



Blossom House School

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Paediatric Occupational Therapist Experienced Therapist required

Due to School expansion, we have an exciting opportunity at our School in **Euston** for an experienced **Paediatric Occupational Therapist** supporting children who have speech, language and communication difficulties in our Primary department.

Working a multi-disciplinary team of teachers, speech and language therapists and other professionals in our outstanding rated school where therapy is on an equal footing to academic teaching you will really get to see the progress in the pupils you are working with. It's a small caseload, there's no short blocks of therapy and you can extend and change interventions as required, focusing on sensory motor development and functional skills.

You will also be responsible for representing the department at meetings, clinical supervision, reports, and arranging and delivering training. You will also be responsible for managing a small team.

Add to this our comfortable, well equipped and friendly working environment, along with 10.6 weeks holiday allowance and great staff benefits we think that you will find working at our school a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

We offer:

- A supportive working environment in a comfortable, well equipped building.
- Opportunity to design bespoke intervention packages for children based on your professional judgement.
- Close to a good transport network.
- Support from an enthusiastic and dedicated team of Therapy staff and Teachers who will work alongside you in the classroom. Our Speech & Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapist and Arts Therapists aim to maximise each child's potential in a nurturing and supportive environment.
- Continued professional development.
- Competitive salaries, generous staff benefits and a friendly nurturing environment.
- UK Healthcare cash plan designed to help cover your "day to day" healthcare expenditure such as Optical and Dental bills and offers cash back (up to policy limits) for a variety of different medical treatments. It also offers lifestyle benefits and discounted gym membership.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Must have a degree in Occupational Therapy and registration with HCPC.
- Post graduate training in Sensory Integration.
- School based experience
- Confidence, enthusiasm and a passion for learning.
- Excellent English skills (clear written and spoken English) along with good reading, writing and numeracy skills.
- The ability to build good working relationships with children, teachers, parents and carers.
- The ability to manage a small group of children with complex social communication needs.
- The ability to promote positive behaviour in a nurturing environment is essential.
- Preferably experience of working with children with Special Education Needs (SEN), particularly children on the Autism Spectrum.
- Experience with managing a small team of therapists and therapy assistants.
- Line management experience.

The role is a Permanent, Full-Time role.

Monday to Friday, 08:30 – 17:00, 9 weeks holiday plus bank holidays

Annual salary: Competitive Market Rate (dependent on experience)

(Early applications encouraged)

Start date: ASAP

If you wish to apply for this post, please download the application form and email your completed form detailing how you meet the requirements of the person specification, along with the application activities detailed at the end of this document to recruitment@blossomhouseschool.co.uk

For further information please contact:

Annerie Shephard, email: anneries@blossomhouseschool.co.uk

This role is subject to the relevant Safeguarding checks which will include an Enhanced DBS check.

Job Description	
Job Title:	Paediatric Occupational Therapist
Reports to:	Head of Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy
Accountable to:	Principal
Hours per week:	Permanent, Full-Time, 9 weeks paid holiday plus bank holidays. (There is an expectation to work for 5 weeks during the school holidays. 9 weeks of paid holidays may only be taken during the school holiday periods)
Salary per annum:	Monday to Friday, 08:30 to 17:00

Responsibilities and Duties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide an Occupational Therapy service to the school, focusing on sensory motor development and functional skills. • To work with individuals on life skills and basic day-to-day tasks. • To work with primary and/or secondary aged pupils, with possible opportunities to work with other ages. • To be aware of and implement Health and Safety Regulations, including Risk Assessment, by assessing the environment in which therapy takes place on an on-going basis. • To record case notes for all children. • To write, implement and evaluate half termly plans for group OT sessions. • To write, implement and evaluate measurable targets for group OT sessions. • To write, review and implement Individual Therapy Treatment programmes for prioritised pupils. • To formally assess pupils for Occupational Therapy. • To attend and contribute to Annual Review meetings. • To liaise with the Multi-Disciplinary Team and outside agencies as appropriate, providing professional advice and feedback. • To represent the department and your team at internal and external meetings. • To manage and develop your direct reports (where applicable) including probation, performance management and training and development. • Providing clinical supervision where appropriate. • To attend staff meetings as required.

- To liaise with and support Learning Support Assistants.
- To manage behaviour according to the school Behaviour Policy.
- To adhere to the Code of Conduct for Occupational Therapists.
- To attend INSET and ensure Continuing Professional Development.
- To deliver INSET training.
- To attend termly parent feedback evenings and parent/therapist social evenings; liaise with parents as required under the guidance of the Principal.
- To be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- To be fully aware of all applicable Blossom House School Policies.
- To provide an environment for the children that enables them to realize their potential and maximise their academic, social, physical and emotional development.
- To be flexible and carry out any such other duties as may be reasonably required and directed by the Principal.

Person Specification					
<u>Qualifications</u>	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	References	Interview / Selection Process
Degree in Occupational Therapy	✓		✓	✓	✓
Registered member of HCPC	✓		✓	✓	✓
Completed SI (Sensory Integration Training)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Knowledge & Understanding	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	References	Interview / Selection Process
Knowledge of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) People management b) Staff development c) Recruitment and Selection d) Performance management 		✓	✓		✓
Knowledge of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) sensory-motor and b) behavioural needs of children in an educational setting 	✓		✓		✓
Code of Practice		✓	✓		✓
Therapeutic intervention for children with language and social communication difficulties, working with both individuals and groups.	✓		✓		✓

A basic understanding of Safeguarding and child protection in schools	✓		✓		✓
An understanding of supporting diversity and equal opportunities	✓		✓		✓
Skills	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	References	Interview/ Selection
Skills: a) People management b) Staff development c) Recruitment and Selection d) Performance management		✓	✓		✓
Clear written and spoken English	✓		✓	✓	✓
Good numeracy and literacy skills	✓		✓	✓	✓
Competent ICT skills	✓		✓	✓	✓
Behaviour management skills	✓		✓	✓	✓
Good Organisational Skills	✓		✓	✓	✓
Diplomacy and Flexibility	✓		✓	✓	✓
Ability to carry out formal and informal assessments	✓		✓		✓
Initiative	✓			✓	✓
Ability to deal with stressful situations	✓		✓		✓
Willingness to become involved in all aspects of school life, e.g. break times, school productions, parents' evenings.	✓		✓		✓
Experience	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	References	Interview/ Selection
Experience of: a) People management b) Staff development c) Recruitment and Selection d) Performance management		✓	✓		✓
Experience of working with children with complex social communication difficulties and ASD.		✓	✓	✓	✓
Experience of working with children with life skills difficulties.	✓			✓	✓
Experience of working with a multidisciplinary team.		✓		✓	✓
Experience of: e) People management f) Staff development g) Recruitment and Selection h) Performance management		✓	✓		✓

Personal Attributes and Abilities	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	References	Interview/ Selection
A high level of emotional resilience and emotional maturity	✓		✓	✓	✓
Flexibility and creativity in your approach to tasks	✓		✓	✓	✓
Ability to build good relationships with children, teachers, parents and carers	✓		✓	✓	✓
Patience and a positive attitude	✓		✓	✓	✓
Ability to adapt to changes quickly	✓		✓	✓	✓
Ability to work as part of a team	✓		✓	✓	✓
Ability to work independently on prescribed tasks, take initiative and manage change	✓		✓	✓	✓
Ability to use initiative, good problem-solving skills and to be engaging and pro-active	✓		✓	✓	✓
Willingness to participate in training and other learning activities	✓		✓	✓	✓
Commitment, reliability and trustworthiness	✓		✓	✓	✓
Willingness and commitment to follow school policies and guidelines	✓		✓	✓	✓
Willingness to support diversity and ensure all pupils with speech & language difficulties have equal access to opportunities to play and develop	✓		✓	✓	✓
Safe-guarding & Child Protection (COMPULSORY)	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	References	Interview/ Selection
A commitment to follow school policies, procedures and guidance	✓		✓		✓
A commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people	✓		✓		✓
Successful Enhanced DBS Status	✓				✓

Recruitment Activity (to accompany your application form)

1) Please explain how you would assess a ten-year-old pupil that has been referred to you for handwriting difficulties.

2) Please give 3 examples of activities that you would use to develop cutting skills with a group of five 6-year olds with sensory processing difficulties and explain your reasoning for choosing these activities.