those with occupational therapy needs. • To plan and deliver a student-centred occupational therapy service to a personal caseload of children and young people.

Main Responsibilities

- To provide clinical input to a defined caseload of children and young people who present with occupational therapy needs. This will include consultation with professionals, case formulation, assessment and intervention.

- Be responsible for assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation and evaluation of treatment/intervention programmes for children and young people according to professional standards whilst adhering to Trust policies and procedures.

- Through assessment and analysis of findings, develop individual goal oriented treatment and intervention plans in collaboration with student (as appropriate), parents/carers and colleagues. This will include the application of skills to assess motor, sensory and cognitive function in the context of the student's social and physical environment.

- Provide occupational therapy intervention plans to be carried out by Learning Support Assistants/Teaching Assistants while retaining overall responsibility for the provision.

- To assess, prescribe, arrange provision of specialised equipment and adaptations where necessary and monitor, evaluate and modify treatment in order to measure progress and ensure effectiveness of adaptions.

- Provide feedback, guidance, advice and training to parents/family members, carers and members of the multidisciplinary team in all aspects of occupational therapy provision.

- Keep accurate records, provide written reports and undertake appropriate liaison with parent/carers, members of the multi-disciplinary team and voluntary organisations.

- Collaborate with children and young people, family, carers and other staff in goal setting and intervention planning

- Document all assessments, diagnoses, treatment/intervention plans, clinical notes, relevant contacts and summaries in accordance with professional standards

- To provide clear verbal feedback and written records of consultation as appropriate.

- To support Trust schools in the discharge of their statutory duties including the provision of statutory advice, attendance at Annual Reviews and attendance at Tribunals, when required.

- To support Trust schools in monitoring the progress of vulnerable children and young people, in particular those at risk of exclusion and Children Looked After.

- The post holder will be responsible for ensuring that any concerns of a Child Protection/Child in Need nature are reported to the designated person in line with the child protection procedures in place within Trust schools.

- To provide relevant in-service training to school staff on topics related to the role of Occupational Therapy and reflect on and evaluate training provided.

- Operate within the scope of occupational therapy practice as set out by the Health and Care Professional Council for Occupational Therapists.

- To undertake any other duties that may be reasonably deemed part of the role

Notes:
Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified. Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

Work Environment

This post will be based in a shared office environment. It will involve visits to schools and meetings held at different venues within the Trust.

Work Dimensions

- The post involves working with staff in schools and other settings, working with a range of multi-agency clinical practitioners and local authority partners
- The post involves work with children, young people and their families.
- The post involves casework, consultation and training.

The Mercian Trust School is committed to equal opportunities, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young adults. We expect all staff to share this commitment. All post-holders are subject to a satisfactory enhanced Direct Barring Service disclosure.

Person Specification

Education, Training and Qualifications

	Essential	Desirable
A recognised professional degree qualification in Occupational Therapy	X	
Postgraduate training related to paediatrics/young adults/learning disabilities		X
Registered member of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)	X	
Membership of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists		X
A specialism/interest in paediatric occupational therapy.	X	

Knowledge

	Essential	Desirable
To apply an advanced level of understanding of factors influencing student development and of the effect of the key barriers to a student's occupational performance and provide training and advice on changes and adaptations to the student's social and physical environment where necessary.	X	
Knowledge and skill in providing occupational therapy assessment and intervention relevant to children and young people.	X	
Knowledge and experience of evidence based approaches to early intervention for children and young people's occupational therapy needs.	X	
Good understanding of Special Educational Needs and Equality Act (2010) legislation and its implications.	X	
Knowledge and understanding of the application of paediatric occupational therapy diagnostics, theoretical models, and approaches relevant to children and young people.	X	
Demonstrate clear clinical reasoning based on evidenced based practice.	X	

Skills & Behaviours

	Essential	Desirable
To demonstrate professional skills and standards consistent with a specialist in the field and to ensure that services provided comply with professional and standards of practice.	X	
Excellent inter-personal skills demonstrating capacity to build strong working relationships with others.	X	
To autonomously manage and treat a diagnostically varied and complex caseload.	X	
Excellent written and verbal communication skills.	X	
A 'can do' problem solving based approach to developing inclusive, enabling learning environments.	X	
Tenacious practice to ensure that the wishes of children and young people are heard and affect decision-making.	X	
Confident, clearly articulated application of occupational therapy in practice.	X	
A proactive approach to continuing professional development and ability to share practice and upskill colleagues.	X	
Ability to maintain professionalism at all times, especially in complex/challenging situations	X	
Clinical reasoning and problem solving skills to determine management of caseload	X	
Good knowledge of IT skills & technological aids that would benefit children and young people and a willingness to develop IT skills as necessary.	X	

Relevant Experience	Essential	Desirable
Experience of working as a paediatric occupational therapist, within a school setting or setting predominantly working with children and young people.	X	
Experience of working in a multi-agency context.	X	

How to Apply

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Closing Date	Monday 25th January 2021, 12 noon
Informal Conversations	To speak to the Executive Director for Education about this post please contact Lin Koo, Executive PA to the CEO on 01922 211388 or email Koo.L@the.merciantrust.org
How to apply	Please check you meet the person specification. Please complete the application form and submit with a letter/statement no longer than 2 sides of A4 outlining the following: • How your recent and relevant experience has prepared you for this post • How the impact of your work to date is an appropriate foundation for you to undertake this role